

## LIT 2110-SECT 1848

### Survey of World Literature: Ancient to Renaissance

**Instructor:** Anthony E. Jones

**E-mail:** aejones08@ufl.edu

**Place:** Rinker Hall (RNK) Rm. 230

**Office:** TUR 4108

**Class Time:** MWF 6<sup>th</sup> period (12:50-1:40)

**Office Hours:** W and F 5<sup>th</sup> per or by appt.

#### **Course Description:**

Genres as diverse as epics, elegies, and laments make up the multifaceted canon of world literature from Ancient Greece up through the early Renaissance period. In this introductory course, we will examine, discuss, and debate various cultural texts, exploring the manner in which they create, interact with, and comment upon one another. Issues of identity (religious, regional, political, philosophical, linguistic, etc) stirred tensions in the authors and their audiences. By examining the artistry of individual texts, as well as some of the social and political contexts of these works, we will come to recognize that definitions of terms like *beauty* and *worth* in literature are elusive at best. Who makes these choices, and why should they have an impact? Furthermore, to what degree do the texts under survey articulate a diverse cultural and ethnic heritage? What are their contemporary resonances? These are some of the queries we will undertake together in this course, and in so doing, we will enter a larger historical conversation about literary studies.

This class is a General Education course providing student learning outcomes listed in the Undergraduate Catalog. For more information, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/general-education-requirement.aspx> .

#### **Course Objectives and Structure:**

The primary goals of LIT 2110 will be to give you a working knowledge of world literature from Ancient Greece through the early European Renaissance as well as to aid in your development as a writer. Ideally, by the end of this course, you will have the tools necessary for writing about these (and other) texts in a knowledgeable, critical fashion. This course will blend lecture, class discussion and writing. As a result, you will be required to actively participate in classroom discussions. Additionally, you will learn how to read contextually and rhetorically, form arguments, and write coherently about literature. You will be responsible for writing response papers for the assigned readings and sharing your ideas in class. The critical thinking and communication skills you learn here will extend beyond this class and ensure your success in your other courses, in your future career, and in your daily

## **Required Texts**

Puchner, Martin, ed. *The Norton Anthology of World Literature*, (ISBN: 0393919609)

Cuddon, J.A. *The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms/Theory*, (ISBN: 0140513639)

## **Course Policies:**

### **Attendance:**

LIT 2110 is a participation-oriented course, which means that you will build your skills and gain knowledge incrementally and systematically in each class throughout the semester. Attendance is crucial in engaging with other students about the reading and writing assignments. Much of the learning that takes place is spontaneous and difficult to reproduce outside of class.

Consequently, if you miss more than three periods during the semester, you will fail the entire course. Only those absences involving military service; court-mandated obligations, such as jury duty and court testimony; university-sponsored events, such as athletics and band, and religious holidays, are exempt. Absences for illness or family emergencies will count toward your three allowed absences. Please provide a doctor's note. Each absence beyond two may lower your overall grade. If you are absent, it is still your responsibility to make yourself aware of all due dates. You are still responsible for turning assignments in on time. Please do not come late to class; arriving late disrupts the entire class. If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be marked absent. Being tardy three times will equal one absence. Save your absences for when you're really ill.

### **Preparation:**

You are expected to be prepared for every class, including completing all reading and writing assignments on time. Papers and drafts are due at the beginning of class. Extensions can be negotiated in advance of deadline; **late papers will not be accepted**. Failure of technology is not an excuse.

### **Mode of Submission:**

All papers must be in 12-point Times New Roman or Calibri font and double-spaced. Be sure to staple papers before submitting hard copies. Your final drafts should be polished and proof read. Students will be notified in class whether a paper is to be submitted on Canvas or in hard copy.

### **Technology**

Cell phones must be silenced or on vibrate at the beginning of class. Laptops are not necessary for this class and must be kept shut and put away unless the instructor gives you permission to use them.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is a serious violation of the Student Honor Code. The Honor Code prohibits and defines plagiarism as follows:

Plagiarism: A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to):

- a. Quoting oral or written materials, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
- b. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student.
- c. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment authored by the student and submitted for another course.

(University of Florida, Student Honor Code, 15 Aug. 2007

<<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php>>)

University of Florida students are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the entire Student Honor Code. All students are required to abide by the Student Honor Code. For more information about academic honesty, including definitions of plagiarism and unauthorized collaboration, see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>

Important Tip: You should never copy and paste something from the Internet without providing the exact location from which it came.

