

LIT 2110: WORLD LITERATURE to 1650
Spring 2006
Online

Dr. Marc D. Baldwin
Office: Hum 313
Office Hours: TBA

e-mail: mbaldwin@hccfl.edu

website: www.hccfl.edu/services/faculty/MarcBaldwin/index.htm

Texts: *Norton Anthology of World Literature, 2nd Ed., Vols. A, B, & C.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of major literary texts in world literature from Homer to the mid-1600s. In addition to their literary merit, we will explore the historical contexts--social, political, and philosophical trends and events--of the works being studied.

GRADING

3 Exams = 75%

Discussion Board Assignments & Participation = 25%

Objectives

- 1) The student will read and demonstrate an understanding of selected texts of world literature from Homer to the mid-1600s.
- 2) The student will study and demonstrate an understanding of the social, historical, and philosophical events and ideas of this time span, especially as they influenced and were influenced by the literature of the time.
- 3) The student will study and demonstrate an understanding of the major periods of and movements within the literary world of that time.
- 4) The student will study and demonstrate an understanding of major literary terms, such as plot, theme, character, symbolism, metaphor, figurative language, drama, conflict, and resolution.
- 5) The student will study and demonstrate an understanding of the major schools of literary and critical theory, such as Formalism ("New Criticism"), Moral Criticism, Marxism, Psychological Criticism, Reader-Response, Feminism, and Deconstruction.

Instructional Methods

You will a) watch *Lectures* in streaming Powerpoint with audio; b) poems, essays, plays, and various Lecture notes sent as email attachments; c) compose and post Discussion Board responses to various questions and assignments, some of which will require some research; and d) take 3 Exams on the readings.

* NOTE: I abhor busy work. My time is valuable; your time is valuable. So I won't squander either on extraneous nonsense or wasted words. Thus, everything I assign is purposeful and important.

Contact Information

Telephone: 813-253-7345 (Work); 727-785-8755 (Home). Feel free to call me anytime between the hours of 9:00am & 9:00pm, EST.

E-mail: Through the WebCT site. I will respond to your email within 24 hours at the most. I often return emails immediately.

NOTE: I will inform you of any days or times that I may be unavailable and I'd like you to do the same for me, please.

How To Do Well In This Course

- 1) Read and follow the *Syllabus*.
- 2) Print out the *Syllabus* so it's handy to refer to.
- 3) Watch the *Lectures*.
- 4) Read the assigned texts with the *Lectures*, assorted notes (via attachments), and *Discussions* in mind.
- 5) Respond to the *Discussion Board Assignments* and comment on 2-3 of your classmates' responses.
- 6) Do all the other assignments on the *Discussion Board* as well and as punctually as you can.
- 7) Take the 3 Exams by the deadline date.
- 8) Stay in close touch by email, always signing your name.

Email Me Immediately To:

- 1) Confirm your attendance.
- 2) Confirm you have read the *Syllabus*.
- 3) Send me your phone number.
- 4) Ask questions.

WRITING REQUIREMENTS

The miscellaneous assignments on the Discussion Board, as well as the short essay Exams, will count toward your Gordon Rule requirement.

EVALUATION

3 Exams = 75%

Discussion Board Assignments = 25%

The evaluation of your work and your contributions to the class discussion of the material is a discretionary matter. It is my judgment call whether or not your assignment responses and comments on the material reflect sufficient effort and insight.

EXAMS

- Four Hour Time Limit. Open book and notes.
- **3 short essays @ 33 points each**
- Compose thorough, grammatically correct responses to three (3) questions, one from each section. Your responses should: a) adequately address the question (with a clearly stated thesis) and not diverge into tangents; b) be generous with support, including **specific reference to ideas, passages, and quotes from the works in question**; c) be clearly written and express complete thoughts; d) be reflections of your having thought about the readings and not just rote responses with little personal, interpretive insights; e) be at least 350 words apiece.

ACADEMIC HONESTY (PLAGIARISM)

All of your written work must be done solely by you. You may receive outside "tutoring" or editorial assistance, but the actual writing must be your own. Furthermore, you may do, and are, in fact, encouraged to do outside reading and research on your topics. Such research may and should influence your thinking and writing. However, be sure that you do not copy any passages, sentences, phrases, or even specific words from an outside source without quoting them and citing their origin. **Remember: Unintentional plagiarism is still plagiarism!** Any violation of this policy--a policy that is simply a matter of integrity and honesty--will result in an immediate "F" grade in the class.

