

**IDH 2930**  
**Homer - The Iliad**  
**Spring 2020**  
**Tuesday Period 8 (3:00 PM - 3:50 PM)**  
**Little Hall 0117**

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**INSTRUCTOR:** DR. CHRYSOSTOMOS KOSTOPOULOS, Turlington Hall 2326B, (352) 294-7146, [CKOSTOPO@UFL.EDU](mailto:CKOSTOPO@UFL.EDU)

**OFFICE HOURS:** M, T, W, TH PERIODS 3 AND 4 OR BY APPOINTMENT

**COURSE CONTENT:** For more than twenty-five centuries, Homer's Iliad has profoundly influenced the art and literature of Europe and it is considered one of the milestones of Western Civilization. It is a monumental artistic achievement, admired and still imitated by artists and writers today. Although many students are probably familiar with parts of the story of the Iliad through previous courses or its depiction in popular culture in movies, TV shows, and video games, (such as *Troy* [2004], the Netflix series, *Troy: Fall of a City* [2018], or *Assassins Creed: The Odyssey* [2018] among others), very few if any have read the work in its entirety.

The purpose of this course is to read the Iliad and introduce the students to the world of Homer. In addition to reading the story we will also examine its historical context, the values of the Homeric society, its economy, politics and the Homeric religion. We will also focus on important selected passages and will analyze their content, the major plot lines, the main characters and their development.

This course requires no previous knowledge of Homer's Iliad or of Greek poetry.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- To help students develop an appreciation of the importance and continued influence of the Iliad in literature and art from the ancient times and up to the present day.
- To enable students to practice close readings and informed literary analysis and criticism, including considerations and interpretations of character, plot, and structure.
- To help students develop a better understanding of the religious, political, and social background of the Iliad with particular attention paid to the way history is reflected in ancient legends and mythology.

**TEXTBOOK:** Homer. *The Iliad*. Tr. by Robert Fagles. New York: Penguin, 1990

Assignment	Assignment Description	Grade
<b>Class Group Presentation</b>	<p>In order to foster cooperative learning and an in-depth study of a particular topic of interest, students will be responsible for making a group class presentation at the end of the semester. Each group will consist of 4-5 students and the presentation will be 20 minutes maximum.</p> <p>The topic of the presentation will be an overview and an analysis of the group's favorite episode from the Iliad.</p>	500
<b>Attendance and Participation</b>	Attendance and participation in lecture	500
<b>Total Points</b>		1000

## GRADING SCALE

**Grade Scale\***                      **Grade Value**

930-1,000 = A	A = 4.0
900-929 = A-	A- = 3.67
870-899 = B+	B+ = 3.33
830-869 = B	B = 3.00
790-829 = B-	B- = 2.67
750-789 = C+	C+ = 2.33
720-749 = C	C = 2.00
690-719 = C-	C- = 1.67
660-689 = D+	D+ = 1.33
620-659 = D	D = 1.00
600-619 = D-	D- = 0.67
0-599 = E	E = 0.00

\*Because Canvas cannot round to whole numbers, the Grade Scale in Canvas has been adjusted to achieve the same effect (e.g., 92.5% = A, 89.5% = A-, 86.5% = B+, etc.).

More information on grades and grading policy is available in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#).

## Course Schedule

### Week 1 January 7

**Introduction.** Homeric Question and Oral Poetry. The historical context of Homeric Poetry.

### Week 2 January 14

**Books 1-2.** Achilles' anger. Agamemnon's dream and the plan of Zeus.

### Week 3 January 21

**Books 3-4.** The duel of Paris and Menelaus. The guilt of Helen and Aphrodite's intervention. Internal conflicts among the Greek leaders.

### Week 4 January 28

**Books 5-6.** Diomedes *Aristeia*. The Guest tradition among Greeks. The story of Bellerophon. Wedding traditions among Greeks.

### Week 5 February 4

**Books 7-8.** Ajax fights with Hector. Hector's triumph.

### Week 6 February 11

**Books 9-10.** The embassy to Achilles. The characters of Diomedes and Odysseus.

### Week 7 February 18

**Books 11-12.** Agamemnon's *Aristeia*. Hector reaches the wall of the Achaeans.

### Week 8 February 25

**Books 13-14.** Greek gods and their role in the Trojan War

### Week 9 Spring Break

Week 10 March 10

**Books 15-16.** The Trojans come close to victory. The death of Sarpedon. The death of Patroclus.

Week 11 March 17

**Books 17-18.** Struggle over the body of Patroclus. Thetis and Achilles. The shield of Achilles.

Week 12 March 24

**Books 19-20.** The end of Achilles' anger. Anger turns to rage.

Week 13 March 31

**Books 21-22** Rage and savagery. The death of Hector.

Week 14 April 7

**Books 23-24** Funeral games for the burial of Patroclus. Achilles and Priam

Week 15 April 14

Group Presentations

Week 16 April 21

Group Presentations

### **ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES, RULES AND RESOURCES**

1. **All readings, written assignments and exams must be completed by or on the date indicated on the syllabus and will not be rescheduled or accepted late.** Requests of any special accommodations must be made to the course instructor in writing and in advance of the class or exam time.
2. **Class attendance is required for this course and constitutes 50% of your grade.** I will regularly circulate an attendance sheet, which you should sign. Signing for others is considered academic dishonesty. Repeated absences may affect your performance on final exam and quizzes since they will be based on the class lectures. Also missing class means possibly missing quizzes and late submission of homework assignments.

According to the Office of the University Registrar, "acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as

music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused.”

For further information about the University of Florida’s attendance policy, please see the current Undergraduate Catalogue (<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationattendance.html>).

3. **Common Courtesy:** Cell phones and other electronic devices must be set to vibrate mode during class. Students who receive or make calls or text messages during class will be asked to leave and marked absent for the day. The instructors may ask a student engaging in disruptive behavior, including but not limited to whispering or snoring, to leave the class, and the student will be marked absent for the day.
4. **Counseling Resources:** Resources available on-campus for students include the following:
  - a. University Counseling and Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd, 392-1575;
  - b. Student Health Care Center, 392-1161; and
  - c. Dean of Students Office, 202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261, [umatter.ufl.edu](mailto:umatter.ufl.edu)
5. **Course Evaluation:** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at [evaluations.ufl.edu](http://evaluations.ufl.edu). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

### *Students Requiring Accommodations*

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

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### *University Honesty Policy*

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor

and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### ***Software Use***

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

### ***Student Privacy***

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

### ***Campus Resources:***

#### ***Health and Wellness***

#### **U Matter, We Care:**

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:** <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

#### **Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)**

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

**University Police Department** at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or

<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

#### ***Academic Resources***

**E-learning technical support**, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

**Career Resource Center**, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

<https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

**Library Support**, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center**, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

**Writing Studio**, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

**Student Complaints Campus:**

[https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf).

**On-Line Students Complaints:** <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.