

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES
ITW4600/ MEM4931
L'Inferno di Dante
SYLLABUS
Fall 2017

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Instructor: Dr. Mary Watt
Office: 2014 Turlington Hall
Phone: (352) 392-2230
Office Hours: Wed. 4-5 pm or by appointment*
E-Mail: marywatt@ufl.edu

***Please note:** These office hours are subject to change from time to time – check course website for updates. The instructor will be available during office hours for consultation regarding assignments and questions raised during the lessons or by the assigned readings. Students are advised to have questions prepared ahead of time for the instructor so that office hour time may be used efficiently. Office hours are not to be used by students as a means of finding out what he or she missed during an absence. In the event that a student misses a lesson, the student should refer first to the syllabus and then consult with other students enrolled in the class. If there remain outstanding questions, then and only then should the student seek the instructor's advice during office hours. Office hours are not intended as private tutoring sessions.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students are expected to follow University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines. These can be found at <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm>

Students may also wish to consult The University of Florida Student Guide Standard of Ethical Conduct found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/stg/>

Students are also expected to follow the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures Academic Honesty Guidelines:

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action.

Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines include but are not limited to:

Cheating. The improper taking or tendering of any information or material which shall be used to determine academic credit. Taking of information includes copying graded homework assignments from another student; working with another individual(s) on graded assignments or homework; looking or attempting to look at notes, a text, or another student's paper during an exam.

Plagiarism. The attempt to represent the work of another as the product of one's own thought, whether the other's work is oral or written (including electronic), published or unpublished. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on written materials or in oral presentations; submitting work produced by an on-line translation service or the translation feature of an on-line dictionary as your own.

Misrepresentation. Any act or omission with intent to deceive a teacher for academic advantage. Misrepresentation includes lying to a teacher to increase your grade; lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic honesty.

Bribery, Conspiracy, Fabrication. For details see website below.

The UF Honor Code states: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”

On all work submitted for credit the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action according to the judicial process.

For more details go to: <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm>

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

COURSE INFORMATION:

Description and Objectives:

This course will take students on a semester-long journey through the underworld as imagined by the fourteenth century writer Dante Alighieri. The primary source will be Dante’s *Inferno* but the course will be enhanced with visual materials and will make full use of the many digital resources devoted to the study of Dante and his world. Special attention will be paid to the political, historical and religious context in which Dante was writing but the main point of the course will be to give students an appreciation of the masterful narrative that Dante weaves and the enduring beauty of his poetry.

Classes will combine student-centered activities with brief lecture style introductions to the day’s reading. Accordingly, students will be expected to have read the assigned reading and be prepared to comment and participate in a meaningful discussion.

Time and Location: T 8-9, R 9, AND 32

Exam: Take Home

Texts: **INFERNO DANTE ALIGHIERI**, Edition **MANDELBAUM, BANTAM**

Web resources:

<http://etcweb.princeton.edu/dante/pdp/audioitl.html>

<http://etcweb.princeton.edu/dante/pdp/wwwlinks.html>

http://www.worldofdante.org/maps_main.html

<http://dante.ilt.columbia.edu/>

NB. The instructor may also supply students with a variety of handouts and direct them to a variety of web sites from time to time. Students will be provided with supplementary materials well in advance of the class in which they will be discussed.

Grading Scale:

100- 94 A, 93-90 A-

89-87 B+, 86-83 B, 82-80 B-

79-77 C+, 76-73 C, 72-70 C-

69-67 D+, 66-63 D, 62-60 D-

59- E

Requirements:

1. Class Presentation: 20 %
2. Comprehensive Take-home final exam: 25%
4. Class participation: 15%
5. Weekly Reading summaries: 40%

Attendance and Late Policy

Students are expected to attend class and have completed all assigned readings and assignments. Attendance will be taken regularly. Students are permitted three unexcused absences, beyond which each additional unexcused absence will result in a lowering of the final grade by one full letter grade. There is no limit to the number of excused absences but the student is still responsible for making up missed work. Trips to visit family or friends, to attend funerals, to grieve the loss of a loved one, pet or friend, to write the GMAT, LSAT or to study for any such tests are **not** excused absences.

A class roll will be passed around at the beginning of the class. If a student is late, he or she will have to sign the roll after the class. Such lateness distracts other students and the instructor and will affect the student's final participation grade. Students will lose 1% from their final grade each time they arrive late.

Make-up Policy:

There are NO MAKE-UPS for un-excused absences for quizzes or exams. The instructor may allow students to take exams and quizzes early in certain mitigating circumstances.

Cell phone and texting policy:

Students must turn cell phones off before coming to class. Each time a student's cell phone rings. Texting during class is equally unacceptable and 1% will be deducted from that student's final grade for each instance.

Grades Disputes:

Should a student wish to dispute any grade received in this class (other than simple addition errors), the dispute must be in writing and be submitted to the instructor within a week of receiving the grade. The dispute should set out very clearly, the grade that the student believes the assignment should have received as well as why he or she believes that he or she should have received such a grade.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Students should note that the syllabus is a guideline and that there may be changes to the class schedule.

Week 1 August 22, 24

Discussion Focus: The World of the *Inferno*

Read: *Inferno 1*

Robert Hollander, Allegory in Dante”

<http://etcweb.princeton.edu/dante/pdp/allegory.html>

Robert Hollander, “Dante’s Virgil”

<http://etcweb.princeton.edu/dante/pdp/virgil.html>

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fh04bxcsgU&feature=related>

Listen to: Hotel California: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=piW9MHpfCu4>

Climb Every Mountain: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxsCBIxr71M>

Week 2 August 29, 31

Discussion Focus: *Inferno 2*, Virgil and Beatrice

Read: *Inferno 2, 3*

Amilcare Iannucci, “Beatrice in Limbo”

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40166271>

John Freccero, “Infernal Irony: The Gates of Hell”

<http://www.jstor.org/pss/10.2307/2905502?mlt=true>

Watch: Gassman reciting *Inferno 2*

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxsSJYX7_lo&feature=related

Listen to: You’re

beautiful: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oofSnsGkops&ob=av2e>

Together again: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WEqJroZSdKA>

To where you are: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTdqOC2DtI>

Week 3 September 5, 7

Discussion Focus: *Inferno 3* - The Gates of Hell

Read: *Inferno 3*

Watch: Gassman reciting *Inferno 3*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=prAcCuvOhdM&feature=related>

Listen to: New York Mining Disaster: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCRqAzCevsY>

California earthquake: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vfbo071f9_Y

Week 4 September 12, 14

Discussion Focus: *Inferno 4* - Limbo

Read: *Inferno 4*

David Thompson, “Dante’s Virtuous Romans”

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40166259>

Watch: Gassman reciting *Inferno* 4
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LDDPK0cQyV4&feature=related>

Listen to: In Limbo: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tY_DUtrfuqA

Week 5 September 19, 21

Discussion Focus: *Inferno* 5 – Francesca and Paolo

Student Presentation: 5-10 minutes on: Dolce Stil Nuovo / Sweet New Style:

Read: *Inferno* V

Donald Maddox, “The Arthurian Intertexts of *Inferno* V”

<http://www.jstor.org/pss/40166598?searchUrl=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DInferno%2BV%26gw%3Djtx%26prq%3DFrancesca%2BAND%2BPaolo%26Search%3DSearch%26hp%3D25%26wc%3Don&Search=yes>

Watch: Roberto Benigni recites *Inferno* V
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FfvQS0B51Yo&feature=related>

Listen to: If loving you is wrong: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8c8cKm4qC9M>
Dark End of the Street: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65GfSt75MVC>
Me and Mrs. Jones: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfr6jmJOGA8>

Week 6 September 26, 28

Discussion Focus: *Inferno* 10 - Farinata degli Uberti

Student Presentation: 5-10 Minutes on Guelphs and Ghibellines

Read: *Inferno* 6-10

Merle Brown, “A reading of *Inferno* X”

<http://www.jstor.org/pss/478226?searchUrl=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DFarinata%26gw%3Djtx%26prq%3DFarinata%26Search%3DSearch%26hp%3D25%26wc%3Don&Search=yes>

Charles Singleton, “Guido’s disdain”

<http://www.jstor.org/pss/3042682?searchUrl=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DFarinata%26gw%3Djtx%26prq%3DFarinata%26Search%3DSearch%26hp%3D25%26wc%3Don&Search=yes>

Christopher Kleinhenz “The Land of the Living and the Land of the Dead”

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40059759?&Search=yes&searchText=Kleinhenz&searchText=Christopher&list=hide&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DChristopher%2BKleinhenz%26acc%3Don%26wc%3Don&prevSearch=&item=5&ttl=673&returnArticleService=showFullText>

Look at: Piero della Francesca: Resurrection

<http://artmight.com/Artists/Piero-della-Francesca-1419-1492/PIERO-della-FRANCESCA-Resurrection-29658p.html>

Guidoriccio da Fogliano, condottiere, by Simone Martini

<http://www.greatestbattles.iblogger.org/Italy/simone-martini-guidoriccio-da-fogliano-detail.htm>

Listen to: One tin soldier: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cTBx-hHf4BE>

