



Course Syllabus

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## Course Syllabus

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### Welcome to Classics 210: Foundations of Ancient World Literature

Welcome to Classics 210: Foundations of Ancient World Literature

My name is Dr. Jeff Rydberg-Cox from the UMKC English Department. I have been at UMKC since 2001 and is director of the Classics program and also director of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program. I will hold a regular office hours every week on Monday and Wednesday between 10:00 – 11:00 and also between 12:15 and 1:15.

The preferred way to reach me is via e-mail at rydbergcoxj@umkc.edu. His phone number is 816-235-2560 and his office is located in Room 107 of Cockefair Hall. I am also happy to answer questions via e-mail and is available by appointment outside of regular office hours.

I do my best to respond to e-mail within one business day but sometimes it can take up to two business days because of my other teaching, research and administrative responsibilities. I generally don't read work e-mail on weekends.



### Course Catalog Information

Catalog Description:

Classics 210: Foundations of Ancient World Literature I.

This course studies ancient world literature such as The Descent of Inanna, Egyptian love poetry, Hebrew Scriptures, the epics of Homer and Virgil, the Analects of Confucius, and the Oriental wisdom of Laozi. The course also considers ancient creation epics such as the cosmic battle between Marduk and Tiamat, the Metamorphosis of Ovid, and the great Indian epic The Ramayana. Cross Listings: WLD-LIT 210.

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisites or exclusions: None

Attributes: Online Certified, EUREKA Undergraduate Research, Focus A – Arts and Humanities, PACE Section

Format: LEC

Instructional Mode: Online Asynchronous Instr



## Books and Materials

There are no books to purchase for this class. All readings for the quizzes will be made available to you either online via the UMKC Library or in the Course Content section of Blackboard. You can access the Course Content section using the menu in the right hand sidebar.



## Course Schedule Overview

The course will be divided into five content units

1. Ancient Epic: August 22 - September 25
2. Greek Tragedy: September 26 - October 23
3. Gilgamesh: October 24- November 9
4. Ancient Tales of Creation: November 10 - December 7
5. A semester long research unit on ancient oil lamps.



## Evaluation and Grading Criteria

The first four units will consist of an introductory reading with basic information about the genre that you are studying. This will be followed by readings from ancient literary texts with quizzes over the reading and discussion board postings where you reflect on your readings and interact with your classmates. Quizzes and discussion board assignments will be worth ten points each.

Quizzes are open book and you may collaborate with others in class but everyone must complete a quiz using their own Blackboard account. You may take each quiz two times and your highest score will count towards your final grade. Quizzes are drawn at random from a question pool. If you retake a quiz, you will get a different set of questions.

In the summer of 2016, UMKC received a gift of ancient oil lamps that date from 300 BCE to 600 CE. This class has an undergraduate research component that will involve either working with Dr. Rydberg-Cox in the library or working remotely on a research project related to ancient lamps.

This component of the course will be worth fifty points. If you are working on campus, you will earn the points for this portion of your grade by working with Dr. Rydberg-Cox to catalog and describe these lamps in the library for four hours during the semester. If you are working remotely, you will earn the points for this portion of your grade by reading an ancient literary text and writing a 250-500 word paper about the descriptions of lamps and other artificial sources of light in that text.

You will earn an A for 93-100 percent, an A- for 90-92 percent, a B+ for 87-89 percent, a B for 83-86 percent, a B- for 80-82 percent, a C+ for 77-79 percent, a C for 73-76 percent, a C- for 70-72 percent, a D+ for 67-69 percent, a D for 63-66 percent, a D- for 60-62 percent and an F for anything below 60 percent.



## Detailed Schedule of Course Assignments

All assignments will be made available in the Week By Week Section of the course that you can access via the left hand sidebar.

### 1. Ancient Epic: August 22 - September 25

Self Introduction Discussion Board Post: Due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on August 26.

Background Reading on the Iliad and Odyssey. Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on August 31.

Readings from the Odyssey. Books 1 - 4. Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 on September 5. Original post in discussion board due by 11:59 PM on September 5, peer response to other's due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on September 7.

Readings from the Odyssey. Books 5-8. Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 on September 12th. Original post in discussion board due by 11:59 PM on September 12, peer response due in discussion board by 11:59 PM on September 14.

Readings from the Odyssey. Books 9 - 12. Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 on September 19. Original post in discussion board due by 11:59 PM on September 19, peer response due in discussion board by 11:59 PM on September 21.

### 2. Greek Tragedy: September 26 - October 23

Extra Credit Lecture Opportunity: Bryan Dorries lecture at the Tivoli 6:00 - 9:00 on Monday, September 26. Alternate extra-credit reading assignment available for those who cannot attend.

