

Abridged Syllabus: Prof. Nancy F. Regalado
Full syllabus and additional information on Blackboard

V55.0401.001 - Conversations of the West: Antiquity/Middle Ages - Spring 2007

SCHEDULE OF READINGS, WEB POSTINGS, QUIZZES, & PAPERS

Required readings to be completed before the first lecture date.

Assigned books should be brought to every lecture and recitation.

- Jan 16, 18** Hebrew Bible [Old Testament]: **Genesis; Exodus**
Library Quest: **Petrarch's Secretum**: ► **Written Report (1 page) due 1/18**
- Jan 23, 25** **Genesis; Exodus; Deuteronomy**, 30-34; **Job**, 29-31, 38-42;
Augustine, **Confessions**, Bk. III, p. 40, Parag. v (9); Bk. VI, p. 94-96, Parag. IV (6-8); Bk. XIII, pp. 258-72, Parag. xvii-xxxii (24-43). Chaucer, **Miller's Tale**
- Jan 30, Feb 1** Sophocles, **Antigone**; *Coursebook*: "Theatron"; Aristotle, **Poetics**, Ch. 6-18, "On Tragedy";
Blackboard: Hamilton, "**The Royal House of Thebes**"
- **QUIZ #1**: **Spot quotes posted by 1/30; Responses by 2/3; Quiz: Thurs. Feb 8 in lecture**
- Feb 6, 8** Plato, **Symposium; Republic**, "The Allegory of the Cave". *Blackboard*: Aristophanes, **The Clouds**; Plutarch, **Life of Alcibiades**.
- Feb 13, 15** Virgil, **Aeneid**, Bks I-VI; Aeneas' shield, VIII, ll. 485-955; Nisus and Euryalus, IX, ll. 232-97; Death of Turnus, XII, ll. 886-127. *Coursebook*: Homer, **The Iliad**, Bk. 18, Achilles' shield. *Blackboard*: Simone Martini, **Frontispiece** to Petrarch's copy of Virgil; **Aeneid**, Bk. II, tr. Robert Fagles, **Introduction**, Bernard Knox.
- Feb 20, 22** Virgil, **Aeneid**; Augustine, **Confessions**, Bk. I, pp. 15-23, Parag. xiii (20)-xx (31)
- **PAPER #1 - Sections 2, 3 (Applegate) due Fri. 2/23; Sections 4, 5 (Wodnicka) due Mon. 2/26**
- Feb 27, Mar 1** NT: **Luke, Acts, Matthew, 1; Mark, 1; John, 1; Romans, 1-13; Revelation 21-22;** OT: **Isaiah 53, 61**
- Mar 6, 8** Augustine, **Confessions**, Bks. I-IX; NT: **Romans 13**
- **QUIZ #2**: **Spot quotations posted by 3/6; Responses by 3/9; Quiz: Thurs. Mar 22, in lecture.**
► **Extra-credit assignment #1 - due by Tues. Mar. 20**
- Mar 20, 22** **The Letters of Heloise and Abelard: Historia calamitatum; The Personal Letters**, 1-4; Abelard, **Confession of Faith**, p. 279; **Letters of Peter the Venerable & Heloise**, p.275-88.
- Mar 27, 29** Chrétien de Troyes, **Erec and Enide**; *Coursebook*: Marie de France, **Prologue & Guigemar**
- Apr 3, 5, 10** Dante, **The Divine Comedy: Inferno**. *Coursebook*: **Purgatorio II**, citation of Dante's own lyric; "Amor, che ne la mente." *Blackboard*: Dante: **Inferno I** in Italian, tr. Hollander
- **PAPER #2 - Sections 2, 3 (Applegate) due Fri. 4/13; Sections 4, 5 (Wodnicka) due Mon. 4/16**
- Apr 12, 17, 19** Chaucer, **Prologue, Knight's Tale, Wife of Bath's Prologue + Tale; Nun's Priest's Tale**
NT: **Corinthians 7, 12-15;**
- Apr 24, 26** Christine de Pizan, **The City of the Ladies**, selections
- **Extra-credit assignment #2 - due by Thurs. May 3**
► **May 3 EXAM** Spot quotations posted by 4/20; Responses by 4/27
Final Exam Thurs. May 3, 12 noon-1:50 PM, in Silver 206.

Course Objectives:

Our goal is to join a great chain of readers and writers from antiquity and the Middle Ages, linking it to our own time. Reading important works from antiquity and the Middle Ages, we will study how each author rereads and rewrites works from the past to represent his or her own beliefs, ways of knowing, and ideas about the world. We will "listen in" on conversations in antiquity, as Greek poets and playwrights read and argue with each other, as Christians reread the Hebrew Bible, as Virgil seeks to outdo Homer, and as Augustine moves from philosophy to Christian belief. How were these pagan and Christian works read in the Middle Ages? Like Augustine, the medieval writers and readers we will encounter are men and women of passion and desire. They receive the classical legacy as a storehouse of authority and truth but radically reinterpret it to fit their own systems of belief, intermingling it with Celtic and Christian legends, with songs of love, and with stories of their own daily lives.

