

MIDTERM PROJECT
Program in Cultures, Civilizations, and Ideas
Humanities 111: Antiquity (Kimball)
Fall 2021

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Do not cheat. Do not help others cheat. Do not submit the work of others as your own. Do not use sources without providing a complete reference. You are expected to complete all writing for this course independently. Your assignments are not collaborative efforts like lab reports or scientific proofs which demand a single, correct answer. Students who turn in substantially identical written work in terms of content, structure, vocabulary, or phrasing may be subject to official disciplinary action. <http://w3.bilkent.edu.tr/www/lisans-ve-on-lisans-egitim-ogretim-yonetmeligi/#madde4.9>

Instructions:

The midterm project is due on 1 November at 22:00 via Moodle/Turnitin. It is worth 30% of your final grade. Extensions are only available under very serious circumstances and only if requested before the deadline (health reports are different and can be submitted after the deadline). All answers must be double-spaced. Please submit your project in .doc format, not as a PDF. Any references to sources other than the translation must be properly formatted according to the Chicago "Notes & Bibliography" style (consult the Bilkent Library database page for complete information).

Part 1 (3 x 5% = 15% total)

Choose three pairs (3x2) of quotations of approximately 10-12 lines (for each quote) from Andrew George's 2020 translation of *The Epic of Gilgamesh*. Then analyze/compare each pair of quotes and explain their significance for understanding some specific theme, idea, or issue that is important to the poem as a whole (these themes should be different for each pair). Your discussion of each pair of passages should be at least 500 words. Identify each of your quotations by tablet and line numbers before analyzing them.

Remember to consult the guidelines for comparison exercises linked under week 3 on Moodle to help you choose your passages and discuss them. You will be graded according to three criteria for a total of 10 points for each pair. These criteria are: "comprehension," (abbreviated CO: how well you show your understanding of our discussion of the text) graded out of 0-4 points, "evidence," (abbreviated EV: how well you use specific evidence and references to support your conclusions) graded out of 0-4 points, and "clarity," (abbreviated CL: how well you express your ideas and organize your response) graded out of 0-2 point (using half points). The rubric used is the same as the Optional Practice Exercise and Exercise 1. Your Part 1 grade will be divided by two when computing your overall midterm project grade.

Part 2 (15% total) 1000-1500 words suggested length

As we have discussed in class, new discoveries of tablets or parts of tablets could significantly affect our understanding of the Standard Babylonian Version of *The Epic of Gilgamesh*. So imagine you have discovered a new tablet or fragment of a tablet of *Gilgamesh* from any part of the story. Describe the contents of your new tablet or tablet fragment and explain to the reader how it relates to the poem as a whole. Your new find could be about anything related to the text: the early life of Enkidu, wanderings of Gilgamesh to places we did not read about, new adventures, characters, or encounters with monsters, etc., etc. The idea is to show that you understand the themes and characters of *Gilgamesh* by adding a new part to the story that connects to what we have discussed in class. What problems in the text could your new addition solve? Why is your new discovery valuable and interesting for interpreting the poem? Have fun!

For inspiration and ideas you might look at the other chapters (2-4) of Andrew George's book, including the short Sumerian songs about Gilgamesh and known pieces of the Babylonian/Akkadian versions that have come to light. **Feel free to find inspiration in other places but you MUST tell me what you used in composing your version and cite it properly if you use anything except the required text.** Failure to do so could result in severe downgrading or charges of academic dishonesty. Just be honest about all your sources and you will not have any difficulty.

You will be graded according to four criteria for a total of 15 points. These criteria are: "comprehension," (abbreviated CO: how well you show your understanding of our discussion of the text) graded out of 0-5 points, "evidence," (abbreviated EV: how well you use specific evidence and references to support your conclusions) graded out of 0-5 points, "clarity," (abbreviated CL: how well you express your ideas and organize your response) graded out of 0-2.5 points, and "originality," (abbreviated OR: how original and/or creative your response is) graded out of 0-2.5 points. This rubric will appear on the submission page, but the Part 1 rubric will not.