Purpose: "A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say." (Italo Calvino)
This course introduces students to many of the classic texts and contexts of the humanities, emphasizing the Greco-Roman, Jewish, and Christian beginnings of Western civilization. We will examine world views, ideals, values, and relationships through a variety of academic disciplines. Success in the course depends on active participation, close reading, careful synthesis and analysis, and effective writing.

Protocol: I will take seriously my obligation to teach, and I expect you to take seriously your obligation to learn. Come to every class on time, prepared, and ready to participate.

Grading Policy:
- Participation and unannounced quizzes: 15 percent
- 1-page Plenary Lecture summaries (5 of the 14 plenary lectures): 10 percent
- Analytical Essay of 4 to 5 pages, due October 17, and a revision, with original attached, due November 18: 30 percent
- Midterm Exam: 20 percent
- Final Exam: 25 percent

Texts: The New Oxford Annotated Bible (NRSV with the Apocrypha)
Homer, The Odyssey
Greek Lyric: An Anthology in Translation, trans. Andrew M. Miller
Sophocles I, ed. David Grene and Richard Lattimore
Three Plays of Euripides, trans. Paul Roche
Plato, Five Dialogues, trans. G.M.A. Grube
Saint Augustine, The Confessions

Other readings on Blackboard or Electronic Reserve (ERES) and traditional Reserve in the Mansfield Library

Schedule:

Week One

M, 8/29 Hebrew and Hellene: Introduction to the course, the classics, the context, the requirements


Th, 9/1 Plenary: Introduction to the Course Paul Dietrich
F, 9/2  Genesis, chs. 12-25 and 37-50
    Summary of Plenary Lecture due--#1

Week Two

M, 9/5  Labor Day Holiday

W, 9/7  “Exodus,” pp. 82-84, chs.1-4, 11-15, 19-24, 32
        Leviticus, pp. 142-143, skim chs. 1-6, 11-14, 25;
        Deuteronomy, pp. 240-242, chs. 5-6, 15, 29-30;
        I Samuel, pp. 398-399, chs. 4-8, 15-18

Th, 9/8  Plenary: Hebrew Bible – The Law            Tom Lee

F, 9/9  Psalms, pp. 775-777, [reading to be divided in class on 9/7/05]

Week Three

M, 9/12  Proverbs, pp. 904-905, all chs.

W, 9/14  Isaiah, pp. 974-977, chs. 8-12, 24-25, 42-43;
        Amos, pp. 1302-1303, all chs.

Th, 9/15  Plenary: Hebrew Bible – Prophets         Dan Spencer

F, 9/16  Ecclesiastes, pp. 944-945, all chs.; Song of Solomon, pp. 959-960, all chs.
    Summary of Plenary Lecture due--#2

Week Four

M, 9/19  Job, pp. 726-727, chs. 1-16

W, 9/21  Job, chs. 17-42

Th, 9/22  Plenary: Job and Wisdom                  Jim Scott

F, 9/23  Odyssey, Books 1 and 2

Week Five

M, 9/26  Odyssey, Books 3, 4 and 5

W, 9/28  Odyssey, Books 6, 7, and 8

Th, 9/29  Plenary: Homer and Greek Civilization    Hayden Ausland

F, 9/30  Odyssey, Books 9 and 10
    Summary of Plenary Lecture due--#3

Week Six

M, 10/3  Odyssey, Books 11, 12, and 13

W, 10/5  Odyssey, Books 14, 15, and 16

Th, 10/6  Plenary: Hero and Antihero in Homer’s Odyssey  Stewart Justman
F, 10/7  Odyssey, Books 17, 18, and 19

Week Seven

M, 10/10  Odyssey, Books 20, 21, and 22
W, 10/12  Odyssey, Books 23 and 24

Th, 10/13  Plenary: Greek Lyric  Hayden Ausland

F, 10/14  Greek Lyric: An Anthology in Translation, “Introduction,” Archilochus, Sappho

Week Eight

M, 10/17  Greek Lyric: An Anthology in Translation, Solon, Pindar
Analytical Essay due

W, 10/19  “Introduction” to Sophocles I, Antigone

Th, 10/20  Plenary: Greek Tragedy and the Politics of Drama  Matt Semanoff

F, 10/21  Midterm Exam

Week Nine

M, 10/24  Introduction to Three Plays of Euripides; Medea

W, 10/26  Euripides: The Bacchae

Th, 10/27  Plenary: Plato and Greek Philosophy  Dick Walton


Week Ten

M, 10/31  Plato: Five Dialogues, “Introduction,” “Euthyphro”

W, 11/2  Plato: “Apology,” “Crito”

Th, 11/3  Plenary: Hellenistic and Roman History  Barbara Weinlich

Lucretius: On the Nature of the Universe, selections
Summary of Plenary Lecture-#4

Week Eleven

M, 11/7  Ovid: Metamorphoses, selections

W, 11/9  Ovid: Amores, selections

### Week Twelve

- **M, 11/14**  

- **W, 11/16**  
  John, pp. 146-147, chs. 1-21

- **Th, 11/17**  
  **Plenary: The New Testament – the Letters of Paul**  
  **Paul Dietrich**

- **F, 11/18**  
  Matthew, pp. 56-57, chs. 5-10; Luke, pp. 93-95, chs. 10, 14, 15  
  Revision of Analytical Essay due

### Week Thirteen

- **M, 11/21**  

- **W, 11/23**  
  **Travel Day for Students**

- **Th., 11/24**  
  **Thanksgiving Day**

- **F, 11/25**  
  **Thanksgiving Day Holiday**

### Week Fourteen

- **M, 11/28**  
  **The Confessions**, “Preface,” Books I-III

- **W, 11/30**  
  **The Confessions**, Books IV-VI

- **Th, 12/1**  
  **Plenary: Augustine’s Confessions**  
  **Phil Fandozzi**

- **F, 12/2**  
  **The Confessions**, Books VII-VIII  
  Summary of Plenary Lecture--#5

### Week Fifteen

- **M, 12/5**  
  **The Confessions**, Books IX-X

- **W, 12/7**  
  **The Confessions**, Books XI-XII

- **Th, 12/8**  
  **Plenary: Roman and Early Christian Art**  
  **Megan Williams**

- **F, 12/9**  
  Review

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Final Examination: Monday, December 12, 1:10-3:10 P.M.  
Last day to add/drop classes by Cyberbear: September 19, 4:30 P.M.