

Literary Humanities, Fall 2009, Section 45

Hamilton 304, Tuesday and Thursday, 2:10-4:00 p.m.

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Office hours: 614 Philosophy; Tuesday, 4 - 6 p.m.; Thursday, 11 - 12

- Sept. 8, 10** Homer, *The Iliad*, tr. Fitzgerald (Farrar, Straus) (*not the Lattimore translation used by other sections!*)
- Sept. 15, 17** *The Iliad* (continued); Hymn to Demeter (*Homeric Hymns*, Johns Hopkins)
- Sept. 22, 24** *Gilgamesh* (Penguin); Homer, *The Odyssey*, tr. Fitzgerald (Farrar, Straus) (*not the Lattimore translation of the Odyssey used by other sections!*)
- Sept. 29, Oct. 1** *The Odyssey* (continued); Herodotus, *Histories* (Oxford)  
Readings from Herodotus: Book 1: ch. 1-140; 178-216 (pp. 3-64; 78-94); Bk. II: ch. 1-5; 33-51; 85-90; 112-20 (pp. 95-97; 108-16; 126-28; 137-41); Book III: ch. 1-38; 61-88 (pp. 169-86; 195-208); Book VII: ch. 1-60; 100-152; 187-239 (pp. 404-29; 438-57; 470-88); Book VIII: ch. 111-12; 140-44 (pp. 526-27; 536-40); Book IX: ch. 120-22 (pp. 588-90)
- Oct. 6, 8** Aeschylus, *Oresteia* (Chicago)
- Oct. 13, 15** Sophocles, *Oedipus* (in *Sophocles I*, Chicago); Euripides, *The Bacchae* (in *Euripides V*, Chicago) (*not Euripides' Medea, which is assigned to other sections!*)
- First paper due Oct. 15**
- Oct. 20, 22** Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War* (Penguin)  
Readings from Thucydides: Book I: pp. 35-87; 118-23; Book II: 124-173; Book III: 194-245; Book VI: 414-429, 447-49, 465-70; Book VII: 525-537
- No class on Tuesday, Oct. 27**
- Oct. 29, Nov. 5** Aristophanes, *The Frogs* (in *Frogs and Other Plays*, Penguin) (*not Lysistrata, which is assigned to other sections!*); Plato, *Symposium* (Hackett)
- Nov. 10, 12** Plato, *Symposium* (continued); Genesis
- Nov. 17, 19** Genesis (continued), Job
- Nov. 24** Luke, and additional readings
- Dec. 1, 3** John, Romans, Galatians (*Romans and Galatians are additions to the standard syllabus*)
- Second paper due Dec. 3**
- Dec. 8, 10** John, Romans, Galatians (continued)

*Notes on the reading list:* This section uses a slightly different reading list from the standard Literary Humanities reading list, which means you will need to have four different books from those in the standard set. The four books can all be found at BookCulture on 112th Street; ask for the books for my section of Lit. Hum. These are the differences:

***Iliad:*** We read the translation by **Robert Fitzgerald**, published by Farrar, Straus; not the translation by Richmond Lattimore.

***Odyssey:*** We read the translation by **Robert Fitzgerald**, published by Farrar, Straus; not the translation by Richmond Lattimore.

***Euripides:*** We read his ***Bacchae*** (in the volume *Euripides V*, published by the University of Chicago Press), not his *Medea*.

***Aristophanes:*** We read his ***The Frogs*** (in *Frogs and Other Plays*, published by Penguin), not his *Lysistrata*.

***The Bible:*** In addition to the standard readings, we also read Romans, Galatians, and some other excerpts.

*Requirements:* **Two essays** and a **one-hour final exam** (anyone who needs extra time may have *two* hours to complete the exam); attendance at *every* class. The papers should each be between 1,000 and 1,500 words long; any paper longer than 1,500 words will get a grade of F. Each paper *must* begin (immediately below the title) with a very brief epigraph from one of the works on the syllabus; the opening sentence or sentences of the essay itself *must* directly interpret the words of the epigraph (in other words, do not begin with generalizations and do not begin with any of the varieties of fluff and blather that your high-school teachers encouraged you to use when starting a paper). The rest of the paper must gradually work outward from your opening sentences to an interpretation of a larger part of the book or the book as a whole. In other words, your paper must demonstrate that you can connect the details of a book to its overall meaning and design.

Absolutely no laptops, cell phones, messaging devices, personal information managers, digital assistants, iPods, MP3 players, CD players, video players, game devices, satellite or other radios, portable televisions, still cameras, video cameras, sound recorders, headphones, or global positioning devices; absolutely no electronic devices of any kind unless required for medical reasons. Silent wristwatches only. Absolutely no baseball caps; no head coverings of any kind unless required by your religion or for medical reasons. No passive-aggressive questions (for example, the kind that begin “My problem with this book is” or “Speaking as a”). Bathroom visits during class are strongly discouraged.