

English 103A Western Literature**Fall 2012**

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English 103 meets the M2 (Literature) requirement for LinC. English majors pursuing teacher certification may count one course from among English courses 101-105 as an elective in the English major.

Course Objectives

- To study selected major works in the literature of the Western world, most written originally in ancient or modern foreign languages but read for this course in English translations
- By studying these works, to understand better the roots and evolution of Western society, its distinctiveness as a culture, and one's relationship to it
- To become more aware of one's own expectations of and responses to both Western literature and literature generally
- To develop skills in literary analysis
- To practice the oral and written communication of ideas

Required Texts

Mack, Maynard, et al., ed. *The Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces*. 5th Continental ed. New York: Norton, 1987. Print.

Course Requirements**Proposals (25%)**

Five proposals for course readings will be submitted to the instructor electronically according to the schedule outlined on page 4 of this syllabus and forwarded by the instructor to all students in sections A and B of English 103. Each 90-100 word proposal will recommend from among all the readings in the designated anthology section at least 20 pages for class study the following week and try to persuade our community of readers to agree with the choice. Each proposal will be graded by the instructor and worth 5% of the final grade. All proposals will be read by members of both English 103 sections prior to a class discussion and choice at the first class meeting of the following week (Monday for the B section and Tuesday for the A section). After the Tuesday class meeting, the instructor will make the final decision between the choices of sections A and B, if different, and communicate electronically to all students the assigned reading for the subsequent class meeting.

Research Essay (20%)

A three-page essay (500-750 words) on the influence of Dante's *Inferno* on a later writer or artist, supported by reference to at least one passage from Dante's work and at least two sources dealing with a later creative work influenced by Dante, will be due on Thursday, September 27. The essay will be documented in the format prescribed by the Modern Language Association (MLA), including parenthetical in-text citations and a works-cited page separate from and in addition to the minimum three pages of discursive text.

Mid-term examination (20%)

A mid-term examination on Thursday, October 11, will address readings studied from anthology sections dealing with the Ancient World and the Middle Ages.

In-class Essay (10%)

After viewing the conclusion of a filmed production of Moliere's *Tartuffe* on Thursday, November 1, students will have 30 minutes to write a response to a question about the production.

Final examination (25%)

A comprehensive final examination will be administered on Tuesday, December 11, at 8:30 a.m.

Grading

The final grade will, in general, be calculated according to the weighted values listed above. Late work will be penalized. A missed examination may be re-scheduled at the discretion of the instructor for a valid, documented reason (for example, a medical or family emergency or a college-related commitment approved by the instructor by prior arrangement). The instructor will apply both quantitative and qualitative judgments in determining grades for individual assignments and for the course.

Grading equivalents:

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	94-96	B	84-86	C	74-76	D	64-66
A-	90-93	B-	80-83	C-	70-73	D-	60-63
						F	0-59

The instructor's determination of a student's final grade will also be informed by the student's classroom performance. Four aspects of scholarly behavior are considered in assessing classroom performance. (1) Attendance and attention are basic. Students are expected to attend class regularly. Absences and lateness will be noted and will negatively affect the grade. (2) Just showing up, however, is not enough. Attention to class proceedings is also expected, as well as active participation in class discussions and other class activities. Success in these areas will depend on timely completion of reading assignments and other preparations for class meetings. (3) Leadership may be demonstrated in a variety of ways in both whole-class and small group settings, for

example, framing questions for class or small group discussion, summarizing class discussions, or reporting results of group discussions. (4) Collaboration is equally important, especially in contributing to group work, such as discussions, reading aloud, and problem-solving. Performance activities and table readings of dramatic scenes are further examples of demonstrated teamwork.

Academic Honesty

Students in this course should refer to the statement on academic honesty at Moravian College in the current *Student Handbook*, available online. Students must retain copies of all written work submitted to the instructor, as well as all notes, drafts, and materials used in preparing assignments. These are to be made available for inspection by the instructor at any time. Questions about appropriate collaboration, proper documentation, and other honesty issues can be confusing. If in doubt, ask the instructor.

