ENG L101-01 WESTERN WORLD MASTERPIECES I
SPRING 2009
PROFESSOR DAMIAN FLEMING

CLASS MEETING: T R 10:30 – 11:45AM CM 116
OFFICE HOURS: T R 12–1PM; 3–4PM (or by appointment)
Office: CM 133 (in Eng. Dept.)
CONTACT INFORMATION: Office phone: x0192
Email: flemingd@ipfw.edu

COURSE WEBSITE: http://users.ipfw.edu/flemingd/L101s09.html

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
P: Placement at or above ENG W131 (or equivalent) and completion of ENG R150 or exemption.

We will read and discuss a number of “important” works of literature from the earlier half of Western Civilization (more like 4/5 than half: the Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance). We will examine and debate why someone decided that these works are so important, not to mention what exactly the “western world” is. We will use these texts to practice reading slowly, closely, and carefully, and writing clearly and concisely.

This course fulfills the Area IV General Education requirement (Humanistic Thought)

REQUIRED TEXT (AVAILABLE AT IPFW BOOKSTORE):

Always bring the text to class; it is necessary for informed discussion; failure to bring your text to class is equivalent to an absence (and you better check out the attendance policy).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
1. Daily attendance and vigorous participation in class fueled by close reading of all assignments
2. Weekly short response papers
3. 2 short formal essays
4. Midterm and Final examination
ATTENDANCE POLICY:
This course is based in active participation; as a result, attendance in class is essential. More than two unexcused absences will drastically affect your grade:

On your third absence: total participation grade becomes 0%
On your fourth absence: You are no longer part of this class: final grade: F

Excused absences (medical/family *emergencies*) require immediate documentation.
Unexcused absences are things like non-life threatening illness, car trouble, general sleepiness, and non-emergency doctor appointments.

Excessive lateness will count as an absence.

Regardless of cause, you are responsible for all work missed during absences, including changes to the class schedule announced in class.

SCHEDULE OF PARTICIPATION:
In addition to being encouraged to participate regularly in all class discussions, students will be assigned specific days on which they MUST participate, by speaking at least once during the class period. See course schedule below for details.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS (SHORT RESPONSES AND ESSAYS):
Engrave the following on your brain:

I do not accept any late work
Grade for late work: 0%, returned without comment
Computer mishaps are not an acceptable excuse.

This is the 21st century. Save frequently.
Give yourself plenty of time and leeway to get your work done and to deal with bumps in the road should they occur.
Pretend, at least for this class, that you are operating in the real world.

SHORT RESPONSES:
Every Thursday, all students will hand in an informal—but TYPED—response to that week’s reading. The restrictions on these are pretty loose: it’s basically a journal entry, except I’ll be collection them regularly. You can address an issue we’ve raised in class; raise your own questions about the texts we’re reading; make an argument about a text we’re reading; express your opinion about the texts or the characters. These need not be formal, but you must fill up one page, double spaced, with a 12-
point font. I will collect these and grade them on a rudimentary scale. Failure to hand in 3 of these will result in a failing grade for the course.

What I am looking for in these is your own close reading of the text. NO secondary research is required, and is in fact discouraged. If you use any resources to supplement your reading, these must be explicitly acknowledged on your paper. All students are required to keep electronic copies of all their response papers, and submit them to me on request.

ESSAYS:
Each student will also write two short (2–3 page) formal essays on topics assigned by me or developed on their own in consultation with me. Due dates are noted in the schedule below.

GRADING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Responses</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm and Final</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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GRADE SCALE:

- **A 95–100 Outstanding Scholarship**
- **A – 90–94**
- **B+ 87–89**
- **B 84–86 Superior**
- **B – 80–83**
- **C+ 77–79**
- **C 74–76 Average**
- **C – 70–73**
- **D+ 65–69**
- **D 60–64 Lowest passing quality**
- **F below 60**

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability, you may be eligible to request accommodations from the office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with disabilities are entitled to reasonable accommodations and should have equal access to learning. If you have any questions or you believe you need accommodations, contact the SSD office, Walb Union 113, Phone/TTD: 260 - 481 - 6657
http://www.ipfw.edu/ssd/

Keep in mind that accommodations are not retroactive so it is best to register **as soon as possible** so that timely arrangements can be made.

**FOR ALL STUDENTS:** No **retroactive** accommodations can be made. If you feel that you have an issue which may affect your ability to succeed in this class, you must come see me **before**
you’ve defaulted on the class. Hopefully, any issue can be resolved, but no issue can be resolved after the fact.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

**USING ANOTHER PERSON’S WORDS OR IDEAS WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION IS PLAGIARISM.**

Plagiarism will earn you an F for the course, and possible expulsion from the University. If you borrow an idea or quote from another author, you must cite where you found the material. If you have any questions about citing sources, please **ASK** before your turn in an assignment. I am happy to help, or visit the Writing Center. http://www.ipfw.edu/casa/writing/)

**CONCERNING TEXT-MESSAGING IN CLASS**

Text-messaging during the class period will result in a failing grade for the course.

**SCHEDULE:**

**NOTE:** This schedule is subject to change; missing class is **NOT** an excuse for not knowing about changes to the schedule (see above: attendance).

The Bold Capital letters refer to who is required to participate that date. Reading Assignments should be completed by the class date.

| WK 1  | T 13 Intro to class | R 15 Close reading practice |
| WK 4  | T 3 *The Odyssey* pp. 301–355 A | FEB R 5 *The Odyssey* pp. 417–495 B |
| WK 5  | T 10 *Antigone* pp. 653–688 C | R 12 *Antigone* (continued) D |
| WK 6  | T 17 *Lysistrata* pp. 720–756 A | R 19 *Lysistrata* (continued) B |
WK 7 T 24  *Aeneid* pp. 926–974 C
R 26  *Aeneid* pp. 974–1023 D

WK 8 T 3  *Aeneid* (continued) First Essay Due
R 5  MIDTERM Exam

SPRING BREAK

WK 9 T 17  *Beowulf* pp. 1174–1202 A
R 19  *Beowulf* pp. 1202–1227 B

WK 10 T 24  *Beowulf* pp. 1227–1247 C
R 26  *Thorstein the Staff-Struck* pp. 1374–1380 D

WK 11 T 31  Dante, *Inferno*, pp. 1456–1481 A
APRIL R 2  Dante, *Inferno*, pp. 1481–1510 B

WK 12 T 7  Dante, *Inferno*, pp. 1510–1549 C
R 9  Dante, *Inferno*, pp. 1549–1576 D

WK 13 T 14  Boccaccio, *Decameron*, pp. 1631–1634 AND
            Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales* pp. 1696–1718 A
R 16  Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*, pp. 1718–1732 B

WK 14 T 21  Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*, pp. 1732–1756 C
            Second Essay Due


Final Exam: Tuesday, May 5 10:30am–12:30pm