EGL 111-B: World Literature: Ancient-Modern
Spring, 2014

English Department, Stony Brook University
Course Instructor: Katherine Miscavige, Katherine.Miscavige@stonybrook.edu
Class: M/W 2:30am-3:50pm, Physics P122
Office Hours: M/W 4-5, TU 6-7, and by appointment, Humanities 1079
Follow me on Twitter (@katherine4a) for thoughts on texts we’re reading, links to extra material, and other posts related to literature and language.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
EGL 111 offers an introduction to world literature from the earliest recorded literary history to the beginnings of the modern period. Students will study divergent global literary traditions, including a focus on their relationship to English literature; they will also discuss the histories of cross-cultural contact, influence, and exchange through which such traditions encountered and shaped each other.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
- Students will analyze texts of different types significant to human history and culture, including poetry, prose, history, philosophy, and religion.
- Students will demonstrate their ability to perform this analysis orally, in class discussion and presentation, and in written essays.
- Students will develop expository writing skills, and learn the conventions of writing about literature.
- Students will develop an understanding of and appreciation for world history and culture.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Required Texts:
The Norton Anthology of World Literature, Third Edition, Volumes A and B Edited by Martin Puchner
(Volume C is not required, but all three can be purchased as a box set, which may save you money)

Attendance and Make Up Policy
- Attendance is required at all class meetings. Frequent absences will affect the student’s performance and grade. A student who misses more than two weeks worth of classes for any reason is unlikely to pass.
- Please be on time: frequent or excessive tardiness will be counted as absence.
- Quizzes and in-class assignments cannot be made up.
- Late papers will be penalized 1 letter grade per day.

General classroom policies and keys to success
- No cell phones
- Take good notes
- Read material carefully (annotating or taking notes as you go)
- Participate in discussions regularly, both in class and on Blackboard
- Ask questions
- Complete all work on time
- Read introductions to texts
- Bring book to all class meetings
- Take advantage of resources outside of class, including office hours and the writing center

Assignments and Grading
20% Regular participation in Blackboard discussions/Quizzes
10% Presentation
15% Midterm
15% Two response papers
20% Two papers
20% Final exam
Expect periodic, unannounced reading quizzes.
Your final grade may be reduced for attendance issues or for being clearly unprepared for or inattentive in class (no book, unable to answer questions about reading, texting during class, etc.)
**Blackboard discussions**
A brief response to the stated question regarding the day’s reading is due Mondays at noon. You may respond to other people’s points.

**Papers**
You’ll write four papers this semester: two will be response papers of approximately a page or two. Two will be more developed – about 3-4 pages. Specific requirements will be distributed for each paper.

**Resources**
Library resources
Blackboard
Writing Center

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**DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS) STATEMENT:**
If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services (631) 632-6748 or http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/dss/. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information go to the following website: http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:**
Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instance of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/

**CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT:**
Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, and/or inhibits students' ability to learn.
COURSE OUTLINE
Reading schedule is subject to change as necessary – check Blackboard for most up-to-date version

Part 1: The Ancient World

1/27 Introduction to Ancient Civilizations

1/29 Creation Stories: Enuma Elish, pg 34; Hesiod, Theogony, ph 38; Bible, Genesis, 1-4, 6-9, pg 158; Ovid, Metamorphosis, Bk 1: The Creation, pg 1077-1079

2/3 Origins of World Literature and early epic: Gilgamesh: Introduction and Tablets I-V (pg 95-124)

2/5 Gilgamesh: Tablets VI-XI (pg 125-151)

2/10 Ancient philosophy: Plato’s Republic, excepts, Blackboard (please print out for class)

2/12 Plato, from Phaedrus, pg 1143; Aristotle, from Poetics, pg 1149

2/17 Ancient drama: Oedipus, pg 701-725

2/19 Oedipus, pg 725-end

2/24 wrap up Oedipus; intro to Trojan War and ancient epic

Paper 1 due

2/26 Ancient Literary Epic: Virgil, Aeneid, Bk I, II, pg 960-1007

3/3 Virgil, Aeneid, Bk IV, pg 1008-1027

3/5 Ancient lyric poetry
    Sappho, Poem 1 (pg 637), Poem 16 (pg 638)
    Catullus, Carmina 5 (pg 943), 8 (pg 944), 16 (pg 945)
    Classics of Ancient Chinese Poetry, I “Fishhawk” (pg 1323 – see also “The Great Preface,” pg 1422), XX “Plums Are Falling” (pg 1324), LXIV “Quince” (pg 1326), LXXVI “Zhongzi, Please” (pg 1326)

3/10 Catch-up/Midterm review

Response paper 1 due

3/12 Midterm

3/17-3/19 – Spring Break

Part 2: The Medieval and Modern World

3/24 Introduction to the Medieval World

3/26 Marie de France, Lais, pg 294-313

3/31 The Thousand and One Nights, 552-577 (end of Third Old Man’s Tale)

4/2 The Thousand and One Nights, pg 577-605

4/7 Boccaccio, Decameron: Introduction (Blackboard – please print); Day 1, Story 1, pg 609

4/9 Boccaccio, Decameron: Day 2, Story 5 (Blackboard); Day 10, Story 10, pg 649

Paper 2 due Friday, 4/11

4/14 Murasaki Shikibu, Tales of Genji, Book 1, pg 1154-1170

4/16 Murasaki Shikibu, Tales of Genji, Book 5, 1187-1209
4/21 Dante, *Divine Comedy*, 387-415

4/23 Dante, *Divine Comedy*, 415-450

4/28 Dante, *Divine Comedy*, 450-485

4/30 Dante, *Divine Comedy*, 486-511

**Response Paper 2**

5/5 Travel and Encounter – pg 809-835 (Including excerpts from Marco Polo, Ibn Battuta, and John Mandeville)

5/7 Wrap-Up and Review for final exam