FYI

- This syllabus, including the schedule of readings, writing assignments, and examinations that follows, is subject to change.
- Assigned readings should be completed prior to the class meeting noted on the following schedule.
- In order to be successful, students should expect to work at least six hours per week outside of class in preparation.
- Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Academic and Disability Support, at 1307 Main Street or by calling 610 861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

Proposal Schedule

1. Excluding works by Homer and Virgil, recommend for assigned reading in English 103A and B at least 20 pages from “Masterpieces of the Ancient World.”* The proposal is due electronically by 4 p.m. on September 7.**
2. Recommend for assigned reading in English 103A and B at least 20 pages from “Masterpieces of the Renaissance.”* The proposal is due electronically by 4 p.m. on October 12.**
3. Recommend for assigned reading in English 103A and B at least 20 pages from “Masterpieces of the Nineteenth Century: Varieties of Romanticism.”* The proposal is due electronically by 4 p.m. on November 2.**
4. Recommend for assigned reading in English 103A and B at least 20 pages from “Masterpieces of the Nineteenth Century: Realism, Naturalism, and the New Poetry.”* The proposal is due electronically by 4 p.m. on November 9.**
5. Recommend for assigned reading in English 103A and B at least 20 pages from “Masterpieces of the Twentieth Century: Contemporary Explorations.”* The proposal is due electronically by 4 p.m. on November 30.**

* Section titles refer to Mack, Maynard, et al., ed. *The Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces*. 5th Continental ed. New York: Norton, 1987. Print.

** Send proposals to reidm@moravian.edu.

Spring 2012 Schedule of
Readings, Writing Assignments, and Examinations for EN 103A

Enter student-selected reading assignments (found in *The Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces*) as they are announced by the instructor. Students will be responsible for these assignments at subsequent class meetings and on mid-term and final examinations. **Boldface** indicates graded work.

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| Aug. | 28 | Introduction to the course |
| | 30 | Homer, from <i>The Iliad</i> : Book XVIII. [The Arming of Achilles], pp 111-128, and Virgil, from <i>The Aeneid</i> : Book VIII. [The Shield of Aeneas], pp 536-541 |
| Sept. | 04 | Homer, from <i>The Odyssey</i> : Book XI. A Gathering of Shades, pp 227-246, and Virgil, from <i>The Aeneid</i> : Book VI. [Aeneas in the Underworld], pp 529-536 |
| | 06 | Reader's choice from other Homer and Virgil selections (about a page to be read aloud and discussed) |
| | 07 | Proposal #1 due electronically |
| | 11 | Discussion of proposals and choice |
| | 13 | Student choice #1 _____ |
| | 18 | Dante, <i>The Inferno</i> , Introduction and Cantos I-V, pp. 752-787 |
| | 20 | <i>Inferno</i> , Cantos VI-XIII, pp. 787-821 |
| | 25 | <i>Inferno</i> , Cantos XIV-XVIII, pp. 821-841 |
| | 27 | <i>Inferno</i> , Cantos XIX-XXIII, pp. 841-863 |
| Oct. | 02 | <i>Inferno</i> , Cantos XXIV-XXVIII, pp. 863-884 |
| | 04 | <i>Inferno</i> , Cantos XXIX-XXXIV, pp. 884-911 |
| | 11 | Mid-term examination |
| | 12 | Proposal #2 due electronically |
| | 16 | Discussion of proposals and choice |
| | 18 | Student choice #2 _____ |

- 23 Moliere, *Tartuffe*, Introduction and Acts I-II, pp 1400-1433
- 25 *Tartuffe*, Acts III-V, pp 1433-1462
- 30 Film of *Tartuffe*
- Nov. 01 Conclusion of film; **in-class essay**
- 02 **Proposal #3** due electronically
- 06 Discussion of proposals and choice
- 08 Student choice #3 _____
- 09 **Proposal #4** due electronically
- 13 Discussion of proposals and choice
- 15 Student choice #4 _____
- 20 Pirandello, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, Act I, pp 2151-2175
- 27 *Six Characters*, Act II, pp 2175-2191
- 29 *Six Characters*, Act III, pp 2191-2201
- 30 **Proposal #5** due electronically
- Dec. 04 Discussion of proposals and choice
- 06 Student choice #5 _____
- 12 **Final examination @ 8:30 a.m.**