

Western Literature: Texts & Contexts

Westerse literatuur: teksten en contexten

Introductory session

Friday 30 September 2022, 10 am

Aims

- Read important texts from ‘the’ Western literary tradition
- Reflect critically on these texts
- Situate these texts in their larger context (literary, cultural, socio-political)
- Deepen understanding of Western literature as network and tradition
- Use terms and theories from “Concepts and Questions” in study of concrete cases

Approach

- 8 lectures by experts
- 3-hour sessions, Friday 1-4 pm
- general introduction + discussion, guided by questions posted on Toledo

⇒ **Preparation required:**

- read texts (in language of choice)
- pick question and submit some reading notes about that question on Toledo by Thursday 9 am before the class (clearly indicate which question)
- Friday: active participation in discussion during class
- final essay that further develops your answer, based on introduction + discussion to be submitted on Toledo one week after class at the latest (Friday 1 pm)

Evaluation

- 8 reading notes, each /1 (pass/fail)
- 8 essays (+/-1000 words), each /20
 - English or Dutch
 - will be graded by professor teaching that class
 - all essays must be submitted in order to pass
 - 1 late submission OK; from 2nd late submission, contact me.
 - if final grade <10, all essays <10 must be revised + resubmitted in August

Evaluation

Essays must show that you :

- Have read the texts
- Have thought about yourself (= personal engagement)
- Can bring literary background and critical concepts to bear on the texts (= critical reflection)

Use of some secondary material to your credit, but not compulsory to pass
no internet cut&paste!

1300 - 1600 Friday 14 Oct '22	Text #1 Songs, Sappho Reinhart Ceulemans
1300 - 1600 Friday 28 Oct '22	Text #2 Lucifer, J. van den Vondel Lieke Van Deinsen
1300 - 1600 Friday 18 Nov '22	Text #3 Hamlet, W. Shakespeare Raphaël Ingelbien
1300 - 1600 Friday 2 Dec '22	Text #4 Max Havelaar, Multatuli Pieter Verstraeten

1300 - 1600 Friday 16 Dec '22	Text #5 Sei personaggi in cerca d'autore, L. Pirandello Bart van den Bossche
1300 - 1600 Friday 24 Feb '23	Text #6 Mutter Courage, Bertolt Brecht Anke Gilleir
1300 - 1600 Friday 10 March '23	Text #7 The Garden Party, K. Mansfield Elke D'hoker
1300 - 1600 Friday 24 March '23	Text #8 El reino de este mundo, A. Carpentier Dagmar Vandebosch

Texts

- Language of your choice
- Preferred editions on Toledo:
 - Acco
 - pdf of out-of-print texts
- Bring text to class
- Start reading on time!

For questions & feedback

- Elke D'hoker (elke.dhoker@kuleuven.be)