

ENG 107
CRN: 12995
Fall 2013
MWF 10-10:50
102 Deady Hall

Professor C. Anne Laskaya
Office: 357 PLC
Office Ph: 346-1517
Hrs: Thurs 9:30-12:30 & by appointment
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World Literature, Ancient & Medieval

Texts:

The epic of Gilgamesh, trans, ed. Benjamin Foster Norton Critical ISBN 9780393-97516-2001

The Book of Job, trans. Robert Alter (provided on Blackboard; print text to bring to class)

The Odyssey, Homer; trans. E. V. Rieu, Penguin ISBN-10: 0143039954 1996; 2006

As I Crossed a Bridge of Dreams, "Lady Sarashina"; trans. Morris

Hojiki, or 'An Account of my ten-foot square hut,' also known as "Visions of a torn world,"

Kamo no Chomei, trans. Sadler (provided on Blackboard; print text to bring to class)

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, trans. Boroff, Norton Critical Edition

Course Information: This is one of a three-part chronological survey of international trends in literature from its archaic and classical origins to the present. These courses can be taken as a year-long sequence, or they can be taken individually. All works are read in English translation. There are no prerequisites, and no background knowledge of international literary history is expected. ENG 107 begins with the archaic period and ends with the late Middle Ages in Europe. All three courses--ENG 107, 108 and 109--seek to juxtapose Western and non-Western readings, challenging students to locate "classic" literary works within a global perspective. Weekly readings are substantial in scope and difficulty, and students compose critical essays of varying lengths and number. This 107 course requires two formal papers, one in-class midterm essay, and one take-home Final exam essay, as well as short reading quizzes. ENG 107 satisfies the University Multicultural Requirement in the International Cultures category and also serves as an Arts and Letters course for UO GenEd Group Requirements. [For English Majors, 107 (completed with a final course grade of C or better) can also serve as a lower-division ENG major elective.]

Course Goals: English 107 is a freshman-sophomore level general education course designed to enhance your knowledge and understanding of selected texts of world literature from the ancient and medieval (or middle) periods. We will examine literature closely and analyze forms, genres, themes, meaning, tone, imagery, significant passages, and more. The course offers you problem-solving and analytical experience within a literary context. It gives you an opportunity to work closely with literature and its ambiguities, effects, historical contexts, genres, ethical and rhetorical aims, and its aesthetic accomplishments. You will be encouraged to speak in class and participate in learning activities. Writing assignments and discussions will challenge you to analyze, interpret, reflect, question, and explore textual potentials and demands, and they will ask you to provide evidence from textual materials to support your interpretive assertions. Short homework assignments, quizzes, papers, short writings, and exams will assess your rigorous reading, your mastery of the course material (both readings and discussion/lecture), your ability to present evidence logically and write clearly within a literary discipline, and your ability to apply your knowledge in new contexts.

Requirements:

- Two formal papers, submitted electronically 20% each
- Participation and Preparation (includes reading quizzes [lowest quiz dropped] and in class discussion and written work other than papers and exams 25%
- Midterm essay (in class) 15%
- Take-Home Final Exam Essay, submitted electronically 20%
- Consistent and full attendance is assumed.

-- As in the world beyond the University, all work should be completed on time, and all requirements, including regular attendance and preparation, must be completed to Pass this course, whether you take the course for a grade or P/NP.

--The lowest quiz score will be dropped; quizzes and in-class participation and written work cannot be made up except when students are away on official university business (i.e., music, debate, dance or athletic events organized by and sponsored by the UO). Illness will not usually be a reason to make up quizzes. Extended illnesses will require a withdrawal from the course.

--The Final exam will only be given during the university's scheduled time, except in accord with UO policy. Midterm and Final exams will not be given individually outside the scheduled exam times, except in the most unusual and dire situations in accord with UO policies. Be sure to plan your Winter break around our official final exam time.

****Final essay exam: due Tuesday, December 10th, 5 pm electronically.****

NB: This is a day after the scheduled in-class exam time.

Planning for Success: 1) Read, Reread, Reread some more; read and reread without distractions, so you can focus, think, reflect, rethink, inquire into and investigate the material. 2) Because our class will be conducted with an emphasis on discussion, punctuated by short presentations, prepare readings listed on the schedule before class. When you read material before class (and sometimes parts of the reading more than once), you will understand lectures and discussions better; and you will be able to note the relationships between lecture, discussions, and your own interpretation as you were reading. Identifying questions you have about the reading as well as making note of your own interpretations as you read will help you continue your mastery of close reading, reasoning, thoughtful understanding and nuanced interpretation. 3) Take good and comprehensive notes on reading and class discussions. Aside from giving you practice absorbing detailed information in a way that reflects the kind of concentrated listening you will be expected to do on any job after college, good note-taking helps you learn and helps you prepare for papers and exams. Concepts, themes, terms, background information, images, objects, and details from our close readings and discussion may appear on exams. Creating your own extensive note archive is the best way to reinforce the learning you are doing in class and on your own outside of class. Only you can take notes that will hold the best and most accurate meanings for yourself. If you have questions about preparing for class or taking notes, please be sure to speak with me. 4) Always bring texts/readings to class. 5) Prepare

writing assignments conscientiously. 6) Begin the two formal papers early enough that you can let your ideas “cook” and have time for revision and editing. Multiple drafts and “re-visions” are proven strategies for success with any formal writing assignment at the University or on the job. 7) Attendance and active preparation and participation is central for your success in the course.

