

Spring 1-15-2009

# ENG 2601-001: Backgrounds of Western Literature

David Raybin  
*Eastern Illinois University*

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**English 2601.001: Backgrounds of the Western Literature**

Spring 2009

Instructor: **David Raybin**Office: **324 Coleman Hall**Office Hours: **TuW 9:30-11:30** (and by appointment)Telephone: **581-6980** (office); **330/678-2628** (home, weekends before 8:30)Electronic Mail: **draybin@eiu.edu****Texts:** Bloch and Bloch, trans., *The Song of Songs*Boccaccio, *Decameron*Burgess, ed., *The Song of Roland*Cervantes, *Don Quixote*Chrétien de Troyes, *The Complete Romances of Chrétien de Troyes*Dante, *The Divine Comedy: Inferno, Purgatorio, Paradiso*Homer, *The Iliad*Marie de France, *The Lais of Marie de France*Wilkie and Hurt, *Literature of the Western World*, Vol. 1, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.**Schedule of Readings and Assignments**

January 13: Introduction to the Course

**I. The Ancient World: Greece, Israel, and Rome**15: Homer, *The Iliad*, Book 1; Book 2.1-521; Books 3-520: *The Iliad*, Book 6; Book 8.1-70 & 502-end; Books 9-10; Book 11.633-end22: *The Iliad*, Book 14.1-357; Book 15.1-418 & 712-end; Books 18-1927: *The Iliad*, Book 20.1-360; Books 21-2429: Homer, *The Odyssey*, Books 1-6 (in *Literature of the Western World*)February 3: *The Odyssey*, Books 7-125: *The Odyssey*, Books 13-1810: *The Odyssey*, Books 19-24**\*\* Essay #1 Due \*\***12: Aeschylus, *Agamemnon* (in *Literature of the Western World*)17: Sophocles, *Oedipus the King* (in *Literature of the Western World*)19: Aristophanes, *Lysistrata* (in *Literature of the Western World*)24: *The Song of Songs*26: Virgil, *The Aeneid*, Books 1-3 (in *Literature of the Western World*)March 3: Virgil, *The Aeneid*, Books 4-12**\*\* Essay #2 Due \*\***5: *The Song of Roland*, Laisses 1-176**II. The European Middle Ages and Renaissance**10: *The Song of Roland*, Laisses 177-29812: Marie de France, *Lais*, pp. 1-136

17: Spring

19: Recess

March 24: Chrétien de Troyes, *The Knight of the Cart*  
 26: Chrétien de Troyes, *The Knight with the Lion*

31: Dante, *Inferno*, Cantos 1-8

April 2: *Inferno*, Cantos 9-17

7: *Inferno*, Cantos 18-30  
 9: *Inferno*, Cantos 31-34

14: *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*, selections  
 \*\* Essay #3 Due \*\*

16: Boccaccio, *Decameron*, pp. 1-72

21: Boccaccio, *Decameron*, pp. 73-147  
 23: Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, selections

28: Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, selections  
 30: Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, selections

May 7: **Final Examination:** 8:00-10:00 a.m.

### Course Requirements and Grading

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

Essays	45 points
Quizzes	35 points
Final Exam	20 points

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.

### Course/University Policies

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

**Honor Policy.** Education depends on trust. 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."