



Assignment and Guidelines for Final Project

Classical Roots of Western Literature • Summer 2004

ASSIGNMENT: For your final project, you will investigate antiquity’s influence on a modern work of literature in a 4 to 5-page academic paper. Preferably, this is a favorite work, one with which you are intimately familiar, and passionately eager to discuss with your peers. As this is a formal academic paper, it is critical that your paper focus on explicating the influence of the Classical Tradition rather than on plot summary or personal reactions to the work. **The rubric for how papers will be evaluated is available on-line.**

COMPONENTS: 1) A brief description of the project; 2) A first draft of your project; 3) An evaluation of a peer’s project; 4) A class presentation on your project; 5) A final version

PROCESS:

	Percentage	Due Date
1) Select a modern work that you find both personally and/or intellectually compelling and in which you notice the influence of the Classical Tradition (emulation, allusion, rivalry, and/or expansion). Please feel free to discuss possible topics with me as soon and as often as you would like.		
2) Inform me of your selection by emailing a ~ 200 word description of your project. I will provide feedback or guidance as appropriate and may suggest we meet to discuss the project. I will authorize your project via email by Tuesday, July 27th .	5%	EMAIL Before 9AM, Monday, July 26th
3) Write your first draft. A first draft should not be “rough.” It should contain the same level of argumentation and polish as a final version. The first draft should conform to the “formalities” listed below and follow the guidelines in the <i>Checklist for Papers</i> .		
4) Submit 2 copies of your first draft. Include an accurate <i>Checklist for Papers</i> for each. I will evaluate one copy; a peer will evaluate the other.	25%	9AM Thursday, July 29th
5) Evaluate a peer’s project using the “Peer Review” form distributed in class. Additional copies are available on-line.	25%	9AM, Monday August 2nd
6) Consider my suggestions and those of your peer reviewer. Consider how to incorporate these suggestions and your further considerations into your final draft.		
7) Revise. Revise. Revise. And then revise again. Never revise your writing on the computer. Always print out drafts for editing and consideration. It is simply too easy to miss errors of argumentation and style when reading an essay on a computer. Pay special attention to the suggestions on the <i>Checklist for Papers</i> .		
8) Prepare class presentation. Your presentation should provide a brief introduction to the author and work, your reasons for selecting the work for your project, and an analysis of the influence of the Classical Tradition on the work. Since you will have no more than 15 minutes to present your project to your classmates, carefully consider how best to present your material.	15%	9AM, Friday, August 6th
9) Submit revised, final version of project. Include all materials (description, both drafts, peer review form, and final draft).	30%	9AM, Friday, August 6th

DUE DATE: Multiple – see above, “PROCESS”

FORMALITIES:

- **4 to 5 pages + title page** that includes your name, my name, the course name, and an **interesting** title. *N.B.* a 4 to 5-page paper must include 4 to 5 pages of your writing; **footnotes, title page, and bibliography do not count towards this figure.** Conversely, don’t pile information that is critical to your argument into footnotes to squeeze the paper down below the page limit.
- **Single-sided; double-spaced; Times 12 pt.;** top and bottom margins: 1”; side margins: 1.25” (MS Word defaults to these settings) w/ **page numbers on bottom of page.**
- **Footnotes** (not endnotes). **Follow the style guidelines (for quotations, citations, footnotes, etc.) in the *Chicago Manual of Style*** (available in the REFERENCE section of the library).
- **Stapled in upper left-hand corner with a complete and accurate *Checklist for Papers* attached.**

As always, don’t hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. **BONAM FORTUNAM!** (Good luck!)