Syllabus

Instructor: Jay Elliott (jelliott@uchicago.edu)
Instructor's Office Hours: Cobb 514 Tuesday 3:00 - 5:00pm
Writing Intern: Adam Shapiro (adams@uchicago.edu)

Course Description

We do not have complete control over our lives. Our plans can be upset by chance and disaster. We depend upon other people, and they depend on us. We are limited creatures who are often unable to achieve what we want. Ultimately, we all die. Is it possible to be happy in this life? Is this world just? If we're not happy is that unjust? If the world isn't just, can we be? This course examines ancient thought about death, chance, happiness, and justice.

The following books have been ordered at the Seminary Co-Op Bookstore:
Sophocles, *Oedipus the King*, etc. David Grene, tr. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press)
Plato, Five Dialogues. G. M. A. Grube, tr. (Indianapolis: Hackett)
The Bible, Authorized King James Version (Oxford: Oxford University Press)

The following materials are on e-reserve:

Assignments

Your work for this course will consist of three papers. Each paper is to be 5 pages long. Paper topics will be suggested. You are not required to write on one of the suggested topics. However, if you do not choose to write on one of the suggested topics, you must meet with either the instructor or the writing intern and have your topic approved. Furthermore, if you decide to devise your own paper topic, your paper must have the following format: a close reading of a line, a sentence, a few sentences, or at most a paragraph from one of the texts we have discussed in class. In no case, whether you are writing on an assigned topic or on a topic of your own, may you make use of any texts or materials other than ones we have discussed in class.

You are welcome to submit your papers by email; please send them both to the instructor and to the writing intern. If you are not submitting your paper by email, then please submit two copies to the instructor's mailbox in Classics 17. Papers are due by 5:00pm on the days indicated on the schedule.
Grading
Each of your papers will be read by both the instructor and the writing intern. Your grade is, however, ultimately the responsibility of the instructor. If you have a question about your grade please speak to him.
Your grade for the course will be determined by your grades on the three papers according to the following formula:
First paper: 30%
Second paper: 30%
Third paper: 40%
You will be given both a number grade and a letter grade for each paper. Only the numerical grade is taken into account in determining your final grade. Numerical grades correspond to letter grades as follows:
A 10.0-9.5
A- 9.4-9.0
B+ 8.9-8.7
B 8.6-8.3
B- 8.2-8.0
C 7.9 or below

Participation both in class and in the writing section is required, but is not graded.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is strictly forbidden: the writing and the argument of your paper must be your own. If I suspect that you have violated the University's honor code, I will discuss the matter with you privately and decide based on our conversation whether it needs to be reported to the College authorities. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please do not hesitate to ask either the instructor or the writing intern.
Schedule

**Week 1 (Sept. 28 & 30)**

**T** Introduction. *Iliad* Book I.1-100: What is the *Iliad* about?

**TH** *Iliad* I.1-311
- III. 121-242
- V. 274-469, 711-909
- VI.37-65, 369-529
- XII.307-328

**Week 2 (Oct. 4, 5 & 7)**

**M** Film Screening: *Full Metal Jacket* (Stanley Kubrick, director; 1987)

**T** *Iliad* IX.1-429
- X.202-502
- XI.1-162, 218-247, 369-395
- XVI.1-100, 692-867
- XVIII.354-616

**TH** *Iliad* XIX.1-144, 384-424
- XXII.1-360, 395-515
- XXIII.1-611
- XXIV.1-119, 322-804

**Odyssey** XI.385-540

**Week 3 (Oct. 12 & 14)**

**T** Aeschylus, *Eumenides*
- Focus on: 143-177, 307-397, 470-484, 490-565, 683-706, 848-869

**TH** Sophocles, *Antigone*

**First paper topics distributed**

**Week 4 (Oct. 19 & 21)**

**T** Plato, *Euthyphro*
- Focus on: 3b3-3d2, 4b7-4c4, 5c6-5d5, 5e2-6a5, 7b6-7d5, 10b7-12a1, 12e5-15c11

**TH** Plato, *Apology of Socrates*
- Focus on: 17a1-18a5, 19d5-23b9, 24c3-26a8, 28b3-33b7, 34b6-35d9, 36b5-38a7, 38d3-42a4

**Week 5 (Oct. 26 & 28)**

**M** First paper due 5:00PM
T Plato, *Crito*
Focus on: 43c4-44d8, 45c5-45d7, 46b1-51c6, 54b2-54e2

TH Plato, *Republic I*
Focus on: 328c5-335e6, 338c1-344c7, 345e6-347e2, 349b1-350c1, 351a7-354a10

**Week 6 (Nov. 1, 2 & 4)**
M Film Screening: *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* (John Ford, director; 1962)

T Plato, *Republic II*
Focus on: 357a1-360d9, 362e2-366d7, 368c6-374e3, 376d9-383c7
Plato, *Republic III* 386a1-392a1

TH Plato, *Republic VII*
Focus on: 514a1-521b11, 527d1-530c3, 531d1-535a1, 537d6-539d2,

**Second paper topics distributed**

**Week 7 (Nov. 9 & 11)**
Focus on: 1448a1-1448b25, 1449b24-1452a11, 1452b29-1454b14, 1455a22-1455b24, 1460b8-1461a9, 1461b9-1462b16

TH Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics I*
Focus on: 1094a1-1094b28, 1095a13-1095b6, 1095b14-1096a2, 1096a11-1098a19, 1098b30-1100a31, 1100b22-1101b7, 1102a5-1103a10
*Nicomachean Ethics X.*6-8

**Week 8 (Nov. 16 & 18)**
M Second paper due 5:00PM

T Aristotle, *Physics* II.1-8
Focus on: 192b8-192b32, 193a9-193b18, 194a12-194a33, 194b16-195a26, 195b31-196a18, 196b10-197b13, 198a5-198a32, 198b18-199b7, 199b27-33

TH Aristotle, *Metaphysics* XII
Focus on: 1069a18-1069b28, 1071b4-1071b22, 1072a21-1072b29, 1074b1-1075a4

**Third paper topics distributed**

**Week 9 (Nov. 23)**
T Gospel According to Matthew
Focus on: 1; 4.1-11; 4.23-7.29; 9.9-17; 10-11; 18-19; 22.15-21; 24; 25.31-28.20
Gospel According to John 15.9-27

TH Thanksgiving
Week 10 (Nov. 30)
T Paul, Letter to the Romans

Augustine, *City of God* XIX.4 (excerpt)

TH Reading Period

Week 11
W Third paper due Dec. 8 5:00PM