

**World Literature I**  
COLI 110 Section 05  
Fall 2009  
Tuesday/Thursday 4:25-5:50 p.m.  
Student Wing 329

Instructor: Shelly Jansen  
Office: Library Tower 1509A  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-3pm or by appointment  
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(when e-mailing, please put "COLI 110" in the subject line)

**Course Description:**

This course will focus on representations of issues such as sexuality, civilization, transformations, identity, and violence in literature. We will engage with numerous texts from a variety of different cultures, both Western and Eastern. We will expand our readings beyond mere plot, and instead focus on various themes and issues present in the texts as well as in our own lives: gender roles, fate and chance, individual and society, freedom and enslavement, boundaries and borders, etc. We will question the very nature of literature, what it does, how it works, and why we are drawn back to older texts. What can we still learn from them centuries later about life, our society, and ourselves? Through close textual readings we will analyze literature's nuances and structures, and attempt to create our own unique theses about them. Using these observations of the texts, students will develop key critical and scholarly skills to craft an analytical essay with a clear thesis, focus, and structure.

**Required Texts:**

**Books in the bookstore:**

Euripides 4 Tragedies

Aristophanes – 4 plays

Edward the Second by Christopher Marlowe

Duchess of Malfi by John Webster

Symposium by Plato

Canterbury Tales by Chaucer

Titus Andronicus by Shakespeare

**E-Reserve/Blackboard:**

Selections TBD

**Course Requirements:**

**Attendance – All students are expected to attend AND participate in classroom discussion.** Participation and attendance will be major factors in your final grade. Students are

expected to fully engage with and challenge the texts as well as their peers. You will be allowed **2** absences throughout the semester without consequence. Additional absences will lower your **final grade** half of a letter grade per additional class missed (e.g. if you miss 3 days of class and would have had an A, you will receive an A- for your final grade). If you know you are going to be late or absent from class, please discuss with me either via email or after class.

**Essays** - This course fulfills the Composition requirement and thus will be a writing intensive class. Students will be required to write two short essays, each 4-5 pages in length, and one final 6-7 page paper. In addition, students will write three short (1-2 page) response papers. These response papers will either be in-class exercises or will be homework to be incorporated into in-class group work to facilitate classroom discussion. There will be no mid-term or final exams. After handing in the short essays, I will then hand them back to you for revision. Rewrites will be due **1 week** after you receive my revisions. Your grade for that assignment will be an average of the original draft and the final rewritten version. Late papers will be marked a ½ grade lower for each day they are late.

All papers must be typed, double-spaced pages in 12 point Times New Roman font with one inch margins. Essays should be free of any spelling and grammar errors. In addition, remember to cite any works that you reference using the MLA format, which can be found at the Glenn G. Bartle website: <http://library.lib.binghamton.edu/search/citing.html>. Plagiarism is unacceptable and will be punished. If you are caught plagiarizing, you will automatically fail that assignment. Please feel free to ask me any questions regarding plagiarism and academic honesty or see the University’s Student Handbook for more information.

**Grading:**

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D	Less than 70

Attendance – 100 points  
 3 Response Papers (1 page each) – 25 points each  
 Paper 1 (4 pages + rewrite) – 100 points  
 Paper 2 (4 pages + rewrite) – 100 points  
 Paper 3 (7 pages) – 125 points

Total = 500 points

**Tentative Schedule** (Instructor reserves the right to make changes at any time during the semester.)

Week One:

- 9/1 T Introduction to course
- 9/3 R Aristophanes’ *Lysistrata*

Week Two:

9/8 T Aristophanes' *Clouds*

9/10 R Plato's *Symposium* (last class before add/drop deadline)

Week Three:

9/15 T Plato's *Symposium*

9/17 R **In-Class Writing Assignment**

Week Four:

9/22 T Sophocles' *Antigone*

9/24 R Euripides' *Hippolytus*

Week Five:

9/29 T Euripides' *Alcestis*

10/1 R Euripides' *Medea*

Week Six:

10/6 T Film - *Medea*

**Short Paper 1 Due**

10/8 R **No Class – I will be at a conference in Utah.**

Week Seven:

10/13 T Excerpt from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*

10/15 R Greek & Latin poetry – TBD (BB)

Week Eight:

10/20 T **In-Class Writing Assignment**

10/22 R *Duchess of Malfi*

Week Nine:

10/27 T *Duchess of Malfi*

10/29 R *Duchess of Malfi*

Week Ten:

11/3 T *Canterbury Tales*

11/5 R *Canterbury Tales*

Week Eleven:

11/10 T *Edward the Second*

11/12 R *Edward the Second*

**Short Paper 2 Due**

Week Twelve:

11/17 T *Everyman* (BB)

11/19 R *Second Shephard's Play* (BB)

Week Thirteen:

11/24 T *Titus Andronicus*

11/26 R **No Class – Happy Thanksgiving!**

Week Fourteen:

12/1 T *Titus Andronicus*

12/3 R **In-Class Writing Assignment**

Week Fifteen:

12/8 T Film - *Titus*

12/10 R Film - *Titus*

**Final Paper Due Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**