

# English 201

## Western World Literature I

### COURSE SCHEDULE

In the event of a class cancellation, keep up with the scheduled readings!

#### August

30 M

- Course Introduction
- Lecture Preliminary to Homer
- Homework:
  - As discussed in the preliminary lecture, the *Iliad* is part of a much larger Epic Cycle, which begins with the [Cypria](#). Read this linked summary before beginning the *Iliad*. (Note also the pertinent [Extra-Credit](#) assignment for this course.)
  - *Carefully* read the material scheduled for discussion on Wednesday. If you have never before read the *Iliad*, it can at first seem quite confusing. Take notes. Refer to the maps (pp. 68-73), the "Pronouncing Glossary" (pp. 639-83), and these [Genealogical Charts](#). Don't despair! You'll quickly get a good sense of the main characters and gods, their relations, and their respective loyalties.
  - Register on the Discussion Board, using your first name as a "user name" (so your teacher and classmates will recognize you), and open a "Topic" within the "Forum" Introductions to tell us about yourself. Don't forget your password!

#### September

1 W

- Homer: The *Iliad*, Books 1-2

6 M

- Labor Day: No Class.

8 W

- Homer: The *Iliad*, Books 3-6



### 13 M

- Homer: The Iliad, Books 7-10
- **Due: Tentative Research Theme for Essay #1** (e.g., women; fate and the will of Zeus; the aristeia; the character of Agamemnon). This is not a thesis.

### 15 W

- Homer: The Iliad, Books 11-12

### 20 M

- Homer: The Iliad, Books 13-16

### 22 W

- Homer: The Iliad, Books 17-18

### 27 M

- Homer: The Iliad, Books 19-22

### 29 W

- Homer: The Iliad, Books 23-24
- **Due: Thesis and Argument Synopsis** (See the guidelines for [Essay #1](#).)

## October

### 4 M

- Quintus of Smyrna: The Trojan Epic, Introduction and Books 1-2
- Related Reading (Optional):
  - [Cuypers, Martijn. Rev. of Quintus of Smyrna. The Trojan Epic: Posthomerica, trans. Alan James \(Bryn Mawr Classical Review July 1005: 37\).](#)  
[This review includes some useful critique of James's Introduction and comparison with the earlier English translations by A. S. Way and Frederick Combellack.]

### 6 W

- Quintus of Smyrna: The Trojan Epic, Books 3-4
- **Due: Critical Responses** (See the guidelines for [Essay #1](#).)

### 11 M

- Quintus of Smyrna: The Trojan Epic, Books 5-8

### 13 W

- Quintus of Smyrna: The Trojan Epic, Books 9-10
- Related Readings (Optional):
  - [Letter of Oenone to Paris](#), from Ovid's *Heroides* (1.5).
  - [Oenone](#), by Alfred Tennyson.

### 18 M

- Due: Essay #1

### 20 W

- Quintus of Smyrna: The Trojan Epic, Books 11-14
- Mid-Term Study Guide

### 25 M

- Mid-Term Exam

### 27 W

- Aeschylus: Agamemnon
  - (For essential background information, read [The House of Pelops](#).)

## November

### 1 M

- Aeschylus: The Libation Bearers

### 3 W

- Aeschylus: The Eumenides

### 8 M

- Sophocles: Electra

### 10 W

- Sophocles: Philoctetes

### 15 M

- Sophocles: Ajax

17 W

- Euripides: Iphigenia at Aulis

22 M

- Euripides: The Trojan Women
- In-class Movie: *The Trojan Women* (1971), directed by Mihalis Kakogiannis, starring Katherine Hepburn and Venessa Redgrave, and using the popular Edith Hamilton translation of Euripides's text.
- **Due: Thesis and Argument Synopsis** (See the guidelines for [Essay #2A](#) or [Essay #2B](#).)

24 W

- Euripides: Andromache

29 M

- Euripides: Iphigenia among the Taurians
- **Due: Critical Responses** (See the guidelines for [Essay #2A](#) or [Essay #2B](#).)

## December

1 W

- Shakespeare: Troilus and Cressida, Acts I-II

6 M

- **Due: Essay #2**

8 W

- Shakespeare: Troilus and Cressida, Acts III-V

13 M (5:00 p.m.)

- **Due: Extra-Credit Essay** (submitted electronically in pdf for grading)

18 Sat (8:00–10:00 a.m.)

- **Final Exam** (given in our regular classroom)