All acts of plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment and a report filed with the Dean of Students Office. Plagiarism can occur even without any intention to deceive if the student fails to know and employ proper documentation techniques.

Unless otherwise indicated by the instructor for class group work, all work must be your own. Nothing written for another course will be accepted.

**Academic Honesty:**

As a University of Florida student, your performance is governed by the UF Honor Code, available in its full form at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>. The Honor Code requires Florida students to neither give nor receive unauthorized aid in completing all assignments. Violations include cheating, plagiarism, bribery, resubmission, and misrepresentation.

**Graded Materials:**

Students are responsible for maintaining duplicate copies of all work submitted in this course and retaining all returned, graded work until the semester is over. Should the need arise for a re-submission of papers or a review of graded papers, it is the student's responsibility to have and to make available this material. Students must wait 24 hours after a paper is returned before contacting the instructor regarding his/her grade on that paper.

### **Classroom Behavior and Harassment:**

UF provides an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment. For more about UF policies regarding harassment, see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/sexual/>

Please keep in mind that students come from diverse cultural, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. Some of the texts we will discuss and write about engage with controversial topics and opinions. Diverse student backgrounds combined with provocative texts require that you demonstrate respect for ideas that may differ from your own.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

The Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office provides information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information, see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

### **Online Evaluation Process:**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

### **Assignments:**

#### **Weekly Response**

3500 words

The weekly responses are 250 words due either MWF for a total of 14 responses. Every week, I would like you to submit one reading response of 250 words each, commenting on that particular class day's reading. (For example, if you submit a response on Monday, you should comment upon Monday's reading.) While you may respond to anything about the text that interests you, you must quickly move beyond summary to offer your critical interpretations or reflections based upon evidence from the text. The weekly response may also be used to pose questions about or offer criticism of the reading text.

#### **Interpretive Essay (Canvas will include a detailed explanation of this assignment.)**

1000 words

The short interpretive essay will be due early in the semester and will serve as a diagnostic measure by which we can gauge your writing skill level. In it, you will practice close reading and interpretation of a passage or passages of your choosing from works we have read thus far. The words from the passage will not count towards the university writing requirement.

**Comparative/Analytical Essay** (Canvas will include a detailed explanation of this assignment.)  
1500 words

In this essay, you should take into account and build on any comments and suggestions you received on your short interpretive essay. Here, you will undertake a comparative/analytical approach to a particular element (theme, characterization, formal structure, etc.) that you find within one or two works.

**Exams**

You will take a midterm and final exam in this course. I will not issue study guides. Assume that if we read it or discussed it in class, it could potentially show up on the midterm or final. Thus, take notes. The midterm will test your knowledge of the texts and terms we have studied and discussed through the midpoint of the semester. The final will test your knowledge of the texts and terms we have studied since the midpoint of the semester. That is, the final will not be cumulative. While both exams will probably contain a mix of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and short essay questions, I do not anticipate that they will be inordinately long. The average of your midterm and final exam grades will be your exam grade for the course.

**Assignments and Grade Distribution**

**Points**

Essay 1 (1000 words) - 15%	150
Essay 2 (1500 words) - 20%	200
Weekly reading responses (14@250 words each) - 30%	300
Midterm/Final-15%	150
Substantive Class Participation/Discussion-10%	100
Unannounced Quizzes - 10%	100 = 1000 pts.

A: 94-100 (4.0)  
A-: 90-93 (3.67)  
B+: 87-89 (3.33)  
B: 84-86 (3.0)  
B-: 80-83 (2.67)  
C+: 77-79 (2.33)  
C: 74-76 (2.0)  
C-: 70-73 (1.67)  
D+: 67-69 (1.33)  
D: 64-66 (1.0)  
D-: 60-63 (.67)  
E: 0-59 (0)

A - You successfully completed the assignment at a high quality level, and your work shows originality and creativity. Your paper reveals that you have grappled deeply with the assignment's topic. Your paper is clearly structured, thoroughly supported, and persuasive. The assignment contains no errors in grammar, spelling, and/or syntax.

B - You successfully completed the assignment at a moderately high level. Your paper reveals that you have thought deeply about the assignment's topic and have developed a largely persuasive argument, although your work may need slight revisions in terms of structure and/or content. The assignment is almost completely without errors in grammar, spelling, and/or syntax.

C - While your paper reveals that you have given some thought to the assignment's topic, your paper seems more of a rough draft than a final version and requires substantial revisions, likely in terms of both structure and content, in order to persuade the reader. While your assignment may be readable, it contains some errors in grammar, spelling, and/or syntax.

D - You did what the assignment required of you at a poor quality level. Work in this range needs significant revision. The paper's main ideas are poorly supported, and an organizational structure is difficult to discern. Frequently, writing at this level may suffer from many problems in grammar, spelling, and/or syntax which are so serious as to render portions of the paper nearly unreadable.

E - Papers which earn E's fail to show that the writer has given any consideration to the assignment's topic. The paper offers slim to no support for its argument, and an organizational structure cannot be discerned. The paper contains an unsatisfactory number of errors in grammar, spelling, and/or syntax. Importantly, if any of the paper has been plagiarized, it will also receive a failing grade.

### **Tentative Course Schedule**

- Week 1** (Aug. 22-26)  
**M-** Introduction: Purpose, Goals, and Syllabus Review  
**W-Diagnostic Writing Assignment**  
**F-** *Gilgamesh*, "Prologue" and Tablets 1- 4
- Week 2** (Aug. 29-Sept. 2)  
**M-***Gilgamesh*, Tablets 5-7

**W-***Gilgamesh*, Tablets 8-11

**F-** Complete *Gilgamesh* Discussion; Read Select Weekly Responses to *Gilgamesh*

**Week 3** (Sept. 5-9)

**M-No Class-----Labor Day Holiday**

**W-**Introduction to Greek Myths; *The Iliad*, Book I [The Rage of Achilles]

**F-***The Iliad*, Book XXII [The Death of Hector]

**Week 4** (Sept. 12-16)

**M-***The Iliad*, Book XXIV [Achilles and Priam]

**W-** Complete *The Iliad* Discussion; Read Select Weekly Responses to  
*The Iliad*

**F-Peer Editing of Interpretive Essay**

**Week 5** (Sept. 19-23)

**M-***The Aeneid*, Book I; **Interpretive Essay Due**

**W-***The Aeneid*, Book II

**F-***The Aeneid*, Book IV

**Week 6** (Sept. 26-29)

**M-***The Aeneid*, Books XII

**W-***Metamorphoses*, Book I

**F-***Metamorphoses*, Book X

**Week 7** (Oct. 3-7)

**M-***Beowulf*, “Preface” and “Introduction”

**W-***Beowulf*, “Prologue”-IX

**F-***Beowulf*, X-XX

**Week 8** (Oct. 10-14)

**M-***Beowulf*, XXI-XXIX

**W-** *Beowulf*, XXX-XXXVII

**F-No Class-----Homecoming**

**Week 9** (Oct. 17-21)

**M-***Beowulf*, XXXVIII-XLIII

**W-**Discussion of Selected Clicks of Film Adaptations of *Beowulf*

**F-Midterm**

**Week 10** (Oct. 24-28)

**M-***The Song of Roland*, “Introduction”

**W-** *The Song of Roland*, Norton excerpt

**F-Individual Conferences**

- Week 11** (Oct. 31-Nov. 4)  
**M-Individual Conferences**  
**W-Individual Conferences**  
**F-Peer Editing of Comparative/Analytical Essay**
- Week 12** (Nov. 7-11)  
**M-Don Quixote**, Part I “Prologue”; **Comparative/Analytical Essay Due**  
**W-Don Quixote**, “I know Who I Am”  
**F-No Class-----Veterans Day**
- Week 13** (Nov.14-18)  
**M-Don Quixote**, Part II “Prologue”  
**W- Don Quixote**, “Last Duel”  
**F-Discussion of Shakespeare and Renaissance England**
- Week 14** (Nov. 21-25))  
**M- Hamlet**  
**W-No Class-----Thanksgiving**  
**F- No Class-----Thanksgiving**
- Week 15** (Nov. 28-Dec. 2)  
**M-Hamlet**  
**W-Hamlet**  
**F-Hamlet**
- Week 16** (Dec. 5-7)  
**M-Course Reflections**  
**W-Final Exam**



