## **English 3361: History of World Literature I**

**Spring 2016**

**Instructor:** Cathy Corder, Ph.D.

**Course Information**: TTh, 3:30 – 4:50pm, PH 207

**Office/Hours**: Carlisle Hall 523, Tues and Thurs, 1-3pm, and by appointment

**Email**: ccorder@uta.edu

This course introduces students to major texts in western literature from early oral and manuscript traditions through the first centuries of printing. Texts and authors studied may include the Bible, Homer, Greek drama, Virgil, lyrical poetry, Dante, Cervantes, and other works of the early Renaissance. Lectures will also consider how modern authors have borrowed and re-interpreted themes and motifs from these texts.

**Objectives**

* Identify and situate foundational literary texts in their historical and social contexts, accounting for formal, stylistic, thematic, and other relevant features in relation to these contexts
* Recognize key genres, myths, motifs, and characters that we have inherited from these foundational texts
* Demonstrate the ability to structure ideas and arguments, both orally and in writing, in a logical, sustained, and persuasive way, and to support them with precise and relevant examples.
* Employ correct MLA documentation of primary and secondary sources.

**Required Texts**

*Literature of the Western World. Volume I: The Ancient World Through the Renaissance*, eds. Brian Wilkie and James Hurt. 5th edition.

Other readings will be posted on Blackboard.

**Grades**. Your final grade for this course will consist of the following:

Participation 50 points

Mid-term 150 points

Final 150 points

Reading responses (6) 300 points

**Attendance.** At The University of Texas at Arlington, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, **I will take attendance** and record excused or unexcused absences.

**Excused absences** include official university activities (such as athletics), military service, religious holidays, and/or the death of a close family member or an extended illness. You must inform me in writing at least one week in advance of an excused absence (except for a death, of course), and I will work with you to reschedule or make up missed work.

**Unexcused absences** may be the result of any number of situations: bad traffic, previous class running late or in a building far away, you really need to study for that calculus test this afternoon, you really need to catch up on sleep this morning, you’re just not feeling well. WHATEVER the reason, you get **three** free unexcused absences for the semester. Any unexcused absences after that will result in **5 points** deducted from your participation grade for each additional absence.

**Academic Integrity.** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

**Americans with Disabilities Act.** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX.** The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](https://owa.uta.edu/owa/ccorder@exchange.uta.edu/redir.aspx?SURL=Oa8YXSZqkDl4KAO9v0IuDRrs8q0w58A41rcCFtlHVgiCTa6bHK7SCGgAdAB0AHAAOgAvAC8AdwB3AHcALgB1AHQAYQAuAGUAZAB1AC8AdABpAHQAbABlAEkAWAA.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.uta.edu%2ftitleIX" \t "_blank).

**Electronic Communication Policy.** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. ***You are responsible for checking your MavMail regularly.*** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

**Conferences and Questions.** I have **four** regularly scheduled office hours each week. These times are reserved for students to drop by or to make an appointment to discuss course assignments, grades, or other class-related concerns. I will be happy to make other appointment times for you if your class schedule conflicts with regular conference times or if I am not available on certain days. If you receive a grade on an assignment or quiz about which you have questions, please wait twenty-four hours before discussing it with me. This gives you time to process the assignment comments and to think about how your course work meets the requirements set forth for each assignment. I do not discuss individual student issues in the classroom before, during or after class.

**Syllabus and Schedule Changes.** I try to make my syllabuses as complete as possible; however, during the course of the semester I may be required to alter, add, or abandon certain policies/assignments. Instructors reserve the right to make such changes as they become necessary. I will inform you of any major changes in writing.

**Class schedule**

Tues 1/19 Introduction, texts, schedule, assignments

Thus 1/21 “Western Civilization”

Tues 1/26 *The Iliad*, pp. 134-80

Thurs 1/28 *The Iliad*, pp. 180-223

Tues 2/2 *The Iliad*, pp. 223-72

Thurs 2/4 *The Odyssey*, Books 1-6

Tues 2/9 *The Odyssey*, Books 9-12

Thurs 2/11 *The Odyssey*, Books 16, 21-24

Tues 2/16 Modern interpretations

Thurs 2/18 *Oedipus Rex*

Tues 2/23 *Oedipus Rex*

Thurs 2/25 Modern interpretations

Tues 3/1 *The Aeneid*, Books I-IV

Thurs 3/3 *The Aeneid*, Books V-VI, VIII, and XII

Tues 3/8 Modern interpretations

Thurs 3/10 Midterm

Tues 3/15 Spring Break

Thurs 3/17 Spring Break

Tues 3/22 Sappho, Catullus, and Ovid

Thurs 3/24 Pericles, Cicero, and Pope Urban II

Tues 3/29 Modern interpretations

Thurs 3/31 *Inferno*, pp. 1408-51

Tues 4/5 *Inferno*, pp. 1451-1518

Thurs 4/7 *Inferno*, pp. 1518-43

Tues 4/12 Modern interpretations

Thurs 4/14 *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

Tues 4/19 Modern interpretations

Thurs 4/21 *Don Quixote*

Tues 4/26 *Don Quixote*

Thurs 4/28 *Don Quixote*

Tues 5/3 Modern interpretations

Thurs 5/5 Humanism and the Renaissance