WORLD LITERATURE I (ENGLISH 2210)

Course: ENGL 2210.002 (TR 11:00-12:20 P.M., GAB 104)
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Ofc. Hours: T 10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. or by appt
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Course Description:
This course emphasizes the study and consideration of the literary, cultural, and human significance of some of the world's literary masterpieces and is designed to introduce students to the pleasures of exploring literary masterpieces as well as to reinforce their skills in critical thinking and writing within a framework of cultural diversity as well as comparative and interdisciplinary analysis. An important goal of the class is to promote an understanding of the works in their cultural/historical contexts and of the enduring human values and conflicts that span various literary traditions, to put students in a continual process of interpreting, confronting, discovering, and discussing human experience.

Combining tradition with technology in a blended format (partially online, partially face to face), students will encounter some of the greatest works of ancient, medieval, and renaissance world literature. Classes meet in both large and small face-to-face groups. In addition, interactive on-line activities, debates, and self-assessment exercises encourage students to experience—not just read about—the literature and to apply its lessons to their own lives. The course learning goals are that students (1) demonstrate awareness and understanding of the scope and variety of works of literature, (2) read critically and analytically, and (3) construct informed, organized and coherent written responses to literary texts in a variety of rhetorical modes.

Required Textbooks:
ISBN: 9780393924534

Course Objectives:
Students can expect to practice the following objectives:
1. Recall and recognize the historical sequence of major literary figures, texts, and movements within the Ancient, Middle, and Renaissance periods
2. Identify conventional literary genres, elements, and devices
3. Employ discipline specific vocabulary in order to recognize the relationship between form and content
4. Relate literary concepts, principles, terms, strategies, and styles to a range of literature
5. Analyze, evaluate, interpret, synthesize representative texts from the Eastern and Western traditions and relate them to their literary and cultural contexts
6. Compare and contrast major literary figures, their situations, decisions
7. Make connections among various periods, texts, authors, and characters
8. Evaluate the ideas presented in a text, their implications, and their relationship to ideas beyond the text

Grading:
Grades will be calculated according to the rubric below:
10% Attendance and Participation (in-class/ 6 posts)
20% Compositions (6)
10% Quizzes
20% Exam 1
20% Exam 2
20% Final Exam
(A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = below 60)
General Policies for Students in World Literature I

Absence Policy:
Regular and punctual class attendance is required of all students, and poor attendance may prevent students from earning a passing grade in the course for the semester. The maximum number of permissible absences before a student automatically earns an “F” or “WF” in the course is determined by the schedule of the course:
• M-W-F (a class that meets three times a week): 7 absences
• T-TH (or M-W; a class that meets two times a week): 5 absences
• M (or any class that meets only once a week): 3 absences
(Note: rare extenuating circumstances may occur which legitimize exception to rule, but no exceptions will be made without such circumstances. It is the students’ responsibility to keep track of their absences so that they don’t go over the allowed number permitted for the course.)

Course schedules and drops in the first two weeks
Students need to monitor their course schedule every day for the first two weeks of class in order to make sure that they have not been dropped from their courses by the registrar’s office. Students who are dropped from classes for nonpayment of financial aid or other reasons will not be readmitted to the course; it is the student’s responsibility to make sure that all of their financial records are in order so that they are not dropped.

Excused absences for university activities
In accordance with university policy, the only authorized absences are those due to participation in university-sponsored activities. Authorized absences must be approved in advance by department chairs and academic deans, and within three days after the absence, students must obtain an authorized absence card from the Dean of Students and present this card in person to their instructors. Students with authorized absences may make up the work missed or be given special allowance so that they are not penalized for the absence. All assignments and scheduled work must be turned in before or on the date of the excused absence.

Unexcused absences
Absences due to other causes, such as illness, emergency, death in the family, car trouble, etc., are not authorized by the Department of English as excusable absences, and instructors in the Freshman Writing Program are therefore not authorized to excuse students for such absences (even with “official” notes from medical professionals, etc.). Please note that absences for reasons other than official university business or religious holidays will count against students’ permitted absences for the semester and may also result in missed grades for quizzes, assignments, exams, or writing deadlines.
The following actions may also result in a student being counted as officially absent:
• Coming to class without an adequate draft on a day when a draft is due (for peer response or for an assignment)
• Showing up to class more than 10 minutes late
• Failing to attend a mandatory scheduled conference with the instructor

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:
The UNT Policy Manual defines plagiarism as: “(a) the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement and (b) the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the complete assignments scheduled for the day missed within a reasonable time after the absence. Travel time required for religious observances shall also be excused. Please see the UNT Student Handbook for information on which holidays or holy days are covered by this policy. State law also requires that students notify their teachers at the beginning of the semester if they expect to miss class on a religious holyday during the semester but want to make up the work missed. Students will be allowed to make up the work provided they have informed their teachers in writing within the first 15 days of the semester. Once again, all assignments and scheduled work must be turned in before the date of the excused absence. University policy requires that students provide their teachers with an official notification card issued by the university if they want to make up any in-class work they missed while they were involved in a university authorized activity.
Selling of term papers or other academic materials.” (18.1.11). Students in all freshman writing courses need to be aware of the strict policies against plagiarism and academic honesty enforced by UNT and by instructors in the Department of English. All writing in freshman English courses must be original, and all uses of other writer’s material (i.e., for the purposes of research based argumentation) must be acknowledged and clearly cited in any writing submitted for a grade.

