

English 410 DANTE AND CHAUCER (32063)

Warren Ginsberg
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Hours: T-Th 11.30-1.00
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Syllabus

Mar 31 Introduction

April 2 Beginnings

**Dante: Inferno, 1-3;
Chaucer: General Prologue 1-42; 715-859**

April 7 Beginnings

**Dante: Purgatorio 1-2; Paradiso 1-2
Chaucer: General Prologue 42-714**

April 9 Love

**Dante: Inferno 5, Purgatorio 26
Chaucer: Knight's Tale, Parts I & II**

April 14 Love

**Dante: Purgatorio 17-18
Chaucer: Knight's Tale, III & IV, Intro to the Miller's Tale**

April 16 Love (And Love Gone Wrong)

**Dante: Inferno 28
Chaucer: Miller's Tale; Reeve's Tale, Cook's Tale**

April 21 Learning and Experience

**Dante: Inferno 15; Paradiso 10-12
Chaucer: Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale**

April 23 Learning and Experience

**Dante: Inferno 26
Chaucer: Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale**

Paper Due

April 28 Learning and Experience

**Dante: Inferno 27
Chaucer: Clerk's Tale**

April 30 Art and Authority (Virgil / Harry Bailly)

**Dante: Inferno 13, Purgatorio 30 Purgatorio 10-12
Chaucer: Introduction and Epilogue, the Man of Law's Tale; Host's stanza
(Clerk's Tale); Epilogue to Merchant's Tale; Epilogue to Melibee;
Introduction to Nun's Priest's Tale**

- May 5 Art and Authority (Translation)**
Dante: Purgatorio 21-22
Chaucer: Nun's Priest's Tale
- May 7 Art and Authority**
Dante: Purgatorio 10-12
Chaucer: Nun's Priest's Tale; Manciple's Tale
- May 12 Women**
Dante: Inferno 9, Purgatorio 19, Paradiso 3
Chaucer: Prioress's Tale
- May 14 Women**
Dante: Paradiso 3
Chaucer: Prioress's Tale, Second Nun's Tale
- May 19 Biography**
Dante: Paradiso 15-17
Chaucer: Sir Thopas, Introduction to Melibee
- May 21 Gardens**
Dante: Purgatorio 27-30
Chaucer: Shipman's Merchant's Tale
- May 26 Class**
Dante: Inferno 10
Chaucer: Franklin's Tale
- May 28**
Dante: Purgatorio 24, 26
Chaucer: Franklin's Tale
- June 2 Ends and Endings**
Dante: Inferno 30, 33
Chaucer: Monk's Tale (Ugolino); Friar's Tale
Second Nun, Canon's Yeoman's Prologue and Tale
- June 4 Ends and Endings** **Paper Due**
Dante: Inferno 30, Paradiso 33
Chaucer: Canon's Yeoman's Prologue, Manciple's Prologue, Parson's Prologue, Retractions

Requirements: 2 papers. Class participation (10%). Papers must be handed in on the day they are due; you will lose one full grade for each day it is late (An A becomes a B).

Attendance: Attendance will be taken. 2 unexplained absences are allowed; your grade will be lowered one level (i.e. A becomes A-) each time you miss a class without an acceptable explanation (e.g. medical; doctor's note). No make-ups for missed quizzes if you are absent without explanation.

Academic Integrity: If you plagiarize (or collaborate) when you write your papers, you will be given an F and immediately expelled from the course. A report will be sent to the appropriate University officials.

Learning Outcomes:

- 1. to read Dante's and Chaucer's works with discernment.**
- 2. to understand cultural and/or historical information that situates the *Divine Comedy* in trecento Italy and the *Canterbury Tales* in late medieval England.**
- 3. to perform critical, formal analyses of the text.**
- 4. to write focused, analytical essays in clear, grammatical prose.**
- 5. to employ logic, creativity, and interpretive skills to produce original, persuasive arguments.**

Links:

The following sites are indispensable starting points for research in Dante and Chaucer.

The Dante Society <http://www.princeton.edu/~dante/> has links to the Princeton and Dartmouth Dante projects.

The New Chaucer Society <http://artsci.wustl.edu/~chaucer/> has links to the Chaucer bibliography and other sites.