ENG 3010G-002: Literary Masterworks

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3010G-002 Literary Masterworks  
Fall 2003

Dr. Campbell                         TTH 3:30-4:45
CH 3572, 581-6974                 CH 3150
Office hours TTH 10:45-12:30,     cfjdc@eiu.edu
    1:45-3:30, 4:45-5:15

Texts
Castiglione, The Book of the Courtier  
Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night's Dream  
The Merchant of Venice

Course Focus
This course is designed to provide an in-depth look at a selection of literary  
"masterworks," writings that are considered masterpieces of their kind. Our texts will  
focus on a period especially known for its masterpieces, both in the visual arts and the  
literary arts, the Renaissance. This movement began in Italy in the fourteenth century  
and moved across the Continent, eventually making its way to England by the sixteenth  
century. We, too, are going to follow the literary path of the Renaissance, beginning with  
selections from Italian masters and their disciples, then moving on to works by French  
and English writers.

As we explore these Renaissance texts and the stories of the lives behind them,  
our goals are to develop an historical understanding of the scope of the Renaissance  
movement, learn more about the trends in literary production that helped to shape these  
works that we now find in anthologies and modernized editions, and improve our  
research and writing skills. By the end of the semester, you should be familiar with a  
variety of genres of Renaissance literature as well as have a sense of the impact these  
masterworks have had on the ensuing periods in literature.

Policies
--The English Department statement on plagiarism stipulates that any teacher who  
discovers an act of plagiarism—“The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas,  
and/or thoughts of another author and representation of them as one's original work”  
(Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the  
responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and  
including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC  
for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

--Hand assignments in on time. If you’re having problems, let me know. Papers  
more than a week late without a university-approved excuse will not be accepted. If you  
miss an exam, and you have a university-approved excuse, you may make up that exam.  
You will have no more than one week to do so, and the make-up exam will be different  
from the one given during class.
--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.

--Be prepared for class. You'll get a lot more out of class discussions if you are participating in them, and I'll notice if you do not seem prepared to participate.

Requirements
--Midterm and Final exams .................40% (20% each of final grade)
--Response writings .........................10%
--One 7-10 page research paper ...........20%
--One research report with annotated bibliography ................ 15%
--Rough draft of paper ...................... 5%
--One presentation ..........................10%

The two exams will cover the units of the semester; however, there will be interplay between these units of study in our discussions and in the test questions.

The response writings will be concerned with specific reading assignments and are meant to generate class discussion. I will give you a series of questions to answer or a short topic to address.

The paper topic will be chosen from the assigned texts and issues related to them. I will give you a list of possible topics and/or areas of study to consider early in the semester because you will be expected to select a topic and begin research early on. The paper will be 7-10 pages long. You will use at least 3-5 outside sources to support your arguments, and they should consist of scholarly books, journal articles, and Internet sources of well-known scholarly repute. You will use MLA Parenthetical Style, with a Works Cited page, for documentation. Around midterm, you will have a preliminary research report with an annotated bibliography due to show the progress that you have made regarding your research project. At some point after that, you will also have due a rough draft of the paper. Do not worry that we haven't covered the topic that interests you in class—this portion of our study is meant to be independent exploration of a topic that may be completely new to you. It is my hope that your independent study will augment for you what is eventually covered in class and will broaden the scope of the course as a whole for you. You, in turn, will share with the class what you have learned during your research near the end of the semester.

The research report and annotated bibliography will cover the research that you do for your research paper and presentation. The report will address the topic, why you chose the topic, and the avenues of research that you chose to explore. The annotated bibliography will consist of bibliographic citations of at least five sources with your notes on each work that describe the document, summarize why it may be useful to your project, and include possible quotations that you might use in the paper.

The presentation will be a 7-10 minute oral report over your research project, due near the end of the semester. After conducting your research, discussing your findings with me, and writing your paper, you will be able to present to the class what you have
learned. The goal is to provide, via your and your fellow students’ reports, both a “big picture” look at the subjects we have covered over the course of the semester, as well as introduce specialized information that you have focused on during your own independent reading.

**Tentative Schedule**

Note: Readings may be shifted around during the semester to accommodate class discussion.

T. Aug. 26—Introduction to the course.
Th. Aug. 28—Introduction to the Renaissance period.

T. Sept. 2—Dante
Th. Sept. 4—Dante

T. Sept. 9—Boccaccio
Th. Sept. 11—Boccaccio

T. Sept. 16—Petrarch (& poetry handout)
Th. Sept. 18—Petrach (& poetry handout)

T. Sept. 23—Castiglione
Th. Sept. 25—Castiglione and Machiavelli

T. Sept. 30—Machiavelli
Th. Oct. 2—Marguerite de Navarre (& French Renaissance)

T. Oct. 7—Marguerite de Navarre
Th. Oct. 9—Rabelais

T. Oct. 14—Montaigne
Th. Oct. 16—Review for Midterm Exam

T. Oct. 21—Midterm Exam
Th. Oct. 23—Discuss projects. Work on Research Reports and Annotated Bibliographies.

Th. Oct. 30—Work on research projects.

T. Nov. 4—A Midsummer Night’s Dream. **Research Reports and Annotated Bibliographies are due.**
Th. Nov. 6—A Midsummer Night’s Dream

T. Nov. 11—A Midsummer Night’s Dream.
Th. Nov. 13—*Merchant of Venice*

T. Nov. 18—*Merchant of Venice*
Th. Nov. 20—*Merchant of Venice*. **Rough drafts are due.**

T. Nov. 25—Thanksgiving Break
Th. Nov. 27—Thanksgiving Break

T. Dec. 2—Oral presentations
Th. Dec. 4—Oral presentations. **Papers are due.**

T. Dec. 9—Oral presentations
Th. Dec. 11—Review for Final

**Final Exam:** Mon., Dec. 15, 12:30-2:30 pm.