

ENG 2300: Great Books

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This course is only available to students who have met the pre-requisite of ENG 1111 and ENG 1112.

This course is designed for English majors, majors requiring significant English literature experiences, and students of other majors-usually engineering majors-who are required to have a 2000 level English course. While we are studying these seminal plays and novels, it is actually a course designed to critically analyze a text-which is an imperative skill for all majors.

Here is the list of texts covered in this second semester course:

*Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller

*Hamlet* by William Shakespeare

*Medea* by Euripides

*The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka

*1984* by George Orwell

*One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* by Alexander Solzhenitsyn

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* translation by Burton Raffel

Books will be available to use for this course, but if you want to read ahead, any version you find on your own will be fine.

### **Summer Reading Assignment**

#### ***Medea* by Euripides (50pts)**

Read *Medea*. Please see me and I will give you a copy of the play. After reading the Greek tragedy, one cannot help but ask: “**Is Medea fundamentally wicked?**”

Write a 500-600 word essay answering this question. Use textual evidence to support your answer. Your response must be typed. This essay is due the first Friday we are in school in August. No late work will be accepted. If you aren't enrolled in ENG 1600, you will have to come to my room to submit your essay.

Discussing *Medea* will be where we begin in January.

Here are a few other texts you may want to read this summer that complement our required work. Some of these texts are modern works that were inspired by a text we are reading, some are other texts by the same author, while others are simply helpful comparisons. Remember, you have a Clark State id that allows you to check out these books through OhioLink. It's a great service, take advantage of it. I also included two movies that might be fun to watch.

*Antigone* by Sophocles

Watch *Gone Girl*

*Beloved* by Toni Morrison

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell

*All My Sons* by Arthur Miller

*Eligible* by Curtis Sittenfeld

Watch *Clueless*

*Nutshell* by Ian McEwan