ENGL 2110-25H
World Literature (Honors): Intercontinental Conversations
Dr. Meg Pearson
Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:45 pm
PAFF 309

Office: TLC 2240
Email: megp@westga.edu (in case of campus email failure, you may contact me at mfpearson@gmail.com)
Phone: 678-839-4892
Website: www.westga.edu/~megp
Office Hours: T/Th 11 am – 12:30 pm; 2 pm – 3:30 pm; W by appt. between 10 am and 2 pm

Class Description

The course will be a lively juxtaposition of Western classics such as The Odyssey, Antigone, Inferno, and The Tempest with works from other lands. Match-ups will include Homer visiting India, Antigone confronting the Tao Te Ching, and six different paths to Hades.

Course Requirements

Texts


CourseDen: All secondary materials will be available here, and you will turn in your papers here.

Course Requirements

Participation & Discussion (20%): Students will come to class having read the material and having prepared questions and comments for the group. The majority of the class will be discussion, so prepare accordingly. You may not sit in class like a stump. Unpreparedness will result in something nasty, such as a quiz.

Short paper (25%): A 3-4 page paper that undertakes a critical and thesis-driven analysis of a passage, section, or book of the Odyssey.

Midterm Exam (25%): An exam covering the terms and texts from the first half of the course. This exam will be available for 48 hours on CourseDen (see syllabus) and you will have one hour to complete it.
Final Paper/Exam (30%): The final project will include a 7-8 page paper (2250-2500 words) and will focus on a modern example of World Literature (assignment sheet will provide a list of potential texts) and how it interacts with a text we’ve read this semester.

Course Policies

Attendance:
You are expected to attend every class session regularly. What we cover in class is what you need to know. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to contact another student for an explanation of what was covered. I offer you 3 absences to do with as you like—use them wisely for the inevitable "stuff" that will mess up your semester: illness, traffic, death in the family, etc. I do not care whether they are excused or not. If you miss 4 classes for whatever reason, you will not pass this class.

Deadlines and Late Papers:
All papers and drafts are due online via Course Den or via email at a deadline established on the syllabus. I will grade the paper using “track changes” in MS Word and return it to you via CourseDen or email. Every day that passes after the due date means that your paper loses a letter grade. I will only accept essays electronically this semester. Extensions will be granted only in cases of verifiable emergency and/or if we have spoken about it beforehand.

Paper Formatting:
Although papers will be submitted and receive comments online, they should still be properly formatted. I will be using word counts to assure that they are of the proper length. Papers should be typed, double-spaced, in 12-point font (preferably Times New Roman or another standard serif font) with 1" top and bottom margins and 1" right and left margins. Page lengths are not arbitrary. Using large margins and enormous fonts (e.g., Courier New) to fulfill the page requirement fools no one, so follow these guidelines and come for extra help or use the writing center to learn how to present a full, well-supported argument that meets the page requirements. Formal essays require title pages. All papers require page numbers.

Academic Honesty:
Plagiarism or cheating, whether it is using the words and/or ideas of another without properly giving credit to the source(s), submitting someone else’s work as your own, submitting your own work completed for another class without my permission, collaborating on individual exercises, or otherwise violating the university's code of academic integrity will not be tolerated, and infractions will be severely punished. Familiarize yourself with the proper rules for citation for the English department (MLA) and the university’s policy on academic dishonesty: http://www.westga.edu/~engdept/Plagiarism/pladef.html.

If you cheat in my class, you will receive an automatic F for the class. Do not test this.

Extra Help:
If you feel you need help or if you have any questions regarding the class, come by my office,
Room 2240 in the TLC. I will always be in my office and prepared to offer assistance during my office hours. If for some reason you are unable to see me during my office hours, we will arrange an alternative meeting time. Contact me via email to set up an appointment. Also, do not forget about the Writing Center where the instructors and staff work to assist writers at any point in the writing process. For more information or to make an appointment, e-mail the Writing Center at writing@westga.edu.

Contacting Me:
I am most easily tracked down using email: megp@westga.edu. (Please note that mpearson@westga.edu is NOT ME. Poor Mike Pearson is very tired of hearing from my students.) You may also contact me using the email function in CourseDen. Please e-mail me from your university account in order to make it easier to identify the sender of the e-mail and to avoid unnecessary security or virus risks.

Special Needs:
The University of West Georgia adheres to the Americans for Disabilities Act, known as ADA, which requires that all programs at the university be accessible to people with disabilities. If you have a registered disability that will require accommodation, please see me in my office at the beginning of the semester. If you have a disability that you have not yet registered through the Disabled Student Services Office, please contact Dr. Ann Phillips in 272 Parker Hall at (678) 839-6428.

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<td>8/23 opening</td>
<td>8/25 Myths of Creation: Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, Greece, Rome (139-172)</td>
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| 8/30 **Heroes & Quests**  
Homer, *The Odyssey*, Books 1-4 | 9/1 *Odyssey* Books 5-8                                       |
| 9/6 *Odyssey* Books 9-12 | 9/8 *Odyssey* Books 13-16                                   |
| 9/13 *Odyssey* Books 17-20 | 9/15 *Odyssey* Books 21-24                                  |
| 9/20 David and Goliath (544-49)  
The Ramayana (549-554)  
Hercules in Apollodorus (554-59)  
**Short Paper on the Odyssey due** | 9/22 **Politics**  
Sophocles, *Antigone*  
Intro (635-45)  
Play (645-58) lines 1-417 [up to *Enter Antigone from the side . . . ] |
| 9/27 Finish Antigone | 9/29 “Rulers and Citizens” (selections from 692-714)  
**MIDTERM EXAM THIS WEEKEND** |
| 10/4 **Poetry (6th-3rd century BCE China and 1st century BCE Rome)**  
Lao Tzu (772-783)  
Catullus (793-801) | 10/6 **The Good Life**  
*Bhagavad Gita*  
Intro (922-28)  
Excerpts (928-952) |
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| 10/11  | “The Good Life” (selections from 952-971)                            | 10/13  w day 10/14  
Faith and War  
*The Song of Roland*  
Intro (1328-36)  
Excerpts (1336-1370) |
| 10/18  | “War and Faith” (selections from 1371-1393)                          | 10/20  *The Undiscovered Country*  
Dante, *Inferno*  
Intro (1448-1460)  
Virgil, Book 6 of the *Aeneid* (867-84; lines 294-901) |
| 10/25  | Dante, *Inferno* Cantos I-IV                                          | 10/27  *Inferno* Cantos V-VIII                                       |
| 11/1   | *Inferno* Cantos IX-XII                                               | 11/3   *Inferno* Cantos XIII-XVI                                     |
| 11/8   | *Inferno* Cantos XVII-XX                                               | 11/10  *Inferno* Cantos XXI-XXIV                                     |
| 11/15  | *The Good Place that is No Place* More, *Utopia*                      | 11/17  *Utopia*                                                       |
| 11/22  | thanksgiving                                                          | 11/24  thanksgiving                                                  |
| 11/29  | *Humanism* Excerpts  
Final Paper Workshop                                                     | 12/1   Draft Day / Evaluations                                       |
| 12/6   | – Exam week, no class                                                 | 12/8   – NOTE CLASS TIME: 8-10 am  
Final Class/Final Paper Due |