



## HUM 201 MAJOR WORKS OF LITERATURE

This course explores major works of literature in a thematic and chronological framework, and introduces various traditions, movements, and innovations. Each lecture focuses on one or two works that are considered to be paradigmatic of an epoch and also includes comparisons with related works and discussions on the historical, intellectual, and aesthetic background in which they originated. Readings from a variety of cultures and authors from the Ancient World through Modernism will be the focus of this class. It will also focus on the aesthetic and intellectual experience of reading these works as a distinct form of artistic expression.

The course aims to provide the necessary knowledge of the literature of different cultures and time periods, to introduce different types of literature such as poetry, prose fiction, and drama, to encourage students to analyze literary works for meaning beyond what is immediately visible, to develop critical thinking skills through reading, discussing and writing, to extend students' intercultural reading experience and awareness on the universal human condition, and to figure out how major works come to express human values within historical and social context.

**Important Note:** This syllabus may be subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to follow announcements and e-mails regarding all issues related to this course.

### Course Coordinator

N. Zeynep Yelçe ([zeynep.yelce@sabanciuniv.edu](mailto:zeynep.yelce@sabanciuniv.edu))

### Instructors

Kelly Todd Brewer ([kelly.brewer@sabanciuniv.edu](mailto:kelly.brewer@sabanciuniv.edu))

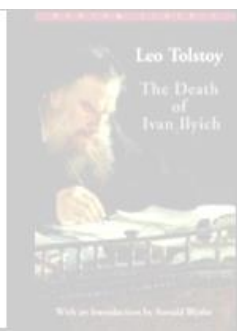
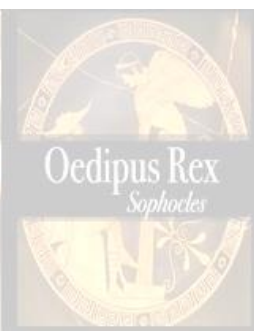
Ferenc Péter Csirkés ([ferenc.csirkes@sabanciuniv.edu](mailto:ferenc.csirkes@sabanciuniv.edu))

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### Course Assistant

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### Teaching Assistants

Aycan Ünal ([aycan.unal@sabanciuniv.edu](mailto:aycan.unal@sabanciuniv.edu))  
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### Class Schedule (Live on Zoom)

Tuesday, 10:40-12:30

<https://sabanciuniv.zoom.us/j/93435297509>

### Discussion Sections (Live on Zoom)

Thursday, 11:40-12:30 / 14:40-15:30 / 15:40-16:30

Please check Course Information for zoom links.

### Office Hours (on Zoom)

Wednesday and Thursday, 11:00-12:00

<https://sabanciuniv.zoom.us/j/93435297509>

or by appointment

### Time-Conflict Policy

Time Conflict requests will not be accepted for 200-coded HUM courses.

### Course requirements

Attendance and Participation 20%

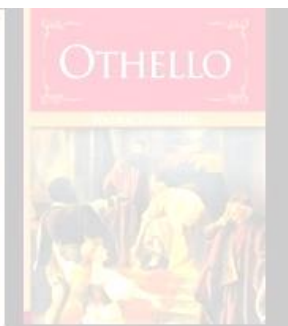
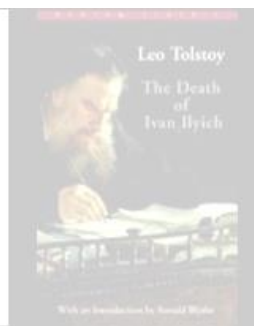
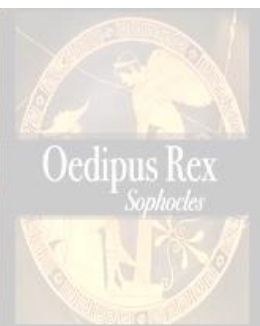
Response Paper Exams (x3) 15%

