# The Well-Trained Mind Academy Ancient Literature

Course Blackboard site: wtma.blackboard.com

#### **Required Texts**

- The Holy Bible
  - o New American Standard Thinline Bible, Zondervan, 978-0310917250
- Gilgamesh: A New English Version, trans. Stephen Mitchell
  - o Atria Books, 2006 paperback reprint, 978-0743261692 OR -
  - o Free Press, 2004 hardback, 978-0743261647
- Homer, *The Iliad*, trans. Robert Fagles
  - Penguin Classics, 1998 paperback, 978-0140275360
- Homer, *The Odyssey*, trans. Emily Wilson
  - Norton, 2017 hardback, 978-0393089059
- Virgil, *The Aeneid*, trans. Robert Fagles
  - o Penguin Classics, 2008 paperback reprint, 978-0143105138
- Aeschylus, *Agamemnon*, trans. Robert Fagles, ed. W. B. Stanford
  - The Oresteia: Agamemnon, The Libation Bearers, The Eumenides Penguin Classics, 1984 paperback reprint, 978-0140443332
- Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex*, trans. H. D. F. Kitto, ed. Edith Hall
  - Sophocles: Antigone, Oedipus the King, Electra
     Oxford University Press, 2009 paperback reissue, 978-0199537174
- Euripides, *Medea*, trans. James Morwood, ed. Edith Hall
  - Euripides: Medea and Other Plays
     Oxford University Press, 2009 paperback reissue, 978-0199537969
- Aristophanes, *The Birds*, trans. Stephen Halliwell
  - Aristophanes: Birds and Other Plays
     Oxford University Press, 2009 paperback reissue 978-0199555673
- Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, trans. Charles Martin
  - Metamorphoses: A New Translation
     Norton, 2005 paperback reprint, 978-0393326420

#### **Course Description**

A survey of literature, from the earliest written stories (with attention to their origin as oral tales) through the late classical/early medieval masterworks.

#### **Written Assignments**

Author/Text Response Papers: 2 per semester. These are short papers (2-4 pages, or 500-1000 words) designed to get students thinking about and reacting to what they read. Students will choose from a range of supplied topics. 15% each (60% total)

Weekly Quizzes/Summaries: Students will complete a short answer/multiple choice quiz OR written summary (short description of the reading) each week to show that the student has finished and understood the reading. 15%

*Midterm and Final Paper:* Students will write two longer papers (6-8 pages, or 1500-2000 words), exploring in detail the literary techniques and meaning of a chosen work. The midterm paper is worth 10%; the final paper is worth 15%.

## **Example Schedule:**

Exam Week Final

### Week

1	Bible: Genesis, Daniel
2	Epic of Gilgamesh
3	Iliad, books 1-4
4	Iliad, book 5-8
5	Iliad, books 9-12
6	Iliad, books 13-16
7	Iliad, books 17-20
8	Iliad, books 21-24
9	Response Paper #1
10	Odyssey, books 1-4
11	Odyssey, books 5-8
12	Thanksgiving Break
13	Odyssey, books 9-12
14	Odyssey, books 13-16
15	Odyssey, books 17-20
Christmas B	reak
16	Response Paper #2, Odyssey, books 21-24
Exam Week	Midterm
17	Aeneid, books 1
18	Aeneid, book 2
19	Aeneid, books 3-4
20	Aeneid, books 5-6
21	Aeneid, books 7-8
22	Aeneid, books 9-10
23	Response Paper #3, Aeneid, books 11-12
24	Agamemnon
<b>Spring Break</b>	K
25	Agamemnon
26	Oedipus Rex
27	Oedipus Rex
28	Response Paper #4, Medea
29	Medea
30	The Birds
31	Metamorphoses
32	Metamorphoses

## The Well-Trained Mind Academy Medieval and Renaissance Literature

Course Blackboard site: wtma.blackboard.com

#### **Required Texts**

- Beowulf, trans. Seamus Heaney
  - Beowulf: A New Verse Translation (Bilingual Edition)
     Norton, 2001 paperback, 978-0393320978
- The Volsung Saga, trans. Jesse L Byock
  - The Saga of the Volsungs
     Penguin Classics, 1999 paperback, 978-0140447385
- Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, trans. Simon Armitage
  - Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (A New Verse Translation)
     Norton, 2008 paperback, 978-0393334159
- Song of Roland, trans. Glyn S. Burgess
  - o Penguin Classics, 1990 paperback, 978-0140445329
- Thomas Mallory, Le Morte D'Arthur, ed. Helen Cooper
  - Le Morte Darthur: The Winchester Manuscript (Oxford World's Classics)
     Oxford University Press, 2008 reissue edition, 978-0199537341
- Dante, *The Divine Comedy*, trans. Robert Pinsky
  - The Inferno of Dante: A New Verse Translation, Bilingual Edition
     Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1996 Bilingual edition, 978-0374524524
- Philip Sidney, Astrophel and Stella
  - Project Gutenberg eText only: http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/56375
- Geoffrey Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales, trans. Neville Coghill
  - o Penguin Classics, 2003 rev. ed. paperback, 978-0140424386
- Christopher Marlowe, Faustus, ed. David Wooten
  - Doctor Faustus: With the English Faust Book
     Hackett Publishing Company, 2005, 978-0872207295
- William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*, ed. Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine
  - o Simon & Schuster, Folger Library Shakespeare, 1992, 978-0743477123

#### **Course Description**

A survey of literature, from the later Church Fathers through the sixteenth century/Elizabethan era.