* NOTE: Please be aware that I subscribe to the internet's largest, most effective plagiarism detection database. If you copy it from the internet, you will be detected.

Discussion Board

This place constitutes our virtual classroom. You must attend as often as possible to read and respond to the weekly Assignments. Be sure to also respond to one of your classmate's responses. (If you only post your own assignments and fail to engage in a conversation with your classmates, your DB grade will be a D, at best.) Be constructive and productive. We're talking to each other here, so relax and say what's on your mind. Just be thoughtful and polite. Make strong comments, but be tactful and considerate of differing viewpoints. Get a read on what everyone else is doing and thinking about the class.

* Important Note: When you post, be sure to post a REPLY to the postings rather than COMPOSE a new one. That will keep the discussion THREADED and easier to manage.

Privacy Statement

Students using online formats for study at HCC do so in a respectful, protected environment. However, this learning environment may at times be viewed by faculty (both current and those learning to become online facilitators), Distance Learning staff, and other experts, who are working with us to maintain the highest quality online courses. We use e-mail to communicate regarding levels of performance and grades. Please understand that this is not a secure, private environment.

Last day to Withdraw with a grade of "W" is 3/28.

NOTE: Request For Accommodation: If, to participate in this course, you require an accommodation due to a physical disability or learning impairment, you must contact the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities in the SS Bldg. Rm. 208. 253-7031 (voice line), 253-7035 (TTD), or 253-7336 (fax).

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week 1 Homer

A. Reading: from *The Iliad*, 114-177

B. Powerpoint Lectures:

- 1) Analysis
- 2) The Basics of Literary Criticism
- 3) The Major Theories of Literary Criticism

C. Writing for the Discussion Board (DB): Introduce yourself & comment on the first 4 Lectures. Who are you? Why are you here? What's your major? What observations and/or questions do you have about the first 3 Lectures.

Week 2 Sophocles

A. Reading: *Oedipus the King*, 612-58;

B. Powerpoint Lectures:

- 1) The Process of Writing
- 2) Research & Documentation
- 3) Writing a Literary Analysis

C. Writing: Discussion Board (DB): TBA

Week 3 China's "Middle Period" (1353-1355)

A. Reading:

- 1) Li Po (1379-1380), Poetry (1380-1384)
- 2) Tu Fu (1384-1385), Poetry (1385-1389)
- 3) Yuan Chen (1398-1400), "The Story of Ying Ying" (1400-1408)

Week 4 Formation of Western Lit

A. Reading: *Beowulf* 1626-1669

B. DB: TBA

C. Powerpoint Lecture: *Beowulf*

Week 5 Dante

A. Reading: *The Divine Comedy*, 1826-1879

B. Writing: TBA

EXAM #1: Must be taken between Sunday 2/5 & Friday 2/10. Includes all material from Weeks 1-4.

Week 6 Chaucer

- A. Reading: *Canterbury Tales* "Prologue," 2051-67; "Miller's Tale," 2067-82
- B. Writing: TBA
- C. Powerpoint Lecture: Chaucer

Week 7 Boccaccio

- A. Reading: *Decameron*, 1963-91.
- B. DB: TBA

Week 8 & 9 Renaissance in Europe 2465-75

- A. Reading: Machiavelli *The Prince*, 2517-34
- B. Writing: TBA
- C. Lecture: Machiavelli

Week 10: SPRING BREAK--NO SCHOOL**Week 11 & 12 Cervantes**

EXAM #2: Must be taken between Sunday 3/19 & Friday 3/24. Includes all material from Weeks 5-9.

- A. Reading: *Don Quixote Part 1*, 2671-2731
- B. Writing: TBA
- C. Lecture: Cervantes

Week 13, 14, 15 Shakespeare

- A. Reading: *Hamlet* 2821-2919
- B. Writing: TBA
- C. Powerpoint Lectures: 16th Century & Shakespeare

Week 16 Milton

- A. Reading: *Paradise Lost* 3001-49
- B. Writing: TBA

Week 17 EXAM #3: Must be taken between Sunday 4/30 & Friday 5/5. Includes all material from Weeks 11-16.