ENG 2601-001: Backgrounds of the Western Literature

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English 2601.001: Backgrounds of the Western Literature
Spring 2014
Instructor: David Raybin
Office: 324 Coleman Hall
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Electronic Mail: draybin@eiu.edu

Texts: Boccaccio, *Decameron*
Cervantes, *Don Quixote*
Chrétien de Troyes, *The Complete Romances*
Dante, *Inferno*
Homer, *The Iliad*
Homer, *The Odyssey*
Marie de France, *Lais*
Ovid, *Metamorphoses*
Virgil, *The Aeneid*

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

January 14: Introduction to the Course

I. The Ancient World: Greece, Israel, and Rome

16: Homer, *The Iliad*, Books 1-6
21: *The Iliad*, Books 7-12
23: *The Iliad*, Books 13-18

28: *The Iliad*, Books 19-24
30: Homer, *The Odyssey*, Books 1-6

February 4: *The Odyssey*, Books 7-12
6: *The Odyssey*, Books 13-18

11: *The Odyssey*, Books 19-24
** Essay #1 Due **

18: *The Aeneid*, Books 4-6

25: No Class
27: No Class

II. The European Middle Ages and Renaissance

March 4: *Metamorphoses*, Books 6-15
6: Chrétien de Troyes, *The Knight of the Cart*
** Essay #2 Due **

11: Spring
13: Holiday

20: *Lais*, pp. 137-233
March
25: Dante, *Inferno*, Cantos 1-4
27: *Inferno*, Cantos 5-11

April
1: *Inferno*, Cantos 12-17
**Essay #3 Due**
3: *Inferno*, Cantos 18-30

8: *Inferno*, Cantos 31-34
10: Boccaccio, *Decameron*, pp. 1-72
15: *Decameron*, pp. 73-147
17: Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, pp. 1-102 (Prologues, Chapters 1-14)
22: *Don Quixote*, pp. 102-226 (Chapters 15-27)
24: *Don Quixote*, pp. 227-72, 313-34 (Chapters 28-32, 36-38)
29: *Don Quixote*, pp. 368-449 (Chapters 42-52)

May
1: Rabelais, the Canon and Review

5: Monday—Final Examination: 8:00-10:00 a.m.

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**Course Requirements and Grading**

Final grades will be determined on a 100-point scale:

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<th>Component</th>
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<td>Essays</td>
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Course Grade: A= 91-100; B= 82-90.99; C= 73-81.99; D= 65-72.99; F= below 65

**Essays:** Your essays should each be about 4 pages long (ca. 1200 words). Grading will be based on what you have to say and how well you say it.

**Quizzes:** Frequent quizzes are intended to encourage you to read thoughtfully for each class session.

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**Course/University Policies**

**Typing.** All essays must be typed (double-spaced with one-inch margins).

**Honor Policy.** Education depends on trust. I will trust you unless I have reason not to. But... should you cheat and I find out about it, you can expect to fail the course. The University may take additional action.

**Plagiarism.** If you use other people's words or ideas without citing your sources and indicating when you have quoted, you risk failing an assignment or even the course depending on how serious I deem the offense. If you are not sure what plagiarism is, or whether a particular use of language constitutes plagiarism, ask me before you turn in an assignment.

**Students with Disabilities.** "If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible."