

Western Humanities I

English 113 002

Western Humanities I

M/W/F - 9:00-9:50

Spring Semester 2009

in Fletcher 110

Instructor : Justin Lewis

Office: 338 Lupton Library

Office Hours: M/W/F - 11-1, T/Th - 9:30 - 10:30

423.425.2550

Email : Justin-Lewis@utc.edu

The Course:

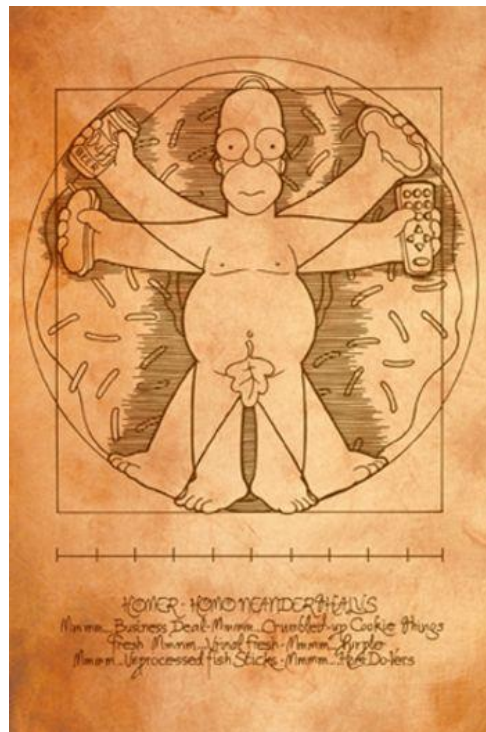
This course takes a historical approach to some of the pivotal ideas, systems of thought, and creations of the Western World from approximately 800 B.C to 1600 A.D., emphasizing matters of literary structure, style, and content. The general goals of this course are to help you:

1. Understand what the Humanities encompass
2. Develop an eye for reading texts critically
3. Understand the following themes in literature:
 - a. The Evolution of the Hero (epic, nationalistic, transcendent)
 - b. Evolution of Morals and Ethics (judgment, justice and virtue)
 - c. Evolution of Metaphysics, the Afterlife and Conceptions of Hell (from Tartarus [physical] to Hamlet [mental])

Expectations:

Your active participation in class is valuable both to the class as a collective and to you individually. In class, expect instruction aimed at improving your interpretative, creative, and communicative talents. Also expect to critique your colleagues' efforts and accept collegial critique of your own. This is a course in the Humanities that emphasizes critical thought; you are, consequently, required to bring with you to each class meeting not only your critically read texts, but also a willingness to articulate written and oral responses to them.

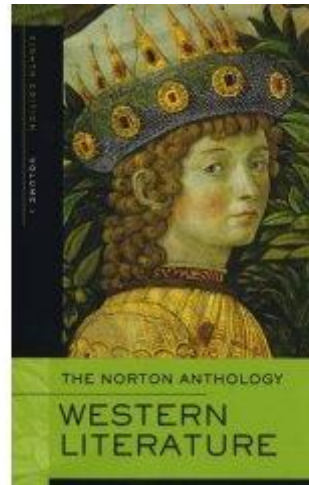
As for the rules, they are few but essential: please respect our efforts as a university class. Good



manners, decorum, and mutual respect should prevail in class, including respect for the opinions and sensibilities of others.

The Texts:

The Norton Anthology of Western Literature, Volume 1
(Paperback) by Sarah N. Lawall – ISBN 0393925722
– 8th edition



We will have additional readings in this course by Gorgias, Marlowe and others; however, I have made these available digitally via course reserves at the library and via UTC Online. It is essential that you purchase the edition noted above, as they are the only versions of the text we will work with this semester.

Evaluation:

Final grades in this class will be A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69) and F (below 60). Students who have been in regular attendance and have demonstrated a strong effort to meet the course requirements but fail to achieve a passing grade may receive an IP (Incomplete Passing) grade. A grade of **A** on a piece of finished formal writing means that it meets the assignment objectives, that the writing is clear, engaging, grammatically correct, original, and easy to read, that the paper adheres to guidelines for proper presentation, and that all work has been turned in on time with all required documentation. A grade of **C** means that the work is of acceptable (not above average) quality. Grades will not be inflated in this course.

