

Syllabus

This syllabus represents the ideal schedule for our study this semester. Yet, like all best-laid plans, we will probably not be able to keep up with our agenda. Please be flexible and try to look and read ahead whenever possible. We will do our best to stick by this syllabus, but I will inform you verbally whenever there is a change in or an addition to an assignment. Getting these updates is *solely your responsibility*. *THEREFORE, THIS SYLLABUS IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE CONTINGENT UPON THE NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS AND THE PROFESSOR, AND DICTATED BY TIME AND OTHER CONSTRAINTS WHICH MAY AFFECT THE COURSE.* This syllabus reflects only an overview of the assigned reading and other major course assignments. It does not indicate other *specific* class session assignments or activities.

Week 1: August 25 and 27

Tuesday

- Course Introduction
- Review course text
- HOMEWORK: Internet Account (due 9/1); Course Contract (due 9/1); Buy *Course Booklet*; Complete Student Profile (due 9/1)
- READING: *Course Booklet*

Thursday

- Review course statement and syllabus, and *Course Booklet* materials
- HOMEWORK: Internet Account (due 9/1); Course Contract (due 9/1); Complete Student Profile (due 9/1); Choose Presentation Work (due 9/1)
- READING: from “Genesis” (59-83)

Week 2: September 1 and 3

Tuesday

- Collect Contract; Student Profile; Presentation Choices
- Myth and Religion
- “Genesis”
- READING: from “Job” (83-99)

Thursday

- “Job”
- The Epic—formalist conventions
- HOMEWORK: Journal 1
- READING: *Gilgamesh* (10-42)

Week 3: September 8 and 10

Tuesday

- The Epic (cont.)
- *Gilgamesh*
- HOMEWORK:
- READING: *The Iliad* (116-145: Introduction; Books I, VI, and VIII)

Thursday

- Homer
- *The Iliad*
- HOMEWORK: Journal 2
- READING: *The Iliad* (146-218: Books IX, XVIII, XIX, XXII, and XXIV)

Week 4: September 15 and 17

Tuesday

- *The Iliad*
- READING for 9/17: Hexter's *Guide* (Introduction); begin *The Odyssey*

Thursday

- Begin *The Odyssey*: Critical Approaches
- HOMEWORK: Journal 3
- READING for Week 5: *The Odyssey* (219-49: Books 1-3); Hexter's *Guide* (Books 1-3)

Week 5: September 22 and 24

- *The Odyssey*: Heroic Culture
- HOMEWORK: Journal 4
- READING for Week 6: *The Odyssey* (250-319: Books 4-9); Hexter's *Guide* (Books 4-9)

Week 6: September 29 and October 1

- *The Odyssey*
- HOMEWORK: Journal 5
- READING for Week 7: *The Odyssey* (319-384: Books 10-14); Hexter's *Guide* (Books 10-14)

Week 7: October 6 and 8

- *The Odyssey*
- HOMEWORK: Journal 6
- READING for Week 8: *The Odyssey* (384-451: Books 15-19); Hexter's *Guide* (Books 15-19)

Week 8: October 13 and 15

- *The Odyssey*
- HOMEWORK: Journal 7
- READING for Week 9: *The Odyssey* (452: Books 20-24); Hexter's *Guide* (Books 20-24)

Week 9: October 20 and 22

Tuesday

- *The Odyssey*
- HOMEWORK: Finish 1st-half semester's writing

Thursday

- Introduction to Greek Tragedy
- Items Due
 - Option One: Five Journal Entries due
 - Option Two: Essay 1 due

- Option Three: Bibliography and Prospectus due
- Option Four: Explications 1-3 due
- Option Five: Project Prospectus due
- HOMEWORK: Journal 7
- READING: Sophocles *Oedipus the King* (585-631)

Week 10: October 27 and 29

Tuesday

- *Oedipus*
- Greek Tragedy and Beyond
- PRESENTATIONS: Aeschylus *Prometheus Bound*; Sophocles *Antigone*; Euripides *Medea*

Thursday

- Conclude Tragedy
- Introduction to Roman Literature
- Myth and the Epic
- PRESENTATIONS: Aristotle *Poetics*, Plato *The Symposium*
- HOMEWORK: Journal 8
- READING for Week 11: Ovid *The Metamorphoses* (1065-1091)

Week 11: November 3 and 5

Tuesday

- Ovid
- PRESENTATIONS: Plato *The Republic* Books 1-5; *The Republic* Books 6-10
- HOMEWORK:
- READING for Week 12: *The Aeneid* (997-1065: Books I, II, IV, VI, VIII, and XII); Begin Dante

Thursday

- Library Research Day: No class
- HOMEWORK: Journal 9

Week 12: November 10 and 12

Tuesday

- Library Research Day: No Class

Thursday

- Virgil and the Roman Epic
- Social and National Heroism
- PRESENTATIONS: Apuleius *The Golden Ass*; Petronius *The Satyricon*
- HOMEWORK: Journal 10
- READING for Week 13: Dante *The Divine Comedy*: Inferno (Cantos I-XX: 1692-1773); Essays from Jacoff as assigned

Week 13: November 17 and 19

Tuesday

- Dante
- PRESENTATIONS: *The Song of Roland*; Augustine *Confessions*
- HOMEWORK: Journal 11
- READING: *The Divine Comedy*: Inferno (Cantos XXI-XXXIV: 1777-1829); Essays from Jacoff as assigned

Week 14: November 24 and 26

Tuesday

- Dante
- PRESENTATIONS: *The Thousand and One Nights*; Boccaccio *The Decameron*
- HOMEWORK:
- READING: *The Divine Comedy*: from *Purgatorio* (1829-1850); Essays from Jacoff as assigned

Thursday

- Dante
- PRESENTATIONS: Cervantes *Don Quixote* Part I; *Don Quixote* Part II
- HOMEWORK: Journal 12
- READING: *The Divine Comedy*: from *Paradiso* (1850-1868); Essays from Jacoff as assigned

Week 15: December 1 and 3

Tuesday

- Conclude Dante
- PRESENTATIONS: Machiavelli *The Prince*; Petrarch's Sonnets
- HOMEWORK: Self Assessment
- READING: Catch up on Reading

Thursday

- Course Review
- Prepare for Final Exam
- Self Assessment Due
- PRESENTATIONS: Rabelais *Gargantua and Pantagruel* Book I; *Gargantua and Pantagruel* Book II
- HOMEWORK: Journal 13

Exam: December 8

- Items Due
 - Option One: Five Journal Entries due
 - Option Two: Essay 2 due
 - Option Three: Research Essay due
 - Option Four: Explications 4-6 due
 - Option Five: Project due