Blackboard site: Announcements, the syllabus, class schedule, assignments, possible study questions, some readings, and other important course materials and information will be available on Blackboard. Be sure to check our Blackboard site regularly for updates and announcements. You will also be asked to submit your two formal papers and Final Exam essay via Blackboard.

CLASS POLICIES:

Classroom etiquette: Please turn off all electronics before class begins. No electronics in class sessions please; this class asks you to exercise your own grey matter during discussion.

Students with disabilities: If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this class, please see me during the first week of the term so we can make appropriate accommodations, for your full access to all course activities and requirements. All accommodation requests require students be registered with the UO Office for Students with Disabilities.

Class Discussions and Lectures may not be copied, taped, or videotaped in any manner unless you have documented a communication-related disability with the University and have received permission from the course instructor. Should you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from your colleagues, so be sure to get to know others in the course who would be willing to help you and whom you would be willing to help. Missing class should, however, be a rare event. In no case should you take notes regularly for another student, unless both the professor and university have approved such action to accommodate a student with a disability. But comparing notes with another student actively involved in the course is always a good way to study; study groups or study partners are absolutely fine, of course.

Tutorial help: Students may use the UO's Academic Learning Services (ALS), in 68 PLC (X6-3226), or seek assistance from the professor (laskaya@uoregon.edu). Any other assistance you receive on papers, from organizing your paper to identifying your main points, from proofreading to editing or revising papers, must be cleared with the professor. However, as you work to understand readings, discussions, and/or lectures, reviewing with your classmates outside of class is encouraged; this is different from directly assisting one another with a specific assignment.

Academic Integrity: The UofO values academic honesty. You are here because you clearly have the ability to engage with rigorous intellectual work. Our Conduct Code (including guidelines for Intellectual Integrity) can be found on the UO Dean of Students' website:

<http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/StudentConductCode/tabid/69/Default.aspx>

Papers assigned for this course will be analytical; they will not require research beyond what is provided for you and the work of your own wonderful grey matter. You may find yourself curious about something or may want more information at times; great--read on, and *bravo* for curiosity! However, no student will receive higher grades simply because he or she has read beyond the course or used research in papers or exams. Consult the University's Code of Student Conduct and the textbook, *Rules for Writers*, for a definition of plagiarism and for information on documentation should you need it. (*Rules for Writers* is on reserve in the Knight Library for all WR 121, 122, and 123 classes: Prof. Bergquist). Please see me should you have any concerns about documentation and/or academic honesty. An honest and obvious effort to document is absolutely critical and far more important to your grade than commas, abbreviations, or exactly correct formatting.

Course policy on Academic Integrity: All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, and paraphrases) beyond our class activities, presentations, and discussions must be properly documented. In other words, rely on your own grey matter, and wrestle well, yourself, with the course texts and materials. Protect the integrity of your own work and others'. In cases of established plagiarism or cheating, a final course grade of "F" will be the minimum penalty, and all incidents will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct, as required by University and English Department Policy.

SCHEDULE subject to change. **Additional materials and assignments will be posted on BB that are not listed here. Check Blackboard regularly; find details for assignments, papers, the updated schedule, and other announcements and information on BB as the term unfolds. Unannounced quizzes and short writings are not listed here.

9/30 M Introductions. Course Overview.

10/2 W *Gilgamesh*, intro pp. xi-xxii; text: tablets I and II (pp. 3-22)

10/4 F " III-V, 23-45

10/7 M " tablets VI-VIII (pp 46-65) quiz #1 over *Gilgamesh* class and pp through p. 65)

10/9 W " tablets IX-X (pp 66-83)

10/11 F " tablet XI (84-95)

10/14 M *Book of Job*, Alter trans. provided on Blackboard; quiz #2

10/16 W "

*10/17 H Paper #1 on *Gilgamesh* due(4-5 typed pp.)

10/18 F *Job* concluded

- 10/21 M *Odyssey*, Intro 3-22; 41-49; text pp 77-151
- 10/23 W " intro 25-41; text pp. 152-194 line 109
- 10/25 F " pp 109-229
- 10/28 M " pp. 230-270 quiz #3
- 10/30 W " pp. 271-300
- 11/1 F " pp. 301-353
- 11/4 M " pp. 354-438 quiz #4
- 11/6 W " pp. 439-485
- *11/8 F In-class 'midterm' essay (on *Odyssey*) Bring your text and green book(s)
- 11/11 M *As I Crossed a Bridge of Dreams*, Sarashina; trans. Morris
Intro, pp 1-20; text pp 31-63 plus notes #1-#87 (pp 111-127)
- 11/13 W " text pp 64-88 plus notes #88-#157 (pp 127-138)
- 11/15 F " text pp 89-110 plus notes #158-217 (pp 138-148)
- 11/18 M *Hojiki*, material supplied on BB
- 11/20 W " quiz #5
- *11/21 H Paper on *Bridge of Dreams* due (4-5 typed pp.)
- 11/22 F *Hojiki*, cont.
- 11/25 M *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* quiz #6
- 11/27 W "
- 11/28-29 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
- 12/2 M *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, cont.
- 12/4 W " quiz #7
- 12/6 F " and take-home final distributed

FINAL EXAM: take-home exam due via BB, Tuesday December 10th by 5 p.m. *