Readings: Hebrew Bible [Old Testament]: Genesis, Exodus, passages from Isaiah; Euripides, *Antigone*; Plato, *Symposium*, Virgil, *Aeneid*; New Testament: Luke, Acts, passages from Romans and Revelation; Augustine, *Confessions*; Heloise and Abelard, *Letters*; Chrétien de Troyes, *Erec and Enide*; Dante, *Inferno*; Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*; Christine de Pizan, *The City of Ladies*.

Blackboard [BB]: Course Information, Web Postings, Email (home.nyu.edu >Academics >BB classes)

Graded Requirements and Assignments (% of grade)

- Attendance and class participation are required at all lectures and section meetings (25%)
- Lecture: 2 quizzes + final exam based on student-selected quotations & comments posted on BB (25%)
- Sections: 2 papers (25%), weekly response papers + web postings (20%), presentation (5%)

Make-up policy: You must notify Prof. Regalado or your preceptor by telephone or E-Mail if you will not be able to attend a class because of a religious holiday or illness. You must contact your preceptor if you are unable to hand in a paper on time. No late work will be accepted without prior clearance.

Extra credit: Satisfactory and timely completion of 2 extra-credit assignments can raise your grade one step (eg. B- to B; B+ to A-) -- see suggestions below)

READINGS (Available at the NYU Bookstore and on Reserve in Bobst Library)

REQUIRED BOOKS:

Be sure to buy the edition indicated so we will all be on the same page in class!

[Please check the last 4 digits of the ISBN number on back of title page or back cover].

- *The Oxford Study Bible* (green cover), eds. M. Jack Suggs et al. (Oxford UP, 1992) [0003 or 0004]
- **Plato.** *The Symposium*, tr. Christopher Gill (Penguin Classics, 2003) [7538]
- **Sophocles.** *Sophocles I: Oedipus the King; Oedipus at Colonus; Antigone*, tr. David Grene (U Chicago P, 1991) [7923]
- **Virgil.** *The Aeneid*, tr. Allen Mandelbaum (Bantam, 1981) [0415 or 0416]
- **Augustine.** *Confessions*, tr. Henry Chadwick (Oxford UP: World's Classics, 1992) [3723]
- *Letters of Heloise and Abelard*, tr. B. Radice; Intro. M. Clanchy (Penguin Classics, 2004) [8993]
- **Chrétien de Troyes.** *Arthurian Romances*, tr. Wm. W. Kibler (Penguin Classics, 1991) [5213]
- **Dante.** *The Divine Comedy I; The Inferno*, tr. Mark Musa (Penguin Classics, 2002) [7223]
- **Chaucer.** *The Canterbury Tales*, tr. A. K. and C. Hieatt (Bantam Classics, 1982) [0828]
- **Christine de Pizan.** *The Book of the City of Ladies*, tr. E. Jeffrey Richards (Persea, 1998) 2306]

Required Photocopy Materials

COURSEBOOK (New University Copy, 11 Waverly Pl.) and on Reserve in Bobst Library

"Professor Regalado, Conversations of the West: Antiquity/Middle Ages"

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS.

Submit to Professor Regalado: Due dates: #1 by Tues. 3/20' #2 by Thurs. 5/3.

Satisfactory and timely completion of 2 extra-credit assignments can raise your grade one step (eg. B- to B; B+ to A-).

Extra-credit assignments should be well-written reports (1-2 pp.) on worthwhile and interesting undertakings. They are intended to encourage you to follow the themes of our course and your own interests independently out into all that the University, the city, the library, and the Internet offer. To encourage others to follow your footsteps, you may choose to post your reports on our E-mail Discussion List..

1. **CONVERSATIONS around town:** Write a descriptive or evaluative commentary about a museum, lecture, concert, movie, building, or exhibit related to the themes of Conversations Antiquity/Middle Ages. Additional announcements will be posted by E-Mail and on our Blackboard Bulletin Board..
 2. **Second-guessing:** Which of the "Suggested Additional Readings" would you have chosen for the Conversations/Antiquity-Middle Ages? To replace which book? You may also propose a work not on the list or review a new translation of a classic, such as Robert Fagles' new translation of Virgil's *Aeneid*.
 3. **Interesting Websites** Find a Website relevant to the readings and goals of Conversations of the West. Consider the criteria for evaluation at <<http://library.nyu.edu/research/tutorials/evaluate/>>. Write and post a descriptive and evaluative commentary explaining your choice.
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