Background reading on Greek Tragedy Quiz Due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on September 28

Prometheus Bound. Quiz Due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on October 3; Original post in discussion board due by 11:59 PM on October 3; Peer Response due in discussion board by 11:59 PM on October 5.

Oedipus the King. Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on October 10; Original post in discussion board due by 11:59 PM on October 10; Peer response due in discussion board by 11:59 PM on October 12.

~~Medea.~~ CHANGED TO Bacchae Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 on October 17; Original post in discussion board due by 11:59 PM on October 17; Peer response due in discussion board by 11:59 PM on October 19.

### 3. Gilgamesh: October 24- November 9

Background reading on Gilgamesh. ~~Quiz~~ Discussion board posting due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on October 26

Gilgamesh Books 1 - 5. Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on ~~October 31~~ November 1; Original Discussion Board post due by 11:59 PM on ~~October 31~~ November 1; Peer response due in discussion board by 11:59 PM on ~~November 2~~ November 3.

Gilgamesh Books 6 - 11. Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on November 7; Original Discussion Board post due by 11:59 PM on November 7; Peer response due in discussion board

by 11:59 PM on November 9.

4. Ancient Tales of Creation and Change: November 10 - December 7

November 16: ~~Hesiod~~. CHANGED TO HESIOD THEOGONY ONLY Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on November 16

November 30: ~~Enuma Elish & Genesis~~. CHANGED TO HESIOD'S WORKS AND DAYS AND OTHER HESIODIC WORKS Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on November 30

December 7: Innana and Demeter. Quiz due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on December 7

In addition to this weekly schedule, you will be required to consult with Dr. Rydberg-Cox to determine whether you will work with the lamps in person in the library or complete a literary assignment. Further information about this assignment will be posted to Blackboard during the second week of class after everyone has had time to settle in to their schedule.



### Late Work Policy

I will accept late work in this course with a 25% deduction from your grade if the quiz is less than seven days late and a 50% deduction from your grade if the quiz is seven or more days late.

**The last assignment in the course is due on December 7. In order to meet my grade submission deadline, I cannot accept any late work after December 14th and I cannot give grades of 'incomplete' for this course.**



### Course Assignments Subject to Change

**Please note that course assignments may change during the semester. All changes will be posted to Blackboard announcement section and sent to your UMKC e-mail address.** It is each student's responsibility to check their UMKC student email address and Blackboard regularly while enrolled in this course. The UMKC student email address will be used to disseminate regular, timely, and important information about the course and the student will be held accountable for any information sent via email.



### Resources and Policy Statements

#### Resources & Policy Statements

**Academic Calendar:** Students are encouraged to review important add, drop or withdraw dates:  
<http://www.umkc.edu/registrar/acal.asp>

**Academic Honesty:** The Board of Curators of the University of Missouri recognizes that academic honesty is essential for the intellectual life of the University. Faculty members have a special obligation to expect high standards of academic honesty in all student work. Students have a special obligation to adhere to such

standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism or sabotage, is adjudicated through the [University of Missouri Student Conduct Code](#) and [Rules of Procedures in Student Conduct Matters](#). (*Academic units may have additional student codes of behavior to be referenced, i.e. Honor Codes.*)

**Academic Inquiry, Course Discussion and Privacy:** University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy is described fully in [Section 200.015 of the Collected Rules and Regulations](#). In this class, students may not make any audio or video recordings of course activity (including those recordings prepared by an instructor), except students permitted to record as an accommodation under Section 240.040 of the Collected Rules. All other students who record and/or distribute audio or video recordings of class activity are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of Section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters. Those students who have written permission from the course instructor to record are not permitted to redistribute any audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded, including those recordings prepared by an instructor. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of Section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend and participate in classes. Advance notice of attendance policies of academic units and individual instructors should be given, and such notice should be in writing. Students should notify instructors of excused absences in advance, where possible. Students who have an excused absence are expected to make arrangements with instructors for alternative or make-up work. Such arrangements should be made in advance of the absence, where possible. Instructors should accommodate excused absences to the extent that an accommodation can be made that does not unreasonably interfere with the learning objectives of the course or unduly burden the instructor. Attendance policies shall be applied in a non-discriminatory manner.

**Campus Safety:** Inclement weather, mass notification, and emergency response guide: <http://www.umkc.edu/umkcalert/>

**Counseling and Health Services Available at UMKC:** UMKC students may experience many challenges in their lives while attending college – stress, depression, suicidality, trauma, relationship issues, health concerns, etc. As your professor I care about your success and well-being, and want to make you aware of some helpful resources on campus. The UMKC Counseling Center ([www.umkc.edu/counselingcenter/](http://www.umkc.edu/counselingcenter/)), located at 4825 Troost in Room 206, offers a wide range of supportive services to students. Appointments can be made by calling 816.235.1635. UMKC Student Health and Wellness (<http://info.umkc.edu/studenthealth/>), located at 4825 Troost in Room 115, offers a full range of health care and promotion services. Appointments can be scheduled online or by calling 816.235.6133. The MindBody Connection ([www.umkc.edu/mindbody/](http://www.umkc.edu/mindbody/)) is located in the Atterbury Student Success Center in Room 112 and offers a variety of stress-reduction services.

**Disability Support Services:** To obtain disability related accommodations and/or auxiliary aids, students

with disabilities must contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (OSSD) as soon as possible. To contact OSSD, call (816) 235-5696. Once verified, OSSD will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. For more information go to:

<http://www.umkc.edu/disability/>

**English Proficiency Statement:** Students who encounter difficulty in their courses because of the English proficiency of their instructors should speak directly with their instructors. If additional assistance is needed, students may contact the UMKC Help Line at 816-235-2222 for assistance.

**Grade Appeal Policy:** Students are responsible for meeting the standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. The establishment of the criteria for grades and the evaluation of student academic performance are the responsibilities of the instructor.

The [University grade appeal procedure](#) is available only for the review of allegedly capricious grading and not for review of the instructor's evaluation of the student's academic performance. Capricious grading, as that term is used here, comprises any of the following:

- The assignment of a grade to a particular student on some basis other than the performance in the course;
- The assignment of a grade to a particular student according to more exacting or demanding standards than were applied to other students in the course; (Note: Additional or different grading criteria may be applied to graduate students enrolled for graduate credit in 300- and 400-level courses.)
- The assignment of a grade by a substantial departure from the instructor's previously announced standards.

**Discrimination Grievance Procedures for Students:** Discrimination Grievance Procedures for Students can be found here:

[http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/rules/collected\\_rules/grievance/ch390/grievance\\_390.010](http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/rules/collected_rules/grievance/ch390/grievance_390.010)

**Statement of Human Rights:** The Board of Curators and UMKC are committed to the policy of equal opportunity, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability and status as a Vietnam era veteran. Commitment to the policy is mentored by the [Division of Diversity, Access & Equity](#), but it is the responsibility of the entire university community to provide equal opportunity through relevant practices, initiatives and programs.

**Title IX:** Under the University of Missouri's Title IX policy, discrimination, violence and harassment based on sex, gender, and gender identity are subject to the same kinds of accountability and support applied to offenses based on other protected characteristics such as race, color, ethnic or national origin, sexual orientation, religion, age, ancestry, disability, military status, and veteran status. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources by visiting UMKC's Title IX Office webpage (<http://info.umkc.edu/title9/>) or contacting UMKC's Title IX Coordinator, Mikah K. Thompson (816.235.6910 or [thompsonmikah@umkc.edu](mailto:thompsonmikah@umkc.edu)). Additionally, you can file a complaint using UMKC's online discrimination complaint form, which is located at <http://info.umkc.edu/title9/reporting/report-online/>.

While most UMKC employees are required to report any known or suspected violation of Title IX, students may seek confidential guidance from the following campus locations:

<p><b>UMKC Counseling Service</b></p> <p><b>Volker Campus</b> 4825 Troost Ave, Suite 206 Kansas City, MO 64110</p> <p>Phone – (816) 235-1635</p>	<p><b>UMKC Counseling Service</b></p> <p><b>Health Sciences Campus</b> Health Sciences Building 1418 2464 Charlotte Kansas City, MO 64108 Phone – (816) 235-1635</p> <p>(open Tuesdays, 1-5pm)</p>	<p><b>Student Health and Wellness</b> 4825 Troost Ave., Suite 115 Kansas City, MO 64110 Phone - (816) 235-6133</p>
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**UMKC Connect:** Important information is available to undergraduate students in UMKC Connect accessed through Blackboard. Throughout the term, students may receive emails regarding course grades or academic performance. Students are expected to address information posted in a timely fashion. This information may be shared with the student's Success Network made up his or her academic advisor(s) and other campus resources so that UMKC may fully support the student's success.

### College of Arts & Sciences Course Policies & Resources

Please refer to the following web page and the linked resources for critical information regarding course policies and resources. You are expected to abide by all the rules and regulations regarding student conduct referenced in these pages.

<http://cas.umkc.edu/CPR/>



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