Your grades in this class will consist of the following:

Reading Quizzes (4)/Reading Responses (3)	(7 total - 5% each = 35% overall)
Midterm Examination	(15% overall)
Wiki/Facilitation Project	(25% overall)
Final Project	(10% overall)
Final Examination	(15% overall)

General Education Requirement

This class fulfills a General Education Requirement in Cultures and Civilizations.

Reading Quizzes / Reading Responses

In this class, you will complete a total of 4 reading quizzes and 3 reading responses. The quizzes will be unannounced. There is an assignment sheet posted on BB under the "Assignments" tab that details what is required in the Reading Response. Each of these assignments constitutes 5% of your overall grade. You will find due dates for the Reading Responses on our schedule posted on BB. As reading is the most important requirement for this class, I weigh a large portion of your final grade (35%) on this aspect of the class. If you are not reading, you cannot participate in discussion and are not meeting the core requirement for this class: the well-reasoned articulation of your knowledge of the text.

Attendance Policy:

I do not have an attendance requirement for this class. If you do not attend class, you are not permitted to turn in any work due that day or retake any quizzes. The **only** way I will accept late work is with documentation in the form of a **Dr.'s excuse notating the specific day that you did not attend class.** Period. Also note that we discuss most of the material that appears on both the midterm and final during class; therefore, you would be wise to attend. **DO NOT EMAIL ME IF YOU WERE ABSENT. ITS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO COME TO CLASS. IF YOU ARE NOT IN CLASS, I CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO CATCH YOU UP.**

Late Daily Work:

Daily work cannot be turned in late. If you must miss class for a UTC-sponsored event, or if you know ahead of time that you are going to be absent, speak to me about turning your work in *early*, not when you return.

Late Paper Policy:

It is crucial to turn your formal assignment drafts in on time. I will not accept a formal assignment draft after the due date without an excused absence. Be sure to **proofread carefully** before turning in your work (this means don't wait until an hour before class to reread and print out your assignment). Any exceptions to these guidelines should be cleared through me in advance. Late papers must be cleared **before** the due date and if accepted, will be assessed penalty points (10 per day). **If you don't come to class (on time) the day a paper is due, it will not be accepted at any time.**

"Acceptable" Draft Policy:

You must turn in an "acceptable" draft of every formal assignment in order to be eligible to pass the course. I will mark a draft "unacceptable" when it has not met key requirements of an assignment. If I return a



draft to you marked “unacceptable,” see me immediately. You only have one week to resubmit it.

Submission of Work:

All project drafts must be word processed. Handwritten drafts will be considered late until they are handed in correctly. I will not accept any homework assignments without an excused absence.

Wiki Project:

Located under the "Assignments" tab in BB you will find an assignment sheet detailing what is expected for your wiki project. We will spend the second class meeting in Lupton Library becoming acquainted with how a wiki works. It would be most unwise to miss this class meeting.



Emergencies:

If you have any kind of emergency that is preventing you from attending regularly or getting your coursework done, please talk to me sooner rather than later. I am flexible if you contact me after your first absence but if you disappear for several classes, I will generally not be terribly sympathetic.

Contacting Me:

If you are unable to meet with me at the times listed, please see me before or after class or send me an email so that we can arrange an appointment. I expect you to accept a responsible role as a communicator in this class and to keep me informed about your work, your progress, your questions, and your problems. Please do not hesitate to meet with me to talk about your work several times during the semester, preferably ***BEFORE*** your grade is the central concern. My office phone is 425-2550; my email address is Justin-lewis@utc.edu; I will try to respond to your emails in a timely fashion. During the week (Monday-Friday) I will do my very best to respond within 24 hours of your initial email. On the weekends, I will respond within 48 hours.

