

Instructor: Seth Schein ([slschein@ucdavis.edu](mailto:slschein@ucdavis.edu))  
 Discussion Section Leaders: Emelie Coleman ([kecoleman@ucdavis.edu](mailto:kecoleman@ucdavis.edu)),  
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These required texts and translations are available at the campus bookstore:

Homer, *Iliad*, tr. S. Lombardo (Hackett Publishing Co.)  
 Hesiod, *Theogony*, tr. N.O. Brown, Library of Liberal Arts (Prentice-Hall)  
*The Epic of Gilgamesh and Other Texts*, ed. and tr. A. George (Penguin)  
 R. Alter, *Genesis: Translation and Commentary* (W.W. Norton & Company)  
 Valmiki, *Ramayana*, tr. William Buck (Univ. of California Press)  
*Beowulf. A Verse Translation*, tr. S. Heaney, introd. D. Donohue, Norton Critical Edition  
 (W.W. Norton & Company)  
 Ferdowsi, *Shahnameh (The Persian Book of Kings)*, tr. D. Davis (Penguin)

Two other works also are required: *Enuma Elish*, the ancient Babylonian creation hymn, (available at Davis Copy Shop on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street); selections from the *Qur'an* (to be distributed in class). **Please be sure to read only the translations specified.**

Attendance at lectures and section meetings and participation in section discussions is **obligatory**. Please read each text in full and thoughtfully before the first class meeting at which it is discussed (except for *Iliad*, *Ramayana*, and *Shahnameh*, where the reading will be in stages), and be prepared to contribute productively to discussions in the section meetings. There will be two papers, due April 19 and May 19 (more on these in class), and a final examination, but no midterm examination.

Your final grade will be based on attendance and class participation (about 20%); the first paper (about 20%); the second paper (about 30%); the final exam (about 30%). The grade will also reflect improvement in your work during the term, so take seriously comments on your writing and other suggestions by your section leader.

#### Schedule of Assignments

March 29: introductory matters  
 March 31, April 5, 7, 12: Homer, *Iliad*  
 April 14: Hesiod, *Theogony*  
 April 19: Enuma Elish  
 April 21, 26: *Gilgamesh*  
 April 28, May 3, 5, May 10: Valmiki, *Ramayana*  
 May 12: Ferdowsi, *Shahnameh*, pp. 1-62, 832-54 ;  
 May 17: Ferdowsi, *Shahnameh*, pp. 142-280, 371-439  
 May 19, 24, 26: *Genesis*; *Qur'an* (selections)  
 May 31, June 2: *Beowulf*