The consequences for plagiarism at UNT are severe, and may include failure for the course, loss of scholarships, and in some cases dismissal from the university. Please talk with your instructor if you are unsure about whether or not something you are doing in your writing might be identified as plagiarism. If your instructor believes that something you have written has been plagiarized, you will be notified of the allegations in writing and asked to meet with your instructor and respond to your instructor’s arguments. After hearing your response, your instructor will decide on a course of action and notify you in writing of any penalties or other consequences. In most cases, your instructor will also send a copy of the allegations and sanctions to the Academic Affairs office. Please note that instructors in the English Department are authorized to fail students for an assignment or for the course if they judge that an assignment is knowingly or negligently plagiarized. Students have the option of appealing the decision of their instructor in writing to the Assistant Chair of the Department of English within 5 days of the instructor’s decision.

Accommodating Students with Disabilities
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, all instructors in the English Department will work with the Office of Disability Accommodations (ODA) to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have such a disability, please inform your instructor within the first week of the semester and provide your instructor with a Special Accommodation Request Form (available from the ODA). Students needing assistance must be registered with the ODA; if you need to register with the ODA or otherwise contact that office, the ODA phone number is (940) 565-4323, and the office is located in the Union, suite 321.

Class Behavior and Disruptions
According to the UNT Student Code of Conduct (sect. V), the following actions are considered acts of misconduct and may subject a student to university discipline:

- **Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures or other University activities, including public service functions or other authorized activities on or off University premises.** Includes interrupting, hindering or preventing classroom instruction or other official educational activities from occurring intentionally through noise, acts of incivility, or other means.

- **Physical Abuse, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, coercion; and/or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person.** Speech protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution is not a violation of this provision, although fighting words and statements, which reasonably threaten or endanger the health and safety of any person are not protected speech. Each allegation of a violation under this provision shall be reviewed in consideration of these factors.

- **Disruptive activities** as defined by Section 37.123 and 51.935 of the Texas Education Code, such as intentionally obstructing, restraining, preventing or attempting to prevent passage of individuals on campus or into/out of campus buildings by force, by violence or by the threat of same; seizing control of a building/portion of a building to interfere with an administrative, educational, research or other authorized activity; preventing participation in or the holding of a lawful assembly or attempting to prevent same by force/violence, by threat or by causing reasonable fear of force/violence; or disrupting an assembly in progress by one or more such means.

- **Other disruptions**, including cell phone usage and “texting” during class; sleeping and talking at inappropriate times during the class; and working on outside material during class are also forbidden and may affect your course grade.
Specific Policies for Students in Blended World Literature I

Attendance and Participation:
Students attend both large-group, face-to-face lecture classes and small, cooperative-base group discussion sessions. In the small group meetings, students collaborate, debate, and present their own conclusions in the context of others’. Throughout, students progress through interactive online learning activities that address each specific lesson objectives. Students will use these cognitively rich online learning activities to self-assess how carefully they are mastering the content. Students should have assignments read and online activities completed before small-group meetings. We will aim to proceed by discussion whenever possible. Faithful, alert attendance and participation is crucial to what you learn as well as to the success of the course as a whole.

Discussion Posts also count as attendance and participation for this course. As such, they each require original thoughts and complete answers to specific topics. Students will post a response to an initial topic as well as reply to two classmates’ postings. This interaction is used to simulate class discussion and to represent the feedback and insight gained from engaging in synergy with others. A rubric for discussions is available on Blackboard. Your participation will be evaluated at midterm and at the end of the semester. Your score is dependent on the quality of your contribution, not just the number of posts, based on the following criteria:

- Answer in complete sentences (no credit for an “I agree” or “I disagree” response)
- Convey that you have read the material
- Use references from the text to support your answers
- Explain and support your reasoning

Exams and Quizzes:
Each of the 3 unit exams will include a combination of 60 multiple choice, identification, and matching questions as well as 5 short answer questions that directly relate to the course and lesson objectives. Make-up exams are highly discouraged and must be approved and scheduled by me in advance. Online quizzes are formative exercises that round out most lessons. They can be taken up to 3 times each before each unit exam.

