UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

HONORS PROGRAM

IDH2930 Section 07E7

To Hell and Back

Dante’s *Inferno*

**SYLLABUS**

Fall 2017

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

Instructor: Dr. Mary Watt

Office: 2014 Turlington Hall

Phone: (352) 392‑2230

Office Hours: W 4-5:00 pm\*

E‑Mail: [marywatt@ufl.edu](mailto: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 Romance Languages and Literatures 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*: R 8 LIT119

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

*Writing Assignment*: (25%)

Students will choose a circle of hell and consider how Dante might have written it were he composing in the 21st century. **DUE Friday, December 8, 2017 at 4 pm**

*Presentation*: (25%)

Each student will be asked to present a particular aspect of the day’s assigned reading – depending upon the number of students this might be done in groups.

*Participation*: (50%)

As noted above, student participation is essential. The class will not be simply a reiteration or summary of a canto, rather, students are expected to know the canto in question and be prepared to discuss the issues it raises.

*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 two unexcused absences, beyond which each additional unexcused absence will result in a lowering of the final grade by one full letter.

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 our 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 24**

**Discussion Focus**: *Inferno* 1 - The Mountain

**Watch**: Benigni reciting *Inferno* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phPaTTna8ew>

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

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

**Week 2 August 31**

**Discussion Focus**: *Inferno* 2 - Virgil and Beatrice

**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=tTdqdOC2DtI>

**Week 3 September 7**

**Discussion Focus**: *Inferno* 3, 4 - The Gates of Hell, Limbo

**Listen to:** The End: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NS3m0-4bM9s&feature=fvst>

**Week 4** **September 14**

**Discussion Focus:** *Inferno* 5 - Francesca and Paolo

**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 5** **September 21**

**Discussion Focus**: *Inferno* 10 - Farinata degli Uberti

# 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 6 September 28**

**Discussion Focus**: *Inferno 11* - Pier della Vigna

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

**Week 7 October 5**

**Discussion Focus:** *Inferno* 15 - Brunetto Latini

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

**Week 8 October 12**

**Discussion Focus:** *Inferno* 19 – Simoniac Popes

**Look at:** Simon Magus

<http://echoesfromthegnosis.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 9 October 19**

**Discussion Focus:** *Inferno* 26 - Ulysses

**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-lKwOQvE>

**Week 10 October 26**

**Discussion Focus:** *Inferno* 27 - Guido da Montefeltro

**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 11 November 2**

**Discussion Focus**: *Inferno* 33 - Ugolino

**Listen to:** Timothy:

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

**Week 12 November 9**

**Discussion Focus: Satire and Parody**

**Week 13** **November 16**

**Discussion Focus:** *Inferno* 34 – Satan

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

**Week 14** **November 30**

**Discussion Focus:** *Inferno* 34 – Satan

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

July 25, 2017