

English 2332: Readings in Western World Literature

Professor: Dr. Darci Hill

Office: Evans 206

Hours: 8:30-9:30 TT, 11:00-12:00 TT; 3:20-3:45 TT; others by appt.

Email: eng_dnh@shsu.edu

Phone: 936-294-1473

Texts:

See bookstore.

Grading:

30% study guides

35% exams

20% quizzes

15% short essays

Perfect attendance: Students who maintain perfect attendance in the class will have two points added to their final grades.

Blackboard: You need to check Blackboard daily for important information and course announcements, etc. Usually, I will send you an e-mail informing you that I have posted something on Blackboard. Your grades will be recorded on Blackboard as well

Policy governing electronic devices: Cell phones must be turned off during class. Text-messaging is prohibited. Laptops may be used in the classroom only for taking notes. If you use your laptop for other reasons, you will be prohibited from bringing it to class.

Child policy: No children will be permitted in the classroom for any reason.

Disruptive or rude behavior: If you are rude to the professor or anyone in your class, you will be given one warning only. Upon the second incident, you will be asked to leave the classroom.

Dress Code: All students will wear clothing which will not be a distraction to others. Keep in mind that we are all participating in an intelligent discussion, so business casual would be the most appropriate attire for this class.

Language Code: All students will refrain from using profanity. Remember that one of our purposes as students of language and literature is to hone our existing vocabulary, or as the *Beowulf*-poet would phrase it, to develop our “word-hoard.” By doing so, we become more articulate, sophisticated users of the English language. As a result, we will be able to communicate our ideas more forcefully and precisely.

Cell phones and other Electronic Devices: The use of cell phones and all other electronic devices is prohibited in this classroom. See the University Policy governing this issue.

University Policies

Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete 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.

Americans with Disabilities Act

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 are expected to visit with the Office of

Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center.

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 a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

Religious Holidays

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. 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.

"Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Visitors in the Classroom

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the

visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom. This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.

COURSE SYLLABUS, PART II: READINGS IN WESTERN WORLD LITERATURE BEFORE THE 17TH CENTURY

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English 2332

A Note to Students: This is a tentative schedule for the semester. We will discuss selected sections only of _The Aeneid_ and _The Odyssey_. As you glance through this reading schedule, notice that there is a great deal of reading that you will be required to do. There are also study guides on Blackboard on _Fellowship of the Ring_, _The Aeneid_, _The Great Divorce_, and _Sir Gawain and the Green Knight_. If you want to get ahead on your study guides, you are certainly more than welcome to do so. Happy thinking! Happy reading!

One more thing: Former students in my classes have formed study groups and have read the material together. I highly suggest that you do this. However, should you wish to work alone on your reading assignments and study guides that is totally your call!

(Jan 18)

Course Introduction

Week 1: (Jan 23 and 25)

Tues: Lecture: The Great Conversation and Literature

Thurs: Lecture: The Great Books; Discuss _Beowulf_, through p. 24 ,

Vocab quiz

Week 2: (Jan 30 and Feb 1)

Tues: Quiz: "Classical Thinkers," Discuss _Beowulf_, fight with Grendel, fight w/ G's mother

Thurs: Vocab quiz; Discuss _Beowulf_, return to Hrothgar's hall, return to Geatland

Week 3: (Feb 6 and 8)

Tues: Discuss _Beowulf_, fight with Fire Dragon, death of a hero in the heroic tradition

Thur: Vocab quiz; Wiglaf's curse, B's funeral; _Fellowship of the Ring_ (FOTR), Prologue-Chap 2

Week 4: (Feb 13 and 15)

Tues: “Epilogue,” from *_On Faerie Stories_*; Discuss FOTR, Chapters 3-4.

Thurs: Vocab quiz; Discuss Chapters 5-8. *Study guide (Prologue-Chapter 4) due, typed.*

Week 5: (Feb 20 and 22)

Tues: Discuss FOTR, Chapters 9-12.

Thurs: Vocab quiz; FOTR, Book 2: Chap 1-3.

Study guide, Chapters 5-12 due, typed.

Week 6: (Feb 27 and Mar 1)

Tues: Book 2, Chap 4-7

Thurs: Vocab quiz; Book 2, Chap 8-10

Week 7: (Mar 6 and 8)

Tues: Complete FOTR; Vocab quiz; *Study guide on Book 2 due, typed, stapled.*

Thur: **Mid-term exam**

Week 8: (Mar 6 and 8)

Begin *The Aeneid*

(Spring Break): Mar 12-16

Week 9: (Mar 20 and 22)

Tues: *_The Aeneid_*, Book 2, Part 1

Thur: Vocab quiz; *_The Aeneid_*, Book 2, Part 2

Week 10: (Mar 27 and 29)

Tues: *_The Aeneid_*, Book 4, Part 1

Thurs: Vocab quiz; *_The Aeneid_*, Book 4, Part 2

selections from *_The Odyssey_* (TBA)

Study guide on _The Aeneid_, Books 2 and 4 due, typed.

Week 11: (Apr 3 and 5)

Tues: *_The Great Divorce_*, Preface-Chap 4 (TGD)

Thurs: Vocab quiz; TGD, Chap 5-8

Week 12: (Apr 3 and 5)

Tues: TGD, Chap 9-12

Thurs: Vocab quiz; TGD, Chap 13-14

Study guide on TGD due, typed.

Week 13: (Apr 10 and 12)

Tues: _Sir Gawain and the Green Knight_ (SGGK), Parts 1 and 2

Thurs: Vocab quiz; SGGK, Part 3

Week 14: (Apr 17 and 19)

Tues: SGGK, Part 4

Thurs: Vocab quiz; _The Silver Chair_, Chap 1-6 (SCh)

Study guide, SGGK due, typed.

Week 15: (Apr 24 and 26)

Tues: SCh, Chap 7-11

Thurs: Vocab quiz; SCh, Chap 12-16

Week 16: (May 1 and 3)

Review.

May 7-10:

Final Examinations.