

HONORS 1023.703 Western Humanities: Middles Ages and Renaissance Spring 2015

Dr. Priscilla Schwarz

MWF 10:30-11:20 Old Central 201 Group Lectures: same room

Office & Hours: 212 Bartlett Center, MWF 2:30-3:30 by appt.

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Course Description: This interdisciplinary course surveys major cultural developments in Western Civilization during the Medieval and Renaissance periods (the fourth century through the sixteenth century). Specifically, the course will focus on common themes found in the literature, philosophy, drama, and art of this historical period.

Required Reading (available at the OSU Bookstore):

[Anonymous], *Beowulf*, Dover Thrift, 1992, 0-486-27264-8

Boethius, *Consolation of Philosophy*, Dover, 2002, 0-486-42163-5

Dante, *The Divine Comedy*, Volume I: *The Inferno*, Penguin Books, 2013, 9780143124788

Chrétien de Troyes, *Yvain, The Knight of the Lion*, Yale University Press, 1987, 0-300-03838-0

Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Dover Thrift, 1992, 0-486-27274-5

Thomas More, *Utopia*, Penguin Books, 2012, 978-0-141-44232-7

Marguerite de Navarre, *Heptameron*, Penguin Books, 1984, 0-14-044355-X

Fernando de Rojas, *Celestina*, Yale University Press, 2012, 9-78-0300141993

William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*, Bantam Books, 1980, 978-0-553-21307-2(5)

Required Reading (on reserve):

Fred S. Kleiner and Christin J. Mamiya, *Gardner's Art Through the Ages: The Western Perspective*, 13th edition, Thomson Wadsworth, 2010. Chapters 8 and 11 through 18.

Copies are on reserve in the main library, room 105, and in the Visual Resources Library, 106 Bartlett Center.

Requirements: Attend class, do all required readings and contribute to class discussion, four short papers (3-4 pp. Each), one midterm exam, and a comprehensive final exam. Out of 700 points, papers are worth 100 pts., midterm 100 pts., and final 200 points. Letter grades correspond to the following percentages: A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, and F = 59% and below.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken in each class. You are expected to attend all classes. Absences require a legitimate excuse. Inform me via e-mail, phone, or (prior) in person when you are unable to attend because of a legitimate reason (illness, field trip, etc.; for personal issues which keep you out of class repeatedly, make sure you inform your advisor). Absences without a legitimate excuse will be counted against your grade. Missing an exam or paper due date require written documentation.

Class Participation: Class participation is essential for the success of the discussion periods. Students are expected to keep up with assigned readings so as to be involved in each class discussion. The instructor reserves the right to determine how much credit a student receives for class participation.

Papers: Papers must be 3 to 4 pages long (250 words per page, double-spaced). Cite page or line numbers in parentheses for direct quotations. Outside sources require proper end notes. Provide a wordcount with each paper. Late papers (without a prior legitimate excuse) will be docked a full letter grade for each class period they are late. A student will receive an "F" for the course if a plagiarized paper is submitted (please refer to Student Conduct Office's guidelines about plagiarism).

*NO TEXT MESSAGING IN CLASS!

*IF YOU USE A LAPTOP, YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO SHOW ME YOUR NOTES AT THE END OF EACH CLASS if requested...and NO "MULTI-TASKING" WHILE TAKING NOTES IN CLASS (NO FACEBOOK, YOUTUBE, SPLIT SCREENS...)

*CHECK YOUR OKSTATE E-MAIL DAILY!

How to do well in this course? Come to class, do all the requirements, work hard, but also ENJOY all the wonderful literature and art! Apply yourself to the discussions (flex those brain cells!) and find out why all these great works have been favored for many centuries.

WEEK I

Jan. 12: Introduction

14: **Lecture: Dr. Schwarz and Dr. Weimer "Early Christian Art and Church History"**

16: Boethius, *Consolation of Philosophy*, Books 1 and 2

WEEK II

Jan. 19: **No Class – University Holiday**

21: Boethius, *Consolation of Philosophy*, Book 3

23: Boethius, *Consolation of Philosophy*, Books 4 and 5

WEEK III

Jan. 26: **Lecture: Dr. Schwarz "Medieval Art: Anglo-Saxon through Gothic"**

28: *Beowulf*: Sections 1-23

30: *Beowulf*: Sections 24-43

WEEK IV

Feb. 2: **Lecture: Dr. Gethner "Courtly Love and Arthurian Romance"**

4: Chrétien de Troyes, *Yvain, The Knight of the Lion*: lines 1-2318
6: *Yvain*: lines 2319-4532

WEEK V

Feb. 9: *Yvain*: lines 4533-6818
11: **Lecture: Dr. Jones "Introduction to Dante"**
13: Dante, *Inferno*: Cantos 1-6 **PAPER #1 DUE**

WEEK VI

Feb. 16: *Inferno*: Cantos 7-13
18: *Inferno*: Cantos 14-20
20: **Lecture: Dr. Recker "Scholasticism and Aquinas"**

WEEK VII

Feb. 23: *Inferno*: Cantos 21-27
25: *Inferno*: Cantos 28-34
27: MIDTERM EXAM

WEEK VIII

March 2: **Lecture: Dr. Weimer "From Middle Ages to Renaissance"**
4: Rojas, *The Celestina*: Acts 1-8
6: *The Celestina*: Acts 9-21

WEEK IX

March 9: **Lecture: Dr. Schwarz "Art of the Proto-Renaissance in Italy and the Northern European Renaissance"**
11: More, *Utopia*: Letters and Book 1 **PAPER #2 DUE**
13: *Utopia*: Book 2

WEEK X: NO CLASS (March Break)

WEEK XI:

March 23: **Lecture: Dr. Recker "Renaissance Philosophy and Science"**
25: *The Prince*: Chapters 1-12
27: *The Prince*: Chapters 13-26

WEEK XII

March 30: **Lecture: Dr. Jones "Humanism"**
April 1: Marguerite de Navarre, *Heptameron*: Prologue, Day 1 (tales 1-9)

3: *Heptameron*: Day 3 (tales 21-28)

WEEK XIII

April 6: *Heptameron*: Day 4 (tales 37-40) and Day 5

8: **Lecture: Dr. Schwarz "Art of the Renaissance in 15th-century Italy
(Early Renaissance) "**

10: Columbus, selections from letters and journals (handout) **PAPER #3 DUE**

WEEK XIV

April 13: Montaigne, *Essays*, "On Cannibals" and "On Coaches" (handout)

15: **Lecture: Dr. Weimer "Spain and the New World"**

17: Shakespeare, *The Tempest*: Act 1

WEEK XV

April 20: *The Tempest*: Act 2

22: *The Tempest*: Act 3

24: **Lecture: Dr. Schwarz "Art of the Renaissance in 16th-century Italy
(High Renaissance)"**

WEEK XVI

April 27: *The Tempest*: Act 4

29: *The Tempest*: Act 5

May 1: Course review **PAPER #4 DUE**

Final Exam: Friday May 8th 10-11:50 a.m.

Please refer to this website for the Spring 2015 Syllabus Attachment: [http://
academicaffairs.okstate.edu/images/Patty/FacultyandStaffResources/Syllabus/spring
%202015%20syllabus.pdf](http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/images/Patty/FacultyandStaffResources/Syllabus/spring%202015%20syllabus.pdf)