Engl 125: Early European Literature

Prof. Wm. A. Wilson

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Description: This course surveys literature from our earliest texts through the emergence of the Renaissance. We will study a variety of genres: tragedy, comedy, narrative verse, lyric poetry, epic, romance, satire, and some non-fiction prose. Engl 125 is a 4-unit course. There are works that will be directly in class as well as supplemental readings that are the basis of supplemental essays on these readings; details provided in class.

Requirements: Each student must come to class fully prepared to discuss the assigned readings. Each student will sit for two hourly tests and a final examination; will compose three essays (two short, 3-4 pp, one long 8-10 pp, details provided in class), and will take reading quizzes, should they prove necessary. Grade percentages are: hour tests 15%; short essays 20%; long essay 25%; final exam 35%; and journal. 15%; Reader's journal as described below.

Required Text:

Norton Anthology of Western Literature, vol 1 (9th edition) [NA]

SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Jan 25: Introduction

30: Introduction, cont'd; Creation Narratives NA 26-44

Feb 01: cont'd

06: Early Greek Philosophy NA 45-53

08: Hebrew Bible NA 110-139

13: NA 139-180; SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY #1

15: cont'd

20: TEST

22: TIMED ESSAY

27: Homer NA 189-243

Mar 01: Homer NA 243-291

06: Homer NA 291-344

08: Homer 344-436

13: Homer NA 436-526; SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY #2

15: Homer NA 526-581

20: Aeschylus NA 609-660

22: Sophocles NA 660-706

Apr 03: Euripides NA 745-781

05: TEST

10: TIMED ESSAY

12: SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY #3

17: Virgil 1149-1165

19: Dante NA 1595-1655

24: Dante, NA 1655-1719

26: SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY #4

May 01: Montaigne NA 2317-2334

03: Montaigne:NA 2334-2352;

08 LAST CLASS; REVIEW; LONG ESSAY DUE

18: Final Exam (1445-1700)

SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY REQUIREMENT:

SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY #1; Greek literature: Aesop NA 582-594; Plato NA 826-865

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SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY #2; Roman literature: Ovid NA 1090-1134

SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY #3; Medieval literature: Thousand and One Arabian Nights NA 1743-1794

SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY #4; Early modern literature: Petrarch NA 2068-2071

NB: This course is governed by the University's policies regarding academic honesty, policies which may be found in the University Catalog in print or on line. It is the current policy of the University to have every instance of academic dishonesty reported to the proper administrative department for disposition. *Verbum sapientia*