#### Written Assignments

Author/Text Response Papers: 2 per semester. These are short papers (2-4 pages, or 500-1000 words) designed to get students thinking about and reacting to what they read. Students will choose from a range of supplied topics. 15% each (60% total)

Weekly Quizzes/Summaries: Students will complete a short answer/multiple choice quiz OR written summary (short description of the reading) each week to show that the student has finished and understood the reading. 15%

*Midterm and Final Paper:* Students will write two longer papers (6-8 pages, or 1500-2000 words), exploring in detail the literary techniques and meaning of a chosen work. The midterm paper is worth 10%; the final paper is worth 15%.

### **Example Schedule**

Week	Quiz/Test	Writing Assignment	Reading
1	Welcome!		
2			Beowulf
3			Beowulf
4			Beowulf
5			The Volsung Saga
6			The Volsung Saga
7			The Volsung Saga
8			Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
9			Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
10		D #4	a an 1 1
10		Response Paper #1	Song of Roland
11			Song of Roland
Thanksgiving	g Break		
12			Inferno
13			Inferno
14			Inferno

#### **Christmas Break**

15	Response Paper #2	Inferno
16		Inferno
Midterm		
17		Le Morte d'Arthur
18		Le Morte d'Arthur
19		Le Morte d'Arthur
20		Astrophel and Stella
21		Astrophel and Stella
22		Canterbury Tales (selected tales)
23		Canterbury Tales (selected tales)
24	Response Paper #3	Review
Spring Break		
25		Faustus
26		Faustus
27		Faustus
28	Response Paper #4	Faustus
29		Hamlet
30		Hamlet
31		Hamlet
32		Review

Final

# The Well-Trained Mind Academy **Early Modern Literature**

Course Blackboard site: wtma.blackboard.com

#### **Required Texts:**

- Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote* (1605), abridged, trans. and ed. Walter Starkie
  - o Signet Classics, 2013, 978-0451532299
- John Donne, selections from the English poems (c. 1635)
  - The Complete Poetry and Selected Prose of John Donne, ed. Charles M. Coffin Modern Library, 2001, 978-0375757341
- John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1679)
  - o Dover Thrift Editions, Dover Publications, 2003, 978-0486426754
- John Locke, "An Essay Concerning Human Understanding" (1690), ed. Roger Woolhouse
  - o Penguin Classics, rev. ed., 1998, 978-0140434828
- Jonathan Swift, Gulliver's Travels (1726)
  - o Penguin, rev. ed., 2003, 978-0141439495
- William Blake, Songs of Innocence and Experience (1789)
  - o Dover Thrift Editions, Dover Publications, 1992, 978-0486270517
- Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* (1719)
  - o Penguin Classics, 2003, 978-0141439822
- William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Lyrical Ballads* (1798)
  - Lyrical Ballads: With a Few Other Poems, Penguin Classics, 2007, 978-0140424621
- Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* (1813)
  - o Penguin Classics, rev. ed., 2002, 978-0141439518

#### **Course Description**

A survey of literature, from the "first novel" through 1800.

#### Written Assignments

Author/Text Response Papers: 2 per semester. These are short papers (2-4 pages, or 500-1000 words) designed to get students thinking about and reacting to what they read. Students will choose from a range of supplied topics. 15% each (60% total)

Weekly Quizzes/Summaries: Students will complete a short answer/multiple choice quiz OR written summary (short description of the reading) each week to show that the student has finished and understood the reading. 15%

*Midterm and Final Paper:* Students will write two longer papers (6-8 pages, or 1500-2000 words), exploring in detail the literary techniques and meaning of a chosen work. The midterm paper is worth 10%; the final paper is worth 15%.

### **Example Schedule**

Weeks 1-5 Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote* (1605)

Weeks 6-8 John Donne, selections from the English poems (c. 1635)

Response Paper #1 due

Weeks 9-11 John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1679)

**Thanksgiving Break** 

Weeks 12-13 John Locke, "An Essay Concerning Human Understanding" (1690)

Response Paper #2 due

Winter Break

Weeks 14-16 Jonathan Swift, Gulliver's Travels (1726)

Midterm Paper due

Weeks 17-19 Jonathan Swift, Gulliver's Travels (1726)

Response Paper #3 due

**Weeks 20-22** William Blake, *Songs of Innocence and Experience* (1789)

Weeks 23-25 Daniel Defoe, Robinson Crusoe (1719)

**Spring Break** 

Weeks 26-28 William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Lyrical Ballads

(1798)

Response Paper #4 due

Weeks 29-32 Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* (1813)

Final Paper due