Compositions:
Students will be required to write one-page (250-300 word) compositions throughout the course. The rubric for evaluating the compositions is on the homepage. Each composition will require students to:

- Formulate a central interpretive idea about the texts;
- Develop that idea logically and coherently with adequate supporting textual examples;
- Present ideas clearly and concisely;
- Quote briefly at least once from the text. Quotations must accurately reflect the text’s meaning, be integrated into the writer’s own sentence structures and ideas, and be cited correctly
- Anchor the composition to the text but extend the discussion by adding to it the writer’s own conclusions about the significance or relevance of the material
- Meet the minimum word count (between 250-300 words)
- Observe the standard conventions of formatting, citation, grammar, and punctuation

All submitted work needs to be typed, printed, and submitted on the assigned due date. For all essays, include your name and the page number on the top right of each page (i.e.: Lastname 1). Please also include a date and the course number and section (i.e. ENGL 2210.007). Use a text font for all essays (Times Roman or Garamond for example) at 12 points, with all one-inch (1”) margins, and double-spacing. Please see the formatted example on the homepage.

I do not accept papers late. Please contact me immediately if something may prevent you from submitting an assignment.

Reminders:
As you can see from the syllabus, this course features a fairly heavy reading load. All readings are listed in each online section. Plan ahead to complete the readings and course assignments and be prepared to spend at least 1 1/2 hours online per week. Annotating your readings or keeping reading notes in a notebook is helpful.

You are responsible for all material covered.

College Writing II Syllabus, p. 4 of 6
Course Schedule:
(Notes: Schedule is provisional and may change; All assignments are due on the class period listed below.)

Failure to complete any exam will result in failure of this course. Please note the dates of all exams.

First Day (Aug 26)
• Introduction to policies, instructor, and course plan
• THE ANCIENT WORLD
  • Lecture—Ancient Epics:
    • Gilgamesh (10+)
    • Iliad (114+)
    • Aeneid (1052+)

Week 1 (Aug 31, Sept 2)
• Gilgamesh: Discussion Topics
• Complete online activities for Gilgamesh
  • Iliad
• Composition on Gilgamesh due by midnight.

Week 2 (Sept 7, Sept 9)
• Iliad Reading Questions: Books 1, 6, 9
• Iliad Reading Questions: Books 16, 18, 22, 24
• Complete online activities for Iliad

Week 3 (Sept 14, Sept 16)
• Aeneid: Books 1, 2, 4
• Composition on Iliad due by midnight.
• Aeneid Discussion Topics
• Complete online activities for Aeneid, incl. posts

Week 4 (Sept 21, Sept 23)
• Lecture—Ancient Eastern Traditions:
  • Classic of Poetry (805+)
  • Confucius (820+)
  • Ramayana (890+)
• Complete online activities for Ramayana before group discussion; for the other two before exam.
• GROUP 1: Ramayana Discussion topics

Week 5 (Sept 28, Sept 30)
• GROUP 2: Ramayana Discussion topics
• GROUP 3: Ramayana Discussion topics
• Composition on Ramayana due by midnight.

Week 6 (Oct 5)
• Exam 1: The Ancient World

Week 6 (Oct 7)
• THE MIDDLE PERIOD
  • Lecture—Eastern Literature:
    • T'ang Poetry (1370+)
    • 1001 Nights (1566+)
    • The Pillow Book (2270+)
  • Complete online activities for 1001 Nights before group discussion.
  • Complete online activities for T'ang Poetry and The Pillow Book—including posts—before 3/12.

Week 7 (Oct 12, Oct 14)
• GROUP 2: 1001 Nights Discussion
• GROUP 3: 1001 Nights Discussion

Week 8 (Oct 19, Oct 21)
• GROUP 1: 1001 Nights Discussion
• Composition on 1001 Nights due
• Lecture—Western Literature:
  • Marie de France (1767+)
  • Complete online activities for Marie de France, including posts
  • Divine Comedy (1826+)
  • Decameron (1963+)

Week 9 (Oct 26, Oct 28)
• Decameron: Discussion
• Complete online activities for Decameron
• Divine Comedy: Inferno

Week 10 (Nov 2, Nov 4)
• Divine Comedy: Purgatorio and Paradiso
• Complete online activities for Divine Comedy
• Composition on Divine Comedy due
• Exam 2: The Middle Period
Week 11 (Nov 9, Nov 11)
• THE RENAISSANCE
  • Lecture—Renaissance in Europe:
    • The Prince (2517+) and The Courtier (2549+)
      • Complete online activities for The Prince and
        The Courtier, including posts
    • Aristotle’s Poetics (823+)
    • Othello (2919+)
    • Paradise Lost (2996+)
    • Poetics and Othello
      • Complete online activities for Poetics
      • Complete online activities for Othello before group
        discussion

Week 12 (Nov 16, Nov 18)
• GROUP 3: Othello Film of Act 2
• GROUP 2: Othello Film of Acts 3-4

Week 13 (Nov 23)
• GROUP 1: Othello Film of Act 5

Week 14 (Nov 30, Dec 2)
• Paradise Lost: Books 1, 4, 8
• Complete online activities for Paradise Lost before
  group discussion, including posts
• Composition on Othello Due
  • GROUP 2: Paradise Lost Book 9 Discussion topics

Week 15 (Dec 7, Dec 9)
• GROUP 1: Paradise Lost Book 9 Discussion topics
• GROUP 3: Paradise Lost Book 9 Discussion topics

Finals Week (Thursday, Dec 16)
• Final Exam, 10:30A-12:30P