# CC 102: ANTIQUITY AND