

English 265 –Readings in Literature of the Western World
 –3 Hours Credit
Prerequisites: English 164, 165
Meeting Room: Ev 251

Instructor: Lee Courtney: Ev 406 / 936 2941416 / eng_lfc@shsu.edu
Office Hours: MW 12-1:30 F 9-11 TTh 5-6--or by appointment

Text: Literature of the Western World: Volume I (Fifth Edition)

Course Description: English 265 features “readings in the classical, medieval, and modern masterpieces of the western world.”

Purposes of the Course: This course is designed to introduce (or re-introduce) you to some of the most important poems, plays, and stories in the European literary tradition, works which have helped to shape the world in which we live today. In addition, you will have opportunity to improve your reading and writing skills as you experience the universally admired excellence of writers like Homer, Dante, and Shakespeare, and as you construct short essays demonstrating your knowledge and understanding of those authors. (Writing assignments will be short: English 265.17 and .18 are “non-W” classes. Two-thirds of your semester grade will be determined by objective exams.)

Semester Grade: There are six components, equally weighted. Four multiple-choice exams are scheduled. In April, a set of short out-of-class essays will be assigned. The last sixth of your grade comes from your average on six in-class minor assignments. (And I will drop the lowest grade among the “minors”).

Numbers and Letters. In here, 90 is an A, 80 a B, and so on.

Attendance Policy: On-time, full-time, every-time attendance is the best policy.. Beginning with your fourth unexcused absence, I will deduct a point from your semester average for each such event. Coming to class late or leaving early counts as half-an-absence.

Classroom Decorum: Cell phones off, remember. If I am electronically interrupted, I start the lecture over.

Missed In-Class Assignments. All missed exams and minor assignments will be made up on a common late date (to be announced). Here’s a disadvantage of makeups: I scatter bonus points through the semester and apply them to graded assignments that are executed on schedule. Makeup exams, essay sets, and “minors” are ineligible for those additional points.

Late Submissions: For each day the essay set is late, its value decreases by 10 points (unless there is an instructor-approved excuse.)

Schedule of Assignments:

January 17	Organizational
January 22	Lecture: The Homeric Background
January 24	<u>Iliad</u> , 131-60 (in <u>LWW</u>)
January 29	160-206 / Minor (Assignment) 1
January 31	206-72
February 5	Minor 2
February 7	Aftermath and <u>Odyssey</u>
February 12	Exam 1
February 14	Lecture: Greek Drama
February 19	<u>Agamemnon</u> , 615-69
February 21	
February 26	<u>Antigone</u> , 791-839
February 28	Minor 3
March 4	<u>Medea</u> , 844-77
March 6	Exam 2
<hr/>	
March 18	Lecture: Dante and Medieval Florence
March 20	
March 25	<u>Inferno</u> , 1405-47
March 27	Minor 4
April 1	1448-86
April 3	1486-1543
April 8	Essay Set Assigned
April 10	Exam 3
April 15	Lecture: Chaucer and His England
April 17	<u>Canterbury Tales</u> : "Prologue," 1674-92 / Minor 5
April 22	"The Pardoner's Tale," 1737-47
April 24	"The Nun's Priest's Tale," 1748-61

April 29 Lecture: Shakespeare: His Life, Age, and Stage
May 1 Essay Set Due

May 6 The Tempest, 2036-98
May 8 Minor 6

May 13 (2-4) Exam 4 (265.18)
May 15 (2-4) Exam 4 (265.17)

Academic Dishonesty: “All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.”

Evidence of the unacknowledged or inappropriate use of another’s ideas or words will mean a zero on the assignment in question.

Americans with Disabilities Act: “It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified should not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they should not be denied the benefits of the these programs, nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center, They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.”

No accommodations can be made for a student who has not registered with the Counseling Center. All communications with (and from) the Center will be kept strictly confidential.

Religious Holidays: “Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment form which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.”

