

# CLASSICS: HOMER TO DANTE

dr. david wilson-okamura    english 3600    autumn 2004    east carolina univ.

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| Aug. 25 | W | Introduction   |
| 27      | F | HOMER, <i>Odyssey</i> , bks. 1–3 (trans. Mandelbaum, pp. 3–59). Use glossary, pp. 499ff.           |
| 30      | M | <i>Od.</i> 4–6 (pp. 61–127)  |
| Sept. 1 | W | <i>Od.</i> 7–9 (pp. 129–87)  |
| 3       | F | <i>Od.</i> 10–12 (pp. 189–252)   |
| 6       | M | <b>Labor Day</b>   |
| 8       | W | <i>Od.</i> 13–15 (pp. 253–312)   |
| 10      | F | <i>Od.</i> 16–18 (pp. 315–76)  |
| 13      | M | <i>Od.</i> 19–21 (pp. 377–434)   |
| 15      | W | <i>Od.</i> 22–24 (pp. 435–91)  |
| 17      | F | VIRGIL, <i>Aeneid</i> , bk. 1 (tr. Mandelbaum, pp. 1–27). Use glossary for names, pp. 337ff.       |
| 20      | M | <i>Aen.</i> 2 (pp. 29–55)  |
| 22      | W | <i>Aen.</i> 3 (pp. 57–80)  |
| 24      | F | <i>Aen.</i> 4 (pp. 81–104)   |
| 27      | M | <i>Aen.</i> 5 (pp. 105–32)   |
| 29      | W | Reread <i>Od.</i> 11 (pp. 211–34); <i>Aen.</i> 6 (pp. 133–62)                                      |
| Oct. 1  | F | <i>Aen.</i> 6 (continued)  |
| 4       | M | <i>Aen.</i> 7 (pp. 163–89)   |
| 6       | W | <i>Aen.</i> 8 (pp. 191–214)  |
| 8       | F | <i>Aen.</i> 9, 10 (pp. 215–73)   |
| 11      | M | <i>Aen.</i> 11 (pp. 275–304)   |
| 13      | W | <i>Aen.</i> 12 (pp. 305–36)  |
| 15      | F | <i>Aen.</i> 12 (continued)   |
| 18      | M | <b>Fall Break</b>  |
| 20      | W | DANTE, <i>Inferno</i> 1–4 (prologue and pre-hell). You also need to read the notes for each canto. |
| 22      | F | <i>Inf.</i> 5–9 (lust, gluttony, greed, wrath, the gate of Dis)                                    |
| 25      | M | <i>Inf.</i> 10–13 (heresy, violence against people and property, suicide)                          |
| 27      | W | <i>Inf.</i> 14–17 (violence against God)   |
| 29      | F | <i>Inf.</i> 18–22 (seduction, flattery, simony, sorcery, barratry)                                 |
| Nov. 1  | M | <i>Inf.</i> 23–27 (hypocrisy, thieves, fraudulent counselors)                                      |
| 3       | W | <i>Inf.</i> 28–31 (sowers of discord, alchemists, forgers, liars)                                  |
| 5       | F | <i>Inf.</i> 32–34 (traitors)   |
| 8       | M | <i>Purgatorio</i> 1–3 (shores of Mt. Purgatory)  |
| 10      | W | <i>Purg.</i> 9–13 (terrace of pride)   |
| 12      | F | <i>Purg.</i> 18–21 (organization of purgatory; Virgil and Statius); ESSAY PROSPECTUS DUE           |
| 15      | M | <i>Purg.</i> 22, 25–27 (gluttony; terrace of the lustful; Virgil's leavetaking).                   |
| 17      | W | <i>Purg.</i> 28–31 (arrival of Beatrice)   |
| 19      | F | <i>Purg.</i> 32–33 (prophecy)  |
| 22      | M | <i>Paradiso</i> 1  |
| 24      | W | <b>Thanksgiving Holidays</b>   |
| 26      | F | <b>Thanksgiving Holidays</b>   |
| 29      | M | <i>Par.</i> 2–5 (moon)   |
| Dec. 1  | W | <i>Par.</i> 10–14 (sun)  |
| 3       | F | <i>Par.</i> 21–22 (Saturn)   |
| 6       | M | <i>Par.</i> 28–33 (beatific vision)  |
| 8       | W | PAPER DUE  |

## REQUIREMENTS

Written assignments must be typed and are due at the beginning of the class period. Assignments delivered after that will receive a lower grade. (For instance, an A- essay that is delivered up to 24 hours late will receive a B+, an A- essay that is delivered between 24 and 48 hours late will receive a B, and so on.)

**Weekly Analysis** (50%). Each week, you will submit a written analysis of the previous week's discussion (925 words, or about two and half pages). Your analysis of week one will be due at the first class meeting of week two and so on. A good analysis will summarize the content of the previous week's discussion, but it will also evaluate that discussion: what, for instance, got left out of the conversation last week, and why does it matter? In general, I think one part evaluation to two parts analytical summary is a good balance. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation count, as do style and content.

Each written analysis will be submitted in two forms: to me, on paper, and to the other members of the class, by email ([classics@virgil.org](mailto:classics@virgil.org)).

**Essay** (30%). Submit one essay of 3,700–4,000 words on course readings of your choice. A prospectus describing your work to date will be due two weeks before the essay proper.

- Essays should be typed, include a list of works cited, and follow the citation format specified in the *MLA Handbook* (at the reference desk, LB2369.G53.1999).
- When you're done, do a word count and write the result on the first page of your paper. Word count should not include such things as long quotations and list of works cited.
- Pages should be (a) stapled and (b) numbered by computer. Ask someone at the computer lab if you don't know how to do this already.
- First impressions count; so do spelling, punctuation, and grammar. If you have trouble with these, I recommend *Grammar in Plain English* by Harriet Diamond and Phyllis Dutwin.
- Double-space. Use 12 point Times Roman (or a similar font of the same size).

**Reading Quizzes** (20%). Scheduled randomly. There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes.

**Email.** Announcements and changes to the schedule will be delivered by email; you will therefore need to check your university email account on a daily basis.

**Cell phones** are here to stay, but they don't belong in the classroom. If you have one, turn off the ringer before class starts. If you answer a vibrating call alert during class, it had better be your mother calling from her deathbed; anything less urgent will have to wait until the end of class.

## EXTENSIONS

Everyone gets a two-day extension on two weekly analyses over the course of the semester. You choose which one. You don't need to ask me ahead of time: just hand in a sheet of paper with the date and your name on it that says "I'm taking my extension on this paper." In the interest of fairness, however, no one will be granted a third extension.

## PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas in such a way that a reader cannot distinguish them from your own work. As such, it is a form of cheating. If you have questions about plagiarism, please ask me about it before your paper is due; after a paper is handed in it's too late to claim ignorance. The penalty for plagiarism is an automatic F for the course, in addition to whatever penalty the University sees fit to impose.

## IMPORTANT TIMES, PHONE NUMBERS, ADDRESSES

Office: Bate 2137 (phone 252.328.6714)

Email: [wilson-okamura@virgil.org](mailto:wilson-okamura@virgil.org)

Office hours: MWF 1:00–2:40 and by appointment. To schedule an appointment, grab me after class or give me a phone call and we'll set up a time. (In practice, I find that setting up appointments via email is not very efficient.) If you call my office and I'm not there, do try me at home, though not after 9:00 pm, please. My number is in the phone book.

Email discussion group for this course: [classics@virgil.org](mailto:classics@virgil.org)

Course materials on the web: <http://virgil.org/dswo/courses/classics>