European Studies 121  
Readings in the European Tradition  
Fall, 2011

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Office Hours: Tuesday 3-4 p.m. and by appointment

SYLLABUS

Course Requirements: You will be required to write six essays of about 5 pages. The essays will be spread evenly over the semester, the first one due on Sept. 23. I will provide an essay topic, but, if you feel you must write on something else, please speak to me about it first.

Besides the essays, regular class attendance and informed participation in class discussions is required.

Required Books Available at the Amherst Bookstore

A. Heidel  
The Gilgamesh Epic and Old Testament Parallels
Homer  
Odyssey (trans. R. Lattimore)
Sophocles  
Sophocles I: Three Tragedies
Plato  
Symposium (trans. Hamilton)
Virgil  
Aeneid (trans. A. Mandelbaum)
Augustine  
Confessions (trans. H. Chadwick)
Dante  
Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
Divine Comedy, 3 vols. (trans. Mandelbaum)

Sept. 7: Introduction

EARLY WANDERINGS

Sept. 9-12: Heidel, Gilgamesh
Sept. 14: Homer, Odyssey, Bks 1-6
Sept. 16: Homer, Odyssey, Bks 7-12
Sept. 19: Homer, Odyssey, Bks 13-18
Sept. 21: Homer Odyssey, Bks 19-24
Sept. 23: Bible: Genesis 2:4-3; Exodus 1-5
Sept. 26: Bible: Exodus 6-15; 19; 33:12-34; Numbers 20:1-13; Deuteronomy 34

RE-FRAMING THE TRIP

Sept. 28-Oct. 3: Sophocles, Oedipus Rex
Sophocles, Oedipus at Colonus

Oct. 8-11: Mid-Semester Break  
(continued)
Oct. 12-17: Plato, *Symposium*  
Oct. 19: Bible: Letter to Hebrews

**A LATIN ODYSSEUS**

Oct. 21-26: Virgil, *Aeneid*, Bks 1-6  
Virgil, *Aeneid*, Bks 7-12

**CHRISTIAN APPROPRIATION**

Nov. 2: Augustine, *Confessions*, Bks 1-4  
Nov. 4: Augustine, *Confessions*, Bks 5-9

**MEDIEVAL TRIPS**

Nov. 7-11: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

**DANTE**

Nov. 14-28: Dante, *Divine Comedy: Inferno*  
Nov. 18: No Class

Nov. 21-25: **Thanksgiving Vacation**

Nov. 30-Dec. 5: Dante, *Purgatorio*  
Dec. 7-12: Dante, *Paradiso*

Dec. 14: Conclusion