Fall 9-1-2001

LS 151L.85: Freshman Interest group - East/West

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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: TR 9:40-11:00

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 The course will seek to develop a critical appreciation for the texts and their historical content.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
The Aeneid, Mandelbaum
Confessions of St. Augustine, Warner
Faculty Pack

II. PLENARY LECTURE SERIES

Thursdays, 11:10-12:00 in ULH 101 and repeated at 7:10-8:00 p.m. in SS 352.
(See FacPac for speakers, lecture titles, and dates.)

III. READING ASSIGNMENTS

9/5 None--Introduction to the course.
9/6-7 Fac-Pac, p. 10; Oxford Bible, p. 3-10; Genesis, Chapters 1-3.
9/10 Genesis, chapters 4, 6-9, 11-21.
9/12 Genesis, chapters 22-35.
9/14 Bible, pp. 82-84, Exodus, chapters 1-4, 11-15, 19-24, 32.
9/17 Bible, pp. 1278-79, Hosea, all.
9/19 Bible, pp. 726-727; Job, chapters 1-10.
9/24 Fac-Pac, pp. 30-32 (to line 508), 36, 41-43; The Odyssey, Books 1-4.
9/26 Odyssey, Books 5-8.
9/28 Odyssey, Books 9-12.
10/1 Odyssey, Books 13-16.
10/3 Odyssey, Books 17-20.
10/8  Sappho, all.
10/10  FacPac, pp. 48-55.
10/12  The Oedipus Cycle, Oedipus Rex, pp. 3-47.
10/15  Oedipus, pp. 47-81.
10/19  Medea, pp. 53-77.
10/22  Five Dialogues of Plato, pp. 3-4; Euthyphro, all.
10/24  Five Dialogues, Apology, all
10/26  Five Dialogues, Crito, all.
Also pp. 118-121.
10/31  FacPac pp 127-130; The Aeneid of Virgil, Books I & II.
11/2  Aeneid, Books IV & VI.
11/5  Aeneid, Book 12
11/7  Review--The Aeneid
11/12  Holiday--Veteran’s Day.
11/14  Mark, chapters 11-16; Matthew, chapter 5.
11/19  Bible, pp. 240-243; Romans, chapters 1-8.
11/21  Travel day for students.
11/23  Holiday, Thanksgiving.
11/26  Romans, chapters 9-16.
11/30  Confessions, Book 3, sections 1-7; Book 4 ,all.
12/3  Confessions, Book 5, section 10; Book 6, sections 5, 6, 8, 15; Book 7, sections 5, 12, 17; Book 8, sections 5, 12; Book 9, sections 1, 12.
12/5  Confessions, Book 10, sections 1-8, 17, 28, 30, 31, 35, 40.
12/7  Review--Confessions.
12/10  FacPac pp. 149-151; Bible, pp. 484 (essays)-488 (top).
12/12  Comprehensive Review.
12/14  Review, continued; course evaluation.

IV. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS
1. Summaries/responses to 10 of the plenary lectures; discuss main themes and significant supporting points. Length: one (1) typed/printed page or equivalent. Due the Tuesday 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 12.
3. A revision of this essay (assignment 2). Due Friday, Nov. 9, along with your original essay.

V. FINAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 8:00-10:00 AM. NO CHANGES.

VI. GRADING
1. Final grades will be based on the 4 major assignments listed above, as well as attendance and participation, according to following percentages: Summaries 20%, Original essay 15%, Revision 25%, Final Exam 20%, attendance/participation 20%.
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.