LS 151L.85: Introduction to the Humanities

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INTRODUCTION TO THE HUMANITIES
FALL 2001 SYLLABUS

LS 151.85L--East/West FIG
MWF 10:10-11:00
DHC 120
4 credits

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Hours: MTWF 11:00-12:00

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the Western Humanities through a study of selected texts from the Jewish scriptures/"Old Testament," classical Greek and Roman antiquity, Christian scriptures/"New Testament" and early Christian literature. The course will seek to develop a critical appreciation for the texts and their historical content. Topics will include: Conceptions of self, community, and the divine; nature of the good life; conceptions of good and evil; interpretations of the heroic; different aspects of love and temporality. It will also emphasize your relation to the texts—their significance for you.

I. REQUIRED TEXTS

New Oxford Annotated Bible (NRSV)
The Odyssey, Fitzgerald
Sappho, Barnard
The Oedipus Cycle, Fitts & Fitzgerald
Three Plays of Euripides, Roche
Five Dialogues of Plato, Grube
Confessions of St. Augustine, Warner

II. PLENARY LECTURE SERIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. September 5</td>
<td>Introduction to Course/ Genesis</td>
<td>Paul Dietrich, Liberal Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. September 12</td>
<td>Law and the Prophets</td>
<td>Jean Larson, Campus Ministry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. September 19</td>
<td>Job and Wisdom</td>
<td>James Scott, Foreign Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. September 26</td>
<td>Introduction to Greek Civilization</td>
<td>Hayden Ausland, FLL</td>
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<td>5. October 3</td>
<td>Hero and Antihero in Homer</td>
<td>Stewart Justman, English</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. October 10</td>
<td>Greek Lyric</td>
<td>Linda Gillison, FLL</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. October 17</td>
<td>Greek Drama</td>
<td>Rina Quartarone, FLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. October 24</td>
<td>Plato and Greek Philosophy</td>
<td>Hayden Ausland, FLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. October 31</td>
<td>Ancient Theology and Science</td>
<td>Rina Quartarone, FLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. November 7</td>
<td>Roman History Overview</td>
<td>Linda Gillison, FLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. November 14</td>
<td>The Gospels</td>
<td>Tom Lee, Liberal Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. November 21</td>
<td>The Letters of Paul (Romans)</td>
<td>Bruce Bigley, English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. November 28</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. December 5</td>
<td>Augustine’s Confessions</td>
<td>Paul Dietrich, Liberal Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. December 12</td>
<td>Roman and Early Christian Art</td>
<td>Margaret Mudd, Art History</td>
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Lectures are given at 11:10 –12:00 in ULH (Urey Lecture Hall) and repeated at 7:10-8:00 p.m. in SS (Social Sciences) 352

III. READING ASSIGNMENTS

9/4 None—Introduction to the course.
9/6 Oxford Bible, p. 3-10; Genesis, Chapters 1-3.
9/9 Genesis, chapters 4, 6-9, 11-21.
9/11 Genesis, chapters 22-35.
9/13 Bible, pp. 82-84, Exodus, chapters 1-4, 11-15, 19-24, 32.
9/16 Bible, pp. 1278-79, Hosea, all.
9/18 Bible, pp. 726-727; Job, chapters 1-10.
9/23 The Odyssey, Books 1-4.
IV. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS
1. Summaries/responses to 7 of the plenary lectures; discuss main themes and significant supporting points. Length: one (1) typed/printed page or equivalent. Due the Monday after lecture is given.
2. Four to five page essay on a comparative topic from Jewish scriptures (Old Testament) and The Odyssey. Due Friday, October 11.
3. A revision of this essay (assignment 2). Due Friday, Nov. 15, along with your original essay.

V. FINAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM
MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 8:00-10:00 AM, DHC 120. NO CHANGES.

VI. GRADING
1. Final grades will be based on the 5 major assignments listed above, as well as attendance and participation, according to following percentages: Summaries 20%, Original essay 15%, Revision 25%, Final Exam 20%, mid-term exam 10%, attendance/participation 10%.
2. Excessive absences—more than 3 and/or persistent tardiness will lower your grade.
3. For those taking the “P/NP” option, a borderline “C” will be required for a passing grade.
4. Drop Deadlines: September 23 (with refund); October 14 (without refund).