Academic Dishonesty:

UTC operates under the Honor Code outlined in the *Student Handbook*. Please review the code and make sure you understand it. All work must be your own. Cheating includes supplying or using work or answers that are not your own, providing or accepting assistance with completing assignments or examinations, faking data or results, interfering in any way with someone else's work, stealing an examination or solution from the teacher.

Please review the Honor Code and its procedures concerning plagiarism in the Student Handbook at : <http://www.utc.edu/~student/handbook/>; additionally, consult *Keys for Writers* pgs. 116-119. You may ask, “Why is plagiarism such a big deal?” Professors, undergraduate and graduate students do not necessarily build things like cars, or fix objects like dishwashers, and we do not win or lose cases like lawyers. We create and design ideas and words (intellectual property). Our ideas are often not tangible products. We can spend months – even years --- working on an idea and an article or book. This intellectual property is what we construct, repair, and debate. Our careers and degrees depend on a steady production of these original thoughts, and it is a serious offense for someone else to put their name on either a part or the whole of what we have developed¹. We will discuss plagiarism, intellectual property, paraphrasing and patchwriting early in the semester in order to eliminate any confusion about what constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism includes copying a paper from a source text without proper acknowledgment, buying a paper from a research service or term paper mill, turning in another student's work with or without that student's knowledge, copying a paper from a source text without proper acknowledgment, copying materials from a source text, supplying proper documentation, but leaving out quotation marks, paraphrasing materials from a source text without appropriate documentation, and turning in a paper from a term paper website.

Penalty for violation in this class will be failure of the course and appearance before Honor Court. Please note that *ignorance of what constitutes plagiarism does not excuse it.*

Email Accounts and UTC Online:

To enhance student services, the University will use your UTC email address for communications. (Your assigned address is usually in the format firstname-lastname@utc.edu. See <http://onenet.utc.edu> for your exact address.) Please check your UTC email on a regular basis. The University requires that I use your UTC email address if I need to contact you outside of class. If you contact me, I will expect to have your UTC email address as the reply email address. You can expect a response with 24 hours. If you use personal email, I will not respond. If you have problems with accessing your email account, contact the Help Desk at 423/425-4000.

We will use Blackboard as a digital forum to discuss questions/concerns/irritations/accolades of the text throughout the semester; as this is the case, it is essential that you are proficient using this digital resource. We will go over the digital forum, its components and how it will effect your grade at the beginning of the semester. I will also



¹ Special thanks to Ms. Amy Anderson for this wonderful description of the academic process.

occasionally post supplementary readings, essay topics and additional useful information on UTC Online, so check it often!

Withdrawal Policies:

If you withdraw before the official drop date (March 6th), you will be given a grade of W regardless of grades and performance in class. A "W" does not affect your GPA. Failure to withdraw from class after the drop date will result in a grade of "F", which will affect your GPA.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

If you have a disability or special need of any kind that might require special materials, services, or assistance, please call the Office for Students with Disabilities/College Access Program at 755-4006. Examples of disabilities might include blindness/low vision, communication disorders, deafness/hearing impairments, emotional/ psychological disabilities, learning disabilities, and other health impairments. This list is not exhaustive. If you find that personal problems, career indecision, study and time management difficulties, etc. are adversely affecting your successful progress at UTC, please contact the Counseling and Career Planning Center at 425-4438.



Changes to the Syllabus:

Inevitably, there will be some changes to the syllabus. I will announce them in class and post them on the UTC Online. It is YOUR responsibility to note those changes and be ready for class with the day's assignment, even if you were absent when I announced the change.

Writing Center:

The Writing Center at UTC is a free service offered to all members of the University community. The Center is staffed by peer tutors, graduate students, and English instructors, and offers various services to writers, including tutorials, workshops, and access to resources. Please visit the Writing Center in Holt 119.

Class Procedures:

- Please turn off ALL electrical devices (cell phones, Blackberry's, iPods, etc).
- Feel free to contact me outside of class anytime through my UTC email or phone number.

FINAL EXAMINATION - Fri., April 24, from 8-10 am - in Fletcher 110