

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2017  
English 2332: World Literature I: Before the Seventeenth Century  
Sections 09 and 10: 3 credit hours

**MEETING LOCATION:** Evans Room 313; Evans Room 318  
**MEETING TIME:** Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30-10:50; 2:00-3:20

**PROFESSOR:** Dr. Linda J. Webster

**OFFICE LOCATION:** Evans 306

**PROFESSOR CONTACT INFORMATION:** Tel. # and Voice Mail: 936/294-1425  
E-mail: LindaWebster@shsu.edu  
Eng. Dept. Fax #: 936/294-1408

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays and Thursdays: 8:00-9:30 a.m., 11:00-12:00 p.m.  
Others by appt. only

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** ENGL 2332 features readings in the classical, medieval, and renaissance masterpieces to analyze and evaluate the philosophical insights and aesthetic values of writers of various cultures. Written assignments are based on themes and concepts in the works studied. All of the texts we will read in English translations. The class will help students gain two key perspectives on literature. The first is an understanding of what makes literary writing different from ordinary prose and what tools work best to explore the insights that literary texts offer. The second is an understanding of the history of literary development—in particular the major movements that have defined literature for readers of the Western world.

Prerequisites: English 1301, 1302.

Class will be conducted primarily as a combination of lecture and class/group discussion. Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions and in small group discussion and presentation.

A detailed course calendar, announcing class assignments, activities, due dates, and reminders, will be distributed every four weeks. Dr. Webster reserves the right to make changes to this calendar at any time during the semester. These will be announced during class.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students completing this course will be able to:**

- Demonstrate knowledge of universal themes and common concerns of literature and cultures through reading and studying works of representative writers from antiquity through the Renaissance.
- Demonstrate awareness of the different philosophical insights and value judgments of various regional, national, and global communities among ancient, classical, medieval, and Renaissance cultures.
- Discuss and debate the consequences of different values and actions, comparing their values, both philosophical and aesthetic, with those of the other cultures and thus develop a more cosmopolitan outlook and a greater awareness of the contributions to human culture of ancient, classical, medieval, and Renaissance communities.
- Articulate in scholarly language appropriate to the field the themes, techniques, and cultural values present in the literary works, thus demonstrating critical and analytical skills.
- Exhibit an understanding of correct MLA documentation conventions.

**REQUIRED TEXTS: \*It is the student's responsibility to obtain the following texts at the beginning of the semester.\*\***

**CHECK THE ISBN AGAINST THE BOOKS YOU HAVE PURCHASED! There are many editions and translations of these books! You should have the appropriate translation!**

*The Oresteia* by Aeschylus / Translator: Robert Fagles / Publisher: Penguin Classics / 978-014-044333-2

*The Three Theban Plays* by Sophocles / Translator: Robert Fagles / Publisher: Penguin Classics / 978-014-044425-4

*Hamlet* by Shakespeare / Publisher: Folger Shakespeare Library / 978-074-347712-3

*The Odyssey* by Homer / Translator: Robert Fitzgerald / Publisher: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux / 978-037- 452574-3

*The Divine Comedy 1: Hell (Inferno)* by Dante / Translator: Dorothy Sayers / Publisher: Penguin Classics / 978-014-044006-5

Course Packet for English 2332: Dr. Webster. (must be purchased from Eagle Graphics 1304 Sam Houston Ave., Ste. B Huntsville, TX)

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** The university stresses the importance of punctuality and regular attendance. All students are expected to attend every class, and attendance will definitely be taken into consideration in final computation of a student's course grade. Attendance will be recorded each class day, so a student must notify the professor of a **legitimate** absence BEFORE class time on that day (via e-mail or phone message). With appropriate **prior** notification of a student's absence, the professor will work with the student to make up any missed work. A student who misses more than THREE classes during the semester is in danger of **failing the course**.

**Arriving for class late or leaving class early counts as half-an-absence. Sleeping, reading, checking Facebook, etc. counts as a full absence and will result in the student's expulsion from the class for that day.**

<b>GRADE DETERMINATION:</b>	4 Unit Exams	15% each	<b>GRADING SCALE:</b>
	Final Exam is last unit exam		90-100=A
	Papers (2 @ 15% each)	30%	80-89 =B
	Daily Average	10%	70-79 =C
			60-69 =D
			59 or below=F

All graded assignments will be returned to the student within a reasonable amount of time. There will be **NO extra** credit offered in this course.

**EXAMS:** The four unit exams will consist of a combination of some of the following types of questions: short answer/essay, multiple choice, and matching. The Final Exam is not comprehensive; it is a unit exam.

A student must notify the professor of a **legitimate** absence, i.e., emergency, BEFORE class time on exam day (via e-mail or phone message). With appropriate **prior** notification of a student's absence, the professor will work with the student to make up the missed exam.

**ESSAYS:** To allow students the opportunity to develop a sustained argument about a literary work, to learn basic research tools for effective literary research, and to express one's ideas effectively, students will write two short papers (3-5 pages). One paper will focus on the development of an argument using only the primary text of the work to analyze a character or to analyze the setting. This paper will focus on the student expressing the ability to understand and articulate a literary argument, to demonstrate an understanding of a literary technique, and to correctly support an argument with citations from the text. This paper will concentrate on explaining a technique, using quotations, and explaining the value of the quotation to the thesis. The second paper will require the use of secondary sources to support your argument about the theme or ideas presented in the work. Students will be introduced to appropriate databases and research strategies. This paper will focus on how well the student is able to incorporate both primary source texts and scholarly commentary in making the argument. These papers are expected to demonstrate academic voice, correct use of grammar, and the conventions of MLA. FOLLOW THIS FORMAT CAREFULLY! An abbreviated MLA format is included in your course packet.

**TURN-IT-IN.COM (through BLACKBOARD):** Both essays will be submitted to Dr. Webster through Turnitin.com via BLACKBOARD. Instructions will be provided in class. **\*No credit will be given for a paper that is not submitted through this site.\***

**DAILY GRADES:** These grades may consist of quizzes (both announced and unannounced), questions over reading assignments and/or lecture notes, group work, and credit for class preparation and participation. Any student who has all his/her daily grades at the end of the semester may drop his/her lowest grade. No grade will be dropped for anyone who misses a daily grade without notifying the professor ahead of time. (See ATTENDANCE POLICY above.) A student may only miss 2 daily quizzes without being penalized. In the event a student misses an unannounced quiz due to an absence about which he/she has informed the professor ahead of time, the slot for the quiz grade will be filled with the grade the student earns on the following unannounced quiz. This will enable responsible students to have the full number of daily grades at the end of the semester.

**WRITING-ENHANCED CREDIT:** This course is designated writing-enhanced. According to Sam Houston State University, you must take at least six courses that carry the designation writing-

enhanced. The official definition of a writing-enhanced course is one in which 50% or more of the grade is based on written assignments. In this course, more than 50% of your semester grade is based directly on your writing.

**SHSU WRITING CENTER:** Sam Houston State University Writing Center, located in Farrington 111, is open daily. Specific hours will be announced and posted on The Writing Center's website. Writing tutors will work with you one-on-one to help you generate a draft, organize a draft, or revise a draft of any assignment. You can just drop by to work with a tutor or call 936/294-3680 to schedule an appointment. See website for more information: <http://www.shsu.edu/wctr>.

**SHSU READING CENTER:** The Center seeks to promote the acquisition of and use of reading strategies and to promote independent learning which will motivate learners to value literacy throughout their lives. The Center is staffed and equipped to assist students with their expository reading in a variety of learning environments, such as: individual tutoring sessions, small group tutoring sessions, computer assisted tutoring sessions. For more information, go to the website: <http://www.shsu.edu/~rdg.www/> or call 936/294-3114.

**INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS:** All students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

**CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT:**

- Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the University.
- Students are prohibited from using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking in inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction.
- Students should bring appropriate materials to class every day. The course packet and textbook or paperback novel should be with you at **every** class meeting.
- Drinks (nonalcoholic) may be consumed during class. Snacking is also allowed if it does not distract other students or the professor.
- Except in the rare case of an absolute emergency, **leaving the classroom during class time is considered rude and inappropriate and will not be tolerated. Only when the professor dismisses class should students leave the room.** In a special situation where a student needs to leave early on a particular day, he/she should discuss the matter with the professor BEFORE class.
- Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with University policy.

**CELL PHONES, LAPTOP COMPUTERS, PAGERS, ETC.:**

\*Only with a formal request from the Counseling Center will a student be allowed to use ANY electronic device during class to aid in the learning process.\*

As members of the classroom community, all students have a responsibility to others who are a part of that community. The goal is to produce an environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and other students with respect. Cell phones, laptop computers, pagers, and similar devices have become increasingly a part of everyday life in our society; however, when used in the classroom environment they can become disruptive. Students are to turn off all cell phones and other electronic equipment while in the classroom. When cell phones or pagers ring and students respond in class or leave class to respond, it disrupts the class. **\*Therefore, the use by students of cell phones, pagers, or similar communication devices during scheduled class-time is prohibited.\*** All such devices should be turned off or put in a silent (vibrate) mode and ordinarily should not be taken out during class. If there is an emergency situation for a student, that student should inform the instructor and place himself/herself in a seat near the door where an exit for a phone call would be only minimally disruptive. With instructor approval, students may record lectures, take notes via laptop computer, etc., provided that they do not disturb other students in the process. Other exceptions to this policy may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Any use of cell phones or other electronic devices during a test period is prohibited. Even the visible presence of a cell phone or other device during the test period may result in a zero for that test. Use of a cell phone during a test could result in a charge of academic dishonesty. During

the test these instruments should be left at home or stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student.

For a complete copy of Student Guidelines, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/>

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** A paper/assignment that can be proven to have been plagiarized will receive an automatic zero (whether its worth is 10% or 50% of the grade). The second offense will lead to an automatic F for the entire course.

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: [Dean of Student's Office](#).

**STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: [http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf)

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail [disability@shsu.edu](mailto:disability@shsu.edu)). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

**VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

**COURSE OUTLINE: GENERAL TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR SEMESTER'S ACTIVITIES**  
ENGLISH 2332W: Fall 2017

A detailed course calendar, announcing class assignments, activities, due dates, and reminders, will be distributed every four weeks. Dr. Webster reserves the right to make changes to this calendar at any time during the semester. These will be announced during class.

**Weeks 1-4:**

**Aug 24<sup>th</sup>-Sept 14<sup>th</sup>** Course Introduction

Greek Drama: *Agamemnon*; *Antigone*

**\*\*Exam #1: Thursday—Sept 14<sup>th</sup>\*\***

**Weeks 5-8:**

**Sept 19<sup>th</sup>-Oct 12<sup>th</sup>**

*Hamlet*

**\*\*Exam #2: Thursday—Oct 12<sup>th</sup>\*\***

**Weeks 9-12:**

**Oct 17<sup>th</sup>-Nov 9<sup>th</sup>**

**\*\*Paper #1 Due\*\*: Tuesday—Oct 17<sup>th</sup>\*\***

*The Odyssey*

**\*\*Exam #3: Thursday—Nov 9<sup>th</sup>\*\***

**Weeks 13-16:**

**Nov 14<sup>th</sup>-Dec 7<sup>th</sup>**

*The Divine Comedy*: Dante's *Inferno*

**\*\*Paper #2 Due\*\*: Tuesday—Nov 21<sup>st</sup>\*\***

**FINAL EXAMS: December 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>**

**\*\*FINAL EXAM for 9:30 class: Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-11:30 a.m.\*\***

**\*\*FINAL EXAM for 2:00 class: Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5:30 p.m.\*\***