Spring 1-15-1999

ENG 2601-001: Backgrounds of Western Literature

David Raybin
Eastern Illinois University

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English 2601.001: Backgrounds of Western Literature
Spring 1999

Instructor: David Raybin
Office: 324 Coleman Hall
Office Hours: Tu 10:45-12:00; W 9:15-12:00 (and by appointment)
Telephone: 581-6980 (office); 330/678-2628 (home, weekends before 8:30)

Boccaccio, The Decameron (Musa & Bondanella, trans.)
Chrétien de Troyes, Arthurian Romances (Owen, trans.)
Homer, The Iliad (Lombardo, trans.)
Marie de France, Lais (Hanning & Ferrante, trans.)
Virgil, The Aeneid (Mandelbaum, trans.)

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

January 12: Introduction to the Course

I. The Ancient World: Greece and Rome

14: Homer, The Iliad, Bk 1; Bk 2.1-521; Bks 3-5
19: The Iliad, Bk 6; Bk 8.1-70 & 502-end; Bks 9-10; Bk 11.633-end
21: The Iliad, Bk 14.1-357; Bk 15.1-418 & 712-end; Bk 17.1-215; Bks 18-19.
26: The Iliad, Bk 20.1-360, Bks 21-24
28: Homer, The Odyssey, Books 1-6 (in Norton)

February 2: The Odyssey, Books 7-12
4: The Odyssey, Books 13-18
9: The Odyssey, Books 19-24
** Essay #1 Due **
11: Aeschylus, Agamemnon (in Norton)
16: Sophocles, Oedipus (in Norton)
18: Aristophanes, Lysistrata (in Norton)
23: Virgil, The Aeneid, Books 1-3
25: The Aeneid, Books 4-6

March  2: Ovid, Metamorphoses (selections, in Norton)
** Essay #2 Due **

II. The Middle Ages

4: Marie de France, Lais, pp. 28-104
9: Lais, pp. 105-61
11: Lais, pp. 162-233
March  16:  Spring
      18:  Recess

23:  Chrétien de Troyes, *The Knight of the Cart*
25:  *Inferno*, Cantos 1-4 (in *Norton*)

30:  *Inferno*, Cantos 5-11

April  1:  *Inferno*, Cantos 12-17

   6:  *Inferno*, Cantos 18-30
   8:  *Inferno*, Cantos 31-34
      ** Essay #3 Due **

III. The Renaissance

13:  Boccaccio, *Decameron*, pp. 1-72
15:  *Decameron*, pp. 73-147

20:  Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, pp. 1819-1860 (in *Norton*)
22:  *Don Quixote*, pp. 1860-1902

27:  *Don Quixote*, pp. 1902-1955
29:  The Canon and Review

May  4:  Final Examination: 8:00-10:00
Course Requirements and Grading

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

- Essays (10 pts. each) 30 points
- Quizzes 30 points
- Final Examination 30 points
- Participation 10 points

Course Grade: A= 90-100; B= 80-89.99; C= 70-79.99; D= 60-69.99; F= below 60

Essays. Essays should be about 3-4 pages long (ca. 1000 words) and must be turned in on time. If an essay is not on time, 1 point will be deducted from your course grade. If the essay is not turned in by the following class, 2 more points will be deducted. If you are having problems with an assignment, let me know. Grades will be based on thoughtfulness, completeness, precision, and accuracy.

Quizzes. Frequent quizzes are intended to encourage you to read carefully and thoughtfully for each class session. Quizzes may not be made up without an authorized absence.

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 accomodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible."