Course: ENGL 2210.01/83 (TR 2:30 P.M., SAGE 330)
Instructor: Shari M. Childers, Ph.D.
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Web page: Blackboard for this course
Office Hours: MW 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.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, 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:

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 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, Quizzes, Participation
5% Composition 1
10% Presentation: Literary Analysis w/handout
20% Exam 1
20% Exam 2
20% Exam 3
15% Final Composition with Research (1)

(A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = below 60)
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 legitimate 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.

Excused Absences for Religious Holidays
In accordance with State law, students absent due to the observance of a religious holiday may take examinations or 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.

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 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 may appeal the decision of their instructor in writing to the Assistant Chair of the Dept of English within 5 days of the instructor’s decision.

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 phone usage and texting; 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 this World Literature I section

Attendance and Participation:
Students should have assignments read before attending class 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.

In-class quizzes will always provide an opportunity for you to demonstrate your preparation. You may use any notes that you have taken. You may not use notes made in your textbook or any printed notes.

In-class activities engage students with the material by posing questions, identifying themes, or suggesting points of reference for discovery. Students work directly with the literary texts and, together with classmates, participate actively in the work of literary analysis. Such activities are designed to provide guided, practical engagement that is directly relevant to course expectations for both compositions and exams.

Presentation:
You will be responsible for preparing and delivering an in-class presentation on an author or work. This presentation requires that you go beyond the material in the text and engage your classmates in an well-planned, effective teaching segment. Minimum requirements include: the presentation and visuals, a handout duplicated for your classmates, and an accompanying essay. Please refer to the guidelines for this specific assignment for more detailed information.

Exams:
Each of the 3 unit exams will include a combination of multiple choice, identification, and matching questions as well as 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.

Compositions:
Students will be required to write compositions throughout the course. 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 (varies by assignment)

All submitted work needs to be typed and submitted on the assigned due date through the medium required. For all essays, please include a proper MLA heading with date and 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. 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. Plan ahead to complete the readings and course assignments. Annotating your readings and/or keeping reading notes in a notebook is helpful.

You are responsible for all material covered.
Course Schedule:
(Notes: Schedule is provisional and may change; All assignments are due on the class period listed below.
Failure to complete any essay or exam will result in failure of this course. Please note the dates of all exams.

Week 1 (Jan 13, Jan 15)
- Introduction to policies, instructor, and course plan
- **The Ancient World: Divine Heroes**
  - Ancient Mediterranean and near Eastern Lit. (3+)
  - From *The Bible* (158-67)

Week 2 (Jan 22)
- *Gilgamesh* (95+)

Week 3 (Jan 27, Jan 29)
- **Divinely Descended Heroes**
  - Homer (222+)
  - *Iliad*: Books 1, 6, 8, 9 (230+)
  - *Iliad*: Books 16, 18, 22, 24

Week 4 (Feb 3, Feb 5)
- **Epic Appropriation**
  - Virgil (960+)
  - *The Aeneid*: Books 1, 2, 4 (964+)
  - *The Aeneid*: Books 8, 12
- **Composition 1 Due** (online by 11:59 pm, Feb 7)

Week 5 (Feb 10, Feb 12)
- **Ancients in Eastern Wisdom: Early India**
  - India’s Ancient Epics and Tales (1161+)
    - *The Bhagavad-Gita* (1282+)
  - **An Entirely Different Kind of Hero**
    - *The Ramayana* (1170-1202)

Week 6 (Feb 17, Feb 19)
- *The Ramayana* (1203+)
- **Exam 1: The Ancient World**

Week 7 (Feb 24, Feb 26)
- **Circling the Mediterranean: Europe and the Islamic World**
  - Circling the Mediterranean (Vol. B, 3+)
- **From the Islamic World**
  - From *The Qur’an* (71+)
  - *1001 Nights* (552-66)
  - *1001 Nights* (566-87)

Week 8 (Mar 3, Mar 5)
- *1001 Nights* (587+)
  - **From the European World**
  - Marie De France & all selections (294+)
  - Dante (387-91)

Spring Break (Mar 10, Mar 12)

Week 9 (Mar 17, Mar 19)
- **Divine Comedy: Inferno, selections (TBD)**
- **Divine Comedy: Inferno, selections (TBD)**

Week 10 (Mar 24, Mar 26)
- Boccaccio (605+)
  - *The Decameron*: 1.1, 2.7 (609-33)
- *The Decameron*: 4.9, 10.9, 10.10 (633+)

Week 11 (Mar 31, Apr 2)
- **Exam 2: Circling the Mediterranean**
  - Encounters with Islam (Vol. C, 3+)
  - *Sunjata* (12-25)
[REPEATED FROM LAST PAGE] WEEK 11 (MAR 31, APR 2)

**EXAM 2: THE MIDDLE PERIOD**

- Encounters with Islam (Vol. C, 3+)
- Sunjata (12-25)

WEEK 12 ( APR 7, APR 9)

- Sunjata (25+)
- Sunjata (25+)

WEEK 13 ( APR 14, APR 16)

**THE RENAISSANCE**

- Europe and the New World (123+)
- Cervantes (381+)
- Don Quixote: from Part I (386-411)
- Don Quixote: from Part I (411-64)

WEEK 14 ( APR 21, APR 23)

- John Milton (770+)
- Paradise Lost: Intro; Books 1, 2 (774-92)
- Paradise Lost: Books 4, 8 (792-814)

WEEK 15 ( APR 28, APR 30)

- Paradise Lost: Books 9 only (814-42)
- Paradise Lost: Book 10, 12 (842-53)
- Final Essay Due (online by 11:59 pm)

WEEK 16 ( MONDAY, MAY 5)

- Final Exam, 1:30P-3:30P