Textbooks

In this course, we will use only the following translations. If you have any of these works in another translation, keep it for reference. It may prove useful as a comparative reference.


Course Requirements

Essays

This course requires that you compose two essays, an explication and a comparison. A third essay assignment will be given for extra credit. Detailed descriptions of each of these essays will be distributed at least three weeks before their due dates.
All written assignments must be typed and double-spaced. Use an acceptable font and print size, such as Times New Roman, 12 pt. In this and in other details, your written assignments must fully comply with Modern Language Association standards. If you do not already possess or have ready access to the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* or another style guide that includes MLA standards, you should consider purchasing one. Failure to follow MLA guidelines may result in a lower grade and in having your essay returned to you for revision. A persistent failure to adopt the standard academic practice of citing and documenting sources may prevent you from receiving a passing grade in this course.

The campus Writing Center offers UMCP students free tutorial assistance on written assignments. I encourage you to take advantage of their services.

We all have, at some time or other, computer difficulties. Such difficulties are not, however, a legitimate excuse for turning in late work. Don’t wait until the last minute to do your work! If you do not have a working computer or printer, or if you lack needed software, the Office of Institutional Technology can help you to find a computer or the software that you need.

All written work in this course must be turned in during the class period in which it is due. Electronically submitted work will not be accepted for grading.

Late essays will be reduced one full letter grade for every class period that they are late.

**Exams and Quizzes**

This course requires that you take two exams:

- **Mid-Term**: The first exam will cover the readings in Homer and information provided in handouts or in the context of class lectures and discussions. It will consist of true/false and multiple-choice questions, as well as questions that require you to fill in blanks or provide brief answers.
- **Final Exam**: The final exam is comprehensive, covering the readings and related information provided in handouts or in the context of lectures and discussions. Three brief essays comprise the final exam.

A study guide will be provided no later than one week before each exam. Do not, however, expect this guide to be of much use to you if you have not already prepared yourself by keeping up with the readings and attending the class discussions.

Frequently, throughout the semester, unannounced quizzes will be given at the beginning of the class period. If you come to class late, do not ask for quiz questions to be repeated for your benefit. Each quiz will consist of multiple-choice or true/false questions pertinent to the text to be discussed during that class period. They are designed merely to test your comprehension and recollection of the text and should not be considered as representative of or preparatory to the mid-term and final exams. You may accumulate credit for no more than fifteen quizzes (1 point each), although more than fifteen may be given. If you take more than fifteen quizzes, your total quiz points will be based upon the sum of your highest fifteen scores.
Participation

Discussion of literature requires deliberate preparation. If you do not prepare yourself in advance of the class period by thoughtfully reading the literature required for discussion, you will not be able to make a significant contribution to the learning experience in the classroom. Your course participation will, therefore, be measured in part by your willingness and readiness to contribute to the class discussions.

The use of personal computers during the class period will not be allowed. You should, instead, have the required text with you and open during class discussions. Cell-phones and other electronic accessories should be turned off or muted during the class period.

Students with disabilities should contact Disability Support Services and provide their instructors with an Accommodation Letter before the end of the add/drop period.

Attendance

If you have an excusable absence—such as an absence that can be verified as resulting from an illness or injury or from judicial or military involvement—then you may be able to make up a quiz or turn in an otherwise late assignment without penalty. It is your responsibility to make certain that I receive sufficient information or documentation to excuse your absence or inability to turn in work on time. If you have an excused absence, I will be glad to meet with you during my office hour or some other scheduled time to answer any questions that you might have regarding the class lecture that you missed.

Once attendance has been taken, no changes will be made in the attendance record until after the class period. You must approach me after class, if you wish me to make a change in the record. If you enter the classroom late, please do so quietly, without causing any interruption.

Academic Integrity

On each essay and exam, students must write by hand and sign the following:

I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this essay (or exam).

Academic integrity is a requirement of this course, as it is a requirement of every course in the University of Maryland. Please see the UMCP Code of Academic Integrity provided on the website of the Student Honor Council. I maintain a policy of zero tolerance for any form of academic dishonesty. Allegations of academic dishonesty should be reported directly to the Student Honor Council (301-314-8450).
Grading

Final grades have the following numerical values and denotations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Range</th>
<th>Denotation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97/100</td>
<td>4.0 denotes excellent mastery of the subject and outstanding scholarship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-96/100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92/100</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89/100</td>
<td>3.3 denotes good mastery of the subject and good scholarship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86/100</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82/100</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79/100</td>
<td>2.3 denotes acceptable mastery of the subject and the usual achievement expected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76/100</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72/100</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69/100</td>
<td>1.3 denotes borderline understanding of the subject. These grades denote marginal performance, and they do not represent satisfactory progress toward a degree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63-66/100</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-62/100</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59/100</td>
<td>0 denotes failure to understand the subject and unsatisfactory performance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this course, it is possible to earn 100 points. To earn 100% is, therefore, to earn 100 points. The points are divided as follows:

**Essays: 40%**

An Explication of the Iliad 15%
- A+ (15) / A (14.25) / A- (13.8) / B+ (13.2) / B (12.25) / B- (12.3) / C+ (11.7) / C (11.25)
- C- (10.8) / D+ (10.2) / D (9.75) / F (0-8.25)

A Comparative and Evaluative Essay 25%
- A+ (25) / A (23.75) / A- (23) / B+ (22) / B (21.25) / B- (20.5) / C+ (19.5) / C (18.75)
- C- (18) / D+ (17) / D (16.25) / D- (15.5) / F (0-13.75)

Extra-Credit Essay 10%
- A+ (10) / A (9.5) / A- (9.2) / B+ 8.8 / B (8.5) / B- (8.2) / C+ (7.8) / C (7.5)
- C- (7.2) / D+ (6.8) / D (6.5) / D- (6.2) / F (0-5.5)

**Exams: 40%**

Mid-Term Exam 15%
Final 25%

**Quizzes: 15%**

**Participation: 5%**