

Philosophy 3800 Philosophy in Literature Fall 2018

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Old Main 202E

Class Time Tuesday/Thursday 12—1:15

MAIN 117

Office Hours Tuesday 1—3
Thursday 11—3

Texts: Virgil, **The Aeneid**, Robert Fitzgerald trans.
Dante, **The Divine Comedy** Allen Mandelbaum trans.

We will not read all of either of these books. Of the Aeneid we will read only the first six books. Of the Divine Comedy what we will read is in the outline below.

Requirements: you will write 6 two page papers on topics that are attached with due dates. There will be a 4 question midterm and a 5 question final. Both will be take home. Each question on the exams should take about a page. Thus there will be about 20 pages of writing. Each paper will be worth 100 points. The exams will be worth 150 points. Thus there will 900 points possible. I will offer two extra writing assignments. If you do 1 extra assignment I will drop your lowest score. If you do 2 I will drop your lowest 2 scores. **This does not count for exams**

By the second week of the term there will be a canvas page

Classes and Topics

August

28 Introduction to class

30 Virgil and the Aeneid

September

4 The Trojan War

6 Aeneid Book 1

11 Aeneid Book 1

13 Aeneid Book 2
18 Aeneid Book 3
20 Aeneid Book 3
25 Aeneid Book 4
27 OUT OF TOWN

October

2 Aeneid Book 5
4 Aeneid Book 6
9 Purcell, Dido and Aeneas
11 Dante and his background
16 The Divine Comedy
18 The Inferno Cantos 1—2
23 The Inferno Cantos 3—4
25 The Inferno Cantos 9—11
MID TERM PASSED OUT
30 The Inferno Cantos 25—27

November

1 The Inferno Cantos 30—34
6 The Purgatorio Cantos 1—2
MID TERM DUE
8 The Purgatorio Cantos 16—18
13 The Purgatorio Cantos 26—33

15 The Paradiso Cantos 1—3

20 The Paradiso Cantos 10—13

27 The Paradiso Cantos 14—18

29 The Paradiso Cantos 23—27

December

4 The Paradiso Cantos 30—33

6 Conclusion

PAPERS TOPICS AND DATES

1 AT THE END OF BOOK III OF THE AENEID VIRGIL WRITES:

“ WHEN AFTER THIS I PUT TO SHORE, GOD DROVE ME TO YOUR SHORES (THIS IS AENEAS) SO IN HIS TALE BEFORE THE ATTENTIVE CROWD. AENEAS’ SINGLE VOICE RECALLED THE FATES DECREED BY HEAVEN AND HIS WANDERING. HE FELL SILENT AT LAST AND MADE AN END” PAGE 91 WHAT IS BEING TAUGHT HERE AND DO YOU AGREE?

DUE SEPTEMBER 20

2. IN BOOK IV OF THE AENEID WE SEE THE TENSION BETWEEN LOVE AND DESTINY. DESCRIBE IT AND ANSWER “DID AENEAS MAKE THE BEST CHOICE”

DUE OCTOBER 4

3..IN CANTO 19 OF THE INFERNO DANTE RAILS AGAINST SIMONY. SUMMARIZE WHAT THIS IS. WHAT IS HIS FIRST EXAMPLE OF THIS AND WHAT EXAMPLE DOES HE GIVE TO SHOW ITS EVIL

DUE OCTOBER 18

4 WHAT IS LUTHER’S IDEA OF “IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS” AND HOW DOES THE IDEA OF PURGATORY DIFFER?

DUE NOVEMBER 8

5. VIRGIL AND BEATRICE REPRESENT REASON AND FAITH. WHAT IS DANTE’S VIEW OF THEIR RELATION. DO YOU AGREE WITH HIS VIEW OF PHILOSOPHY AND FAITH

DUE NOVEMBER 20

6. DESCRIBE THE CLASSIC CHRISTIAN VIEW OF THE TRINITY AND ONE OF THE HERESIES DESCRIBED IN CANTO 13 OF THE PARADISO

DUE DECEMBER 4

EXTRA POSSIBILITIES

7 WHO IS STATIUS AND WHAT ROLE DOES HE PLAY IN THE PURGATORIO ?

8. IN CANTO XXVI OF THE PARADISO ST. JOHN TALKS ABOUT LOVE, WHAT DOES HE SAY LOVE IS?

GRADING GRID

GRAMMAR ERROR 2 POINTS OFF

SPELLING ERROR 2 POINTS OFF

UNCLEAR 5 POINTS OFF

ORGANIZATION 5 POINTS OFF

IF THE QUESTION ASKS FOR YOUR VIEW AND YOU DON'T GIVE IT 5 POINTS OFF