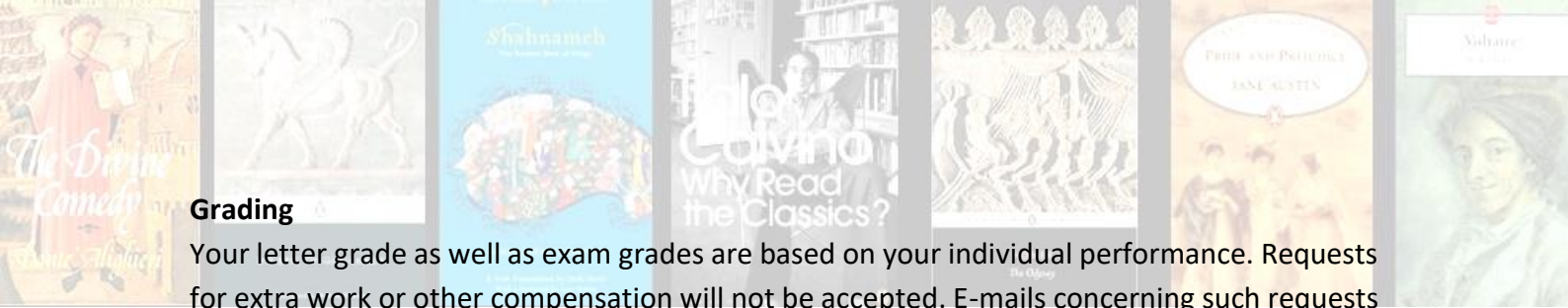
Midterm Exam 25%

Book Review 10%

Final Exam 30%

For more information, please see Course Information.





**Grading**

Your letter grade as well as exam grades are based on your individual performance. Requests for extra work or other compensation will not be accepted. E-mails concerning such requests will not be replied. Letter grades are calculated according to the following letter grade scale and are not open to negotiation.

min. 59	min. 64	min. 68	min. 72	min. 76	min. 80	min. 84	min. 88	min. 92	min. 96
D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A

**Attendance and Participation**

Attendance is compulsory in this course. Attendance follow-up starts at the end of the add-drop period. Attendance is taken on an hourly basis during all live sessions. Failure to attend more than three hours requires points to be taken off the overall grade. Students who miss 9 hours (regardless of medical reports) in total will automatically receive 0 points for Attendance and Participation.

Students are required to have their cameras on during all live sessions. Those who fail to do so will be considered absent.

*Attendance:*

10 points of your total grade  
Based on Zoom meeting reports

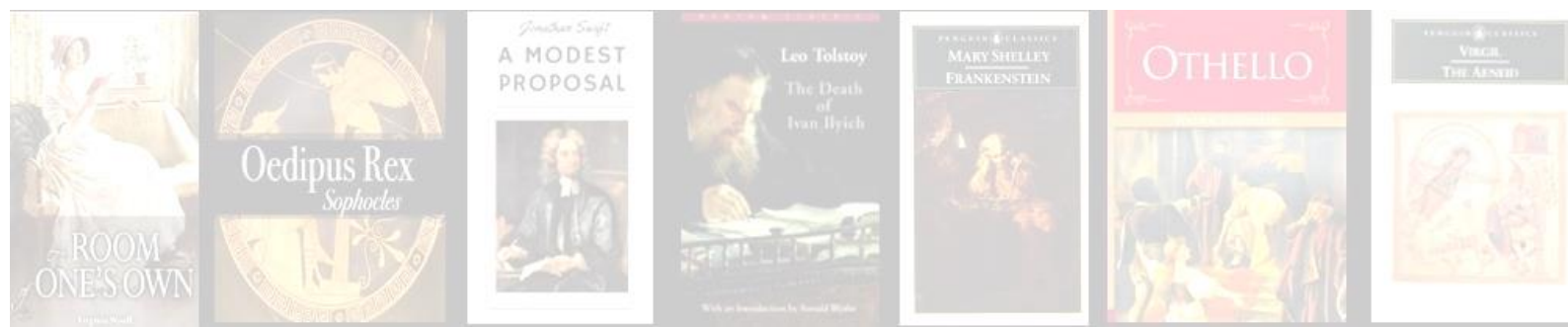
*Participation:*

10 points of your total grade

Based on:

- contribution in class discussion either by speaking or commenting through chat
- pop up polls and/or quizzes during online sessions
- general involvement in the course
- regular reading activity
- observable progress throughout the term

We are going to be examining excerpts from literary works in detail, so a phone and poor lighting will not be efficient.





As per the General Guidelines for Classes in Fall 2021-2022 issued by the university management, all midterm and final exams will be in-person, on campus (also for those classes, which are delivered fully online). Students may be invited to an oral assessment of their exam and asked to provide oral answers to the exam questions in the following cases:

- If any part of an exam does not appear to be 100% student's original work
- If suspicious activity is recorded during the exam
- If there is a need for random authentication checks

Such papers will not be graded until after the oral assessment.

For more information on exams, please see Course Information.

### **Make-up Exams**

A make-up exam, written or oral, is given to students who cannot take an exam for reasons acceptable to the instructor.

Students who do not attend the final exam with an excuse that is accepted by the instructor are entitled to have a make-up exam. These students must submit their supporting documents for their excuse (health report, etc.) within three week-days after the final exam and these supporting documents must be found valid by the instructor.

### **Academic Honesty Policy**

Major Works courses do not tolerate dishonesty and plagiarism. Plagiarism is an ethical and academic offense. Papers with plagiarism issues will be graded F, and your semester grade may be F depending on the severity of the offense. The offense may also be referred to as the University Ethics Committee. For information on plagiarism, please see Course Information.

### **Students with Special Needs**

It is the policy of Sabancı University to accommodate students with special needs and disabilities. To determine accommodations and/or academic adjustments, please let us know and contact the Disabled Students Support Unit of CIAD ([specialneeds@sabanciuniv.edu](mailto:specialneeds@sabanciuniv.edu)).

### **Anti-Discrimination Policy**

HUM 201 classroom is free from all discrimination based on, including but not limited to, race, ethnicity, creed, religion, language, disability, gender, and sexual orientation. Students are expected to maintain this environment.





## COURSE SCHEDULE

Sep 28	Introduction to Humanities and Literature Studies	Calvino's "Why Read the Classics"
Oct 05	Epic and the Archetype of the Hero	<i>Gilgamesh</i>
Oct 12	Hero and Journey	Selection from Homer's <i>Odyssey</i>
Oct 19	Journey and Empire	Selection from Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i>
Oct 26	Myth, History and Kingship (no discussion)	Selection from Ferdowsi's <i>Shahnameh</i>
Nov 02	The Journey of Life	Selection from Dante's <i>Divine Comedy</i>
Nov 06	RESPONSE PAPER 1	
Nov 09	Culture and Shame	Sophocles <i>Oedipus Rex</i>
Nov 16	Shame and Violence	Shakespeare's <i>Othello</i>
Nov 23	MIDTERM EXAM	
Nov 30	Reason and Satire	Voltaire's <i>Candide</i> Swift's "A Modest Proposal"
Dec 04	RESPONSE PAPER 2	
Dec 07	Family, Culture and Etiquette	Austen's <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
Dec 14	Man, Science and Nature	Shelley's <i>Frankenstein</i>
Dec 18	RESPONSE PAPER 3	
Dec 21	Gossiping Realities	Tolstoy's "Death of Ivan Ilyich"
Dec 28	Woman, Space and Money	Woolf's "A Room of One's Own"
	BOOK REVIEW (Deadline to be announced)	
	FINAL EXAM (To be announced by Student Resources)	

For the Reading List and access to assigned texts, please see the Reading section on the main page.

Syllabus updated November 21, 2021.

