

**Huron University College**  
**ENG 2695E 550:**  
**Backgrounds and Foundations in English Studies**  
**2021-2022**

Class Meetings: M 3:30-5:30; W 2:30-3:30 Phone: 519-438-7224, ext.221  
Location: HC-W108 Office: HUC-V129  
Instructor: Dr. Scott Schofield Office Hours: F 10:30-12 or by  
E-mail: sschofi4@uwo.ca appointment

***Prerequisite(s):*** At least 60% in 1.0 of any English and Cultural Studies course, or permission of the Department.

***Course Description:***

This course introduces students to some of the more famous texts, myths, and models from the early Judeo-Christian and classical Greek, Roman and Middle Eastern traditions. Authors and texts to be studied include: selections from Homer, *The Odyssey*, Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, Virgil, *The Aeneid*, *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, The Old and New Testament, and the Greek drama of Euripides and Sophocles. In addition, we will also consider select instances of later writers who turn to classical and biblical backgrounds for their own literary, philosophical or theoretical works.

***Learning Objectives:***

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Develop effective strategies of close reading through various class assignments.
- Gain a broad understanding of the major traditions and works that inform much of Western Literature
- Develop an understanding of narrative structures and vocabularies present in the different traditions and genres covered in the course.
- Explain how a text may rely for meaning on a web of inter-relationships with other texts.
- Gain a sense of periodization and place for the various works studied.
- Gain an understanding of the oral and textual traditions connected to the various works on the course.
- Construct a coherent argument (i.e. a thesis) about the texts they have read.
- Write logically and persuasively in fluent, standard English using the appropriate MLA conventions for scholarly-critical writing.
- Locate and engage with secondary critical readings.
- Balance and integrate criticism with their own analysis of the primary texts.

**Required Texts:**

All titles listed below are available at the Western bookstore.

Euripides, *Euripides 1. Alcestis, Medea etc.* Translated and Edited by Mark Giffith et al. Chicago UP. Paperback

*Genesis.* Translated with Commentary by Robert Alter. Norton. Paperback

Homer, *The Odyssey.* Translated and Edited by Emily Wilson. Norton. Paperback or Digital.

Ovid, *The Metamorphoses.* Translated and Edited by Charles Martin. Norton. Paperback or Digital.

Sophocles, *Sophocles 1: Antigone, Oedipus the King etc.* Translated and Edited by Mark Griffith et al. Chicago UP. Paperback

Virgil, *The Aeneid.* Translated and Edited by Sarah Ruden. Revised Edition. Yale UP. Paperback

**Some additional readings will take the form of links and PDFs.**

**Assessment:**

**Attendance, Participation and Workshops: Regular Weekly Exercises 15%**  
Students are expected to attend and participate regularly throughout the course. There are various ways to participate, including: answering questions in class, engaging in workshops, and coming to office hours.

A note on workshops: One hour of each week will be reserved for group exercises and workshops. It is expected that you take these moments seriously and that your contribution is both thoughtful and considerate. Some workshops will be devoted to working on critical analysis and writing, while others will focus on research and presentation skills.

**NOTE: Any students unable to attend synchronous class sessions due to international travel restrictions must identify themselves to Academic Advising and the instructor. An alternative assessment rubric may be developed.**

**In Translation Assignment (October 25) 1500 words 15%**  
For this assignment, students will examine a section from three different English translations of Homer's *Odyssey*. Various translations will be placed on reserve at Huron.

**Midterm Test (December 1) 50-minute test 10%**  
The midterm test will cover material studied in the first term.

**Proposal and Annotated Bibliography (February 16) 2000 words 15%**

For this assignment, you will produce a 500-700 word-proposal for your final, comparative essay. The proposal should include a clear statement of what you plan to write on, how you plan to develop your topic, and some sense of why your proposed topic matters. In addition, you will produce an annotated bibliography of a dozen secondary sources in MLA format. Annotations should be approximately 200 words each.

**Essay 2 (March 28) 2500 words 20%**

A comparative essay of two works studied in the course. The topic will be based on the proposal submitted in February.

**Final Exam 3-hour 25%**

The final examination (25%) will cover material from both terms. The date of the final examination is to be set by the Registrar during the formal examination period.

***Essay and Assignment Format:***

All written assignments should be double-spaced and printed in a standard font. Please follow Modern Languages Association (MLA) format. Here is a link to the UWO Library's up-to-date MLA style guidelines:

<https://www.lib.uwo.ca/files/styleguides/MLA.pdf>

Students are responsible for retaining back-up copies of their papers and of their notes and drafts.

***Late Essays and Assignments:***

All essays and assignments are due on OWL, by midnight on the specified date (see above). Essays and assignments submitted after the due date will receive a penalty of 2% per day (including weekends). No essay or assignment will be accepted later than seven days after the original due date unless prior, special arrangements have been made with the instructor. **Essays are to be submitted as MS Word docs (converted to PDF files), on OWL. Late essays will probably not receive extended commentary.**

***Class Schedule***

***Introduction:***

Sept 8: Ancient Stories in Visual Art – In Class Discussion

***In the beginning***

Sept 13/15

- Creation Myths. Selections from Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, Book 1 and Parts of *The Epic of Gilgamesh* (PDF)
- *Genesis*

Sept 20/22

- *Genesis*

### ***Epic 1: The Long Trip Home***

Sept 27/29

- Homer, Selections from *The Iliad* (PDF)

Oct. 4/6

- Homer, *The Odyssey*

Oct 11/13

- Homer, *The Odyssey*

Oct 18/20

- Homer, *The Odyssey*

### ***An Interlude (1)***

October 25/27

- Homer, *The Odyssey*
- **In Translation Assignment due (October 25)**

November 1/3 Reading Week.

Nov 8/10

- From Atwood, *The Penelopiad* (PDF)
- From Walcott, *Omeros* (PDF)

### ***On stage***

Nov 15/17

- Greek Theatre 1: Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex*

Nov 22/24

- Greek Theatre 1: Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex*

Nov 29/Dec 1

- Greek Theatre 2: Euripides, *Medea*
- **In-class Test (December 1)**

Dec 6/8

- Greek Theatre 2: Euripides, *Medea*

## **Winter Semester**

### ***Epic 2: The Roman Perspective***

Jan 3-12

- Virgil, *The Aeneid*

Jan 17/19

- Virgil, *The Aeneid*

Jan 24/26

- Virgil, *The Aeneid*

### **Epic 3: *Challenging the Norm***

Jan 31/Feb 2

- Ovid, *Metamorphoses*

Feb 7/9

- Ovid, *Metamorphoses*

### ***An Interlude (2)***

Feb 14/16

- Auden, "Musee des Beaux Arts" Field, "Icarus" (online)
- **Proposal/Annotated Bibliography Due (February 16<sup>th</sup>)**

### **Reading Week**

Feb 28/Mar 2

- Ovid, from *Metamorphoses*

March 7/9

- Ovid, from *Metamorphoses*

### ***An Interlude (3)***

March 14/16

- The Gospels (selections)
- In-Class Discussion: Reimagining Myth: T.S. Eliot's "Journey of the Magi"

March 21/23

- The Gospels (selections)

### ***A New Beginning***

March 28/30

- The Gospels (selections)
- **Final Essay Due (March 28th)**

**Final Exam: TBA**

## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022**

### **Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### **Pandemic Contingency**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

### **Student Code of Conduct**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/exam/attendance.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf).

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf). The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf).

### **Turnitin.com**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf) are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

#### **(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

#### **(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca).**

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca) for any further questions or information.

### **Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western**

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: [huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)

Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Chaplaincy: [gthorne@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:gthorne@huron.uwo.ca)

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.