

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
ENGL 3222 Classical Literature: Heroes of the City of Man
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

A survey of Classical Literature and an analysis of how key stories shaped the Western World. By studying the poets of the ancient world, we will find the roots of our Western tradition, the roots of our heritage, the roots of our Greco-Roman soul. Paris. Achilles. Hector. Odysseus. Oedipus. Apollo. Dionysus. Zeus. Athens. Sparta. Troy. Rome. All the bright landscapes of heaven, all the dark and narrow spaces of Hades, and all the “wine-dark” seas are images that began to construct that vast and noble biography of Man. G. K. Chesterton tells us, “The centre [of civilized history] was the Mediterranean; which was not so much a piece of water as a world.” He further explains that “the gradual building up of a common culture running round all coast of this inner sea is the main business of antiquity.” Why is it that the stories of these gods, heroes, and empires are still with us today? What about these stories still haunts us? In short, it is the purpose of this course to begin to answer such questions, specifically from a Christian viewpoint.

Curricular Mapping:

This course will continue to develop student skills specifically in the area of literary analysis and understanding. It will also develop critical thinking skills as students synthesize the historical, literary, and theological elements in the study of mythology and the classical world.

Course Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the major periods of history, genres, and works in Classical literature in order to demonstrate an understanding of the elements of style and subject matter in the Ancient Literature of the West, through both written and oral response.
2. Identify and analyze the cosmology of the ancient world and compare it to modern views of the universe.
3. Identify and analyze the basic metaphysical elements in Classical Literature, including some of the philosophy of each time period studied, by identifying and analyzing examples of these philosophies in the writings of the authors.
4. Critique these ancient pagan metaphysical elements from a Christian vantage.
5. Discuss the origins of drama in the Western world.
6. Compare and contrast the ancient Greek and Roman theatre with the renaissance and modern theater.
7. Identify and analyze the roots of our moral and political philosophies, understanding the consequences of ideas.

8. Develop the ability to interpret literature and complex ideas.
9. Recognize, discuss, and write about universal themes in literature.
10. Compare and contrast different poetic devices such as simile, metaphor, symbol, allegory, irony, alliteration, consonance, assonance, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, personification, allusion, epic simile, and epithet.
11. Identify, define, and analyze point of view, setting, tone, characterization, conflict, plot, climax, chronological order, motif, archetype and, yea, so much more.

Texts:

- Your necessary digital texts for this class will be part of a “Required Course Materials Fee” thru the EdTech bookstore. This is a bundle purchase of digital texts for your full schedule of classes and will be available for purchase after 7/18/16. For further instructions please visit the [16-17 School Year](#) icon on the MVCS homepage. Please note: some courses may require additional purchases outside of the course materials fee.

Grading:

<u>Grade Book Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Homework	20%	Quarter	45%
Classroom Discussion & Diligence	20%	Quarter	45%
Essays, Tests, & Quizzes	60%	Final Exam	10%

High School Standard Grading Policy:

Please refer to the policy and procedures posted online in our Parent-Student Handbook.

Class Policies:

1. *Attendance:* You are responsible to make up any missing work due to your absence. Please turn in work before you leave for a planned absence. Please check the blog when you have missed a class.
2. *Tardy:* You must be in your seat with your course materials before the bell rings to be considered timely.
3. *Classroom etiquette:* We expect responsibility and respect (to us and your peers); those are the prerequisites to godly success (“Honor your father and mother, that it may go well with you in the land”; “Love your neighbor”; “Do all things as unto the Lord”). Offenders can expect a warning, extra assignments, and (if it persists) an infraction.

4. *Late Work*: Late homework (aside from excused absences) receives a 50% grade reduction. Late essays and projects receive a 20% grade deduction for day one and 10% reduction (beyond the 20%) each day following.
5. *Plagiarism/Cheating*: This is treated in the Student Handbook. If you have any questions about this topic, read the handbook and ask your instructor or an administrator. Know that Bedford 55 presents strategies for avoiding plagiarism. For any plagiarism, intentional or accidental, the instructor will issue an infraction and a zero for the assignment.
6. *iPads*: These are tools for learning. You may not play video games, message friends, or otherwise get off task. Please edit your auto-notifications to turn off such impositions; they will distract you. If you finish an assignment early, read your next book or review your memorization or notes. Those who are distracted will need to leave their iPad with their teacher or Mrs. Larson for the class or day and will receive an infraction.

School Policies and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs):

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student's responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.