

## English 3315 Classical Literature in Translation

**Instructor:** Dr. Audrey Taylor

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**Office:** Eagle Pass site, B106

**Office Hours:** M 2-5, T 3:30-4:30, W 12-2, Th. 2-6, and by appointment

### Course Description

English 3315 is a study of the masterpieces of ancient literature in translation. We will read and write about mythology, the epic, lyric poetry, and other genres.

### Student Learning Outcomes

1. Student Learning Outcome #1 —Students will be able to construct documents that demonstrate coherence, development, organization, and appropriate/effective grammar, usage, and mechanics.
2. Student Learning Outcome #2 – Students will be able to analyze and interpret literary works by applying principles of critical thinking, literary criticism, or theoretical engagement.
3. Student Learning Outcome #3 – Students will be able to produce researched documents that demonstrate the ability to locate a variety of credible sources, employ them effectively through quotations and paraphrases, integrate them smoothly into the writer's own prose, and document them correctly using the style appropriate to the document.

### Course Outcomes

At the completion of English 3315, students will

- identify a range of works and authors of Ancient Mesopotamia, Greece, Rome, and of medieval Europe
- understand and reflect on different genres ranging from the epic to drama
- explore and gain different perspectives on universal human experiences in a culturally and ethnically diverse world
- conduct primary and secondary research on classical literature to write a documented research paper

### Course Texts

*The Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces*. Expanded Edition. Ed. Maynard Mack. Volume 1. ISBN 9780393963465.

| <b>Assignments</b>             | <b>Deadline</b> | <b>Points</b> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Weekly Questions and Responses | By Sunday       | 200           |
| Themed Paper                   | 9/29            | 200           |
| Midterm Exam                   | 10/20           | 200           |
| Researched Paper               | 11/17           | 200           |
| Final Exam                     | 12/4            | 200           |

## **Assignments**

Lectures: Each week there will be a lecture posted for you to watch and listen to, just as if you were in an in-seat course. Though you are not graded for watching them it is important that you do so. I will sometimes give chances for extra credit, and much of my exam material has prompts within the lectures.

Weekly Discussions: Each week you will need to contribute one discussion question and two replies to fellow classmates by Sunday at midnight. These discussion questions need to be in-depth, thoughtful, and not something that can be answered by a yes or no, or a simple plot explanation.

Themed paper: You will be expected to take a number of texts (2+) and examine them for a theme. You may choose the theme (examples include: love, death, war, etc.) and compare and contrast how the theme is used in each text. 2-4 pages, double spaced.

Researched Paper: You are expected to do research on a story, poem, or play of your choosing, along the lines of my lectures every week. You may choose any work within the book that we have not covered in class. You are expected to use academic, secondary sources (at least 2) and to cite in appropriate MLA or APA formatting. 3-5 pages, double spaced.

Exams: The midterm and final exam will be similar, each covering half of the course. They will consist of short answer questions to check reading, and longer essay questions.

## **Course Policies**

### **Scholastic Honesty**

All work submitted must be your own; the use of sources must be appropriately, correctly, and consistently documented. Quotations, paraphrases, or summaries that are not documented and the use of papers written by others constitute plagiarism.

Three different acts are considered plagiarism:

- (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas,
- (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and
- (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words.

**You may earn a grade of “F” for the course if your work exhibits any of these kinds of scholastic dishonesty.**

### **Course Texts**

In order to succeed in this course, you must read the course texts; not having the text does not constitute an excuse for not completing assignments.

### **Late Papers/Assignments**

To pass the class you must successfully complete and turn in to me each assignment by the due date. If you fail to turn in any assignments, even one, you may earn an F for the course. Late assignments will be penalized and may receive a 0, at the discretion of the instructor.

### **Grade Changes**

Please discuss your grades with me during the semester. There is no extra credit available once the class has finished. You may, however, e-mail drafts of anything (assignments, or questions) to me before the due date for feedback. You may re-do any assignment but the final exam within two weeks of receiving it back to potentially make up points. Once the semester is over and I have entered grades into the system, I will not consider grade changes except where I have made a number miscalculation.

### **Blackboard**

This course requires numerous written assignments, all of which *must* be submitted to Blackboard by the published deadline. Documents must be in Microsoft Word. Please be prepared for electronic failures, last minute issues etc. These are not acceptable excuses for missing a deadline.

### **ADA Statement**

SRSU Rio Grande College is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Disability Services Coordinator assists students with disabilities in gaining opportunities for full participation in programs, services and activities. The Disability Services Coordinator is the Director of Student Services 830-758-5006 in Eagle Pass, Texas.

### **Distance Education Statement**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure

login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

**Reading Schedule (subject to change)**

**Week One 8/26**

Introduction to course and Classical Literature in Translation  
Assignment: Read *Gilgamesh* pp. 13-25

**Week Two 9/2**

Read Akhenaten's "Hymn to the Sun", Genesis 1-3 in *The Old Testament*

**Week Three 9/9**

Read Homer's *The Illiad* Book 1, Book 8-9, Book 18, and Book 22

**Week Four 9/16**

Read Homer's *The Odyssey* Book 1-4

**Week Five 9/23**

**Theme paper due 9/29 by midnight**

Read Plato's *The Apology of Socrates*, and Sappho's "Throned in splendor, deathless, O Aphrodite"

**Week Six 9/30**

Read *Chuang Tzu* ch. 1-6

**Week Seven 10/7**

Read "The Nine Songs", "The Hillwraith", Confucius pp.791-99

**Week Eight 10/14**

**Midterm exam due 10/20 by midnight**

*The Ramayana of Valmiki* Book 2

**Week Nine 10/21**

Virgil's *The Aeneid* Book 1 and 2

**Week Ten 10/28**

Ovid's *Metamorphoses* Book 1, *The New Testament* Mathew 28

**Week Eleven 11/4**

“The Tale of the Ox and the Donkey” from *The Thousand and One Nights*, “Joseph” from *The Koran*

**Week Twelve 11/11**

**Researched Paper Due 11/17 by Midnight**

Choose at least 4 poems from “China’s Middle Period” pp.1288-1329

**Week Thirteen 11/18**

*Beowulf* pp.1550-1570

**Week Fourteen 11/25**

Review

Choose at least three poems from “The Golden Age of Japanese Culture”

**Week Fifteen**

Final Exam due by Wed. Dec. 4 at midnight