Week 7 October 3, 5

Discussion Focus: *Inferno* 13 - Pier della Vigna

Student Presentation: 5-10 minutes on Frederick II and the Scuola Siciliana

Read: *Inferno* 11-13

Rinaldina Russell “Ars dialectica and Poetry: The Aristocratic Love Lyric of the Sicilian School”

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/4174051?&Search=yes&searchText=School&searchText=Sicilian&list=hide&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DSicilian%2BSc hool%26gw%3Djtx%26acc%3Don%26prq%3DScuola%2BSiciliana%26Search%3DSearch%26hp%3D25%26wc%3Don&prevSearch=&item=17&ttl=5888&returnArticleService=showFullText>

Listen to: Don't fear the Reaper <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClQcUyhoxTg>

Week 8 October 10, 12

Discussion Focus: *Inferno* 15 - Brunetto Latini

Read: *Inferno* 14-15

Richard Kay, “The Sin(s) of Brunetto Latini”

<http://www.jstor.org/pss/40166487?searchUrl=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DBrunetto%2BLatini%26gw%3Djtx%26prq%3DFarinata%26Search%3DSearch%26hp%3D25%26wc%3Don&Search=yes>

Listen to: You spin me right round: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZUatnbaNfEo>

Week 9 October 17, 19

Discussion Focus: *Inferno* 19 – Simoniac Popes

Student Presentation: 5-10 minutes on Boniface VIII

Read: *Inferno* 16-19

O. P. Kenelm Foster, “The Canto of the Damned Popes: *Inferno* XIX

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40166111>

Reginald French, “Simony and Pentecost”

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40166049>

Ronald B. Herzman and William A. Stephany, "O miseri seguaci": Sacramental Inversion in *Inferno* XIX”

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40166254>

Look at: Simon Magus

<http://echoesfromthegenosis.blogspot.com/2011/10/simon-magus.html>

Listen to: Money, that's what I want: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W25_jgiY51I

I want it all: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfLD-7bCtME>

Week 10 October 26

Discussion Focus: *Inferno* 26 - *Ulysses*

Student Presentation: 5-10 minutes on Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*

Read: *Inferno* 20-26

David Thompson, “Dante's Ulysses and the Allegorical Journey”

<http://www.jstor.org/pss/40165987?searchUrl=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DDante%252C%2BUlysses%26gw%3Djtx%26prq%3DDante%2Badn%2BUlysses%26Search%3DSearch%26hp%3D25%26wc%3Don&Search=yes>

Listen to: Calypso: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vl7aM3nCqC0>
I still haven't found what I'm looking for: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GSv-1KwOOvE>

Week 11 October 31, November 2

Discussion Focus: *Inferno 27* - Guido da Montefeltro

Read: *Inferno 27*

Glending Olson, "Inferno27 and the Perversions of Pentecost"

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40166535?&Search=yes&searchText=Inferno&searchText=34&list=hide&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DInferno%2B34%26acc%3Don%26wc%3Don&prevSearch=&item=21&t1=4262&returnArticleService=showFullText>

Listen to: Should I stay or go: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqH21LEmfbQ>
Did you ever have to make up your mind: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CzXWkz1IBLQ>

Week 12 November 7, 9

Discussion Focus: *Inferno 33* - Ugolino

Read: *Inferno 28-33*

Ronald B. Herzman, "Cannibalism and Communion in *Inferno XXXIII*"

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40166287?&Search=yes&searchText=Inferno&searchText=XI&list=hide&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DInferno%2BXI%26gw%3Djtx%26acc%3Don%26prq%3DDante%2527s%2Bwoods%2Bof%2Bthe%2Bsuicides%26Search%3DSearch%26hp%3D25%26wc%3Don&prevSearch=&item=7&t1=2372&returnArticleService=showFullText>

Listen to: Timothy: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGNdvKvbxYQ&feature=related>

Week 13 November 14, 16

Discussion Focus: *Inferno 33* – Ugolino (cont'd)

Presentation: 5-10 minutes on Cassius and Brutus:

Read: *Inferno 33*

Week 14 November 21

Discussion Focus: *Inferno 34* – Satan

Presentation: 5-10 minutes on Cassius and Brutus:

Read: *Inferno 34*

Listen to: Sympathy for the Devil
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Je8MXiwmNIk>

Week 15 November 28, 30

Discussion Focus: *Inferno 34* – The Descent / Ascent

Read: John Freccero, “Infernal Inversion and Christian Conversion (Inferno XXXIV)”
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/477152?&Search=yes&searchText=Inferno&searchText=XXXIV&list=hide&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DInferno%2BXXXIV%26acc%3Don%26wc%3Don&prevSearch=&item=2&ttl=774&returnArticleService=showFullText>

Listen to: The morning after: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KClpLzFftU>

Week 16 December 5

Concluding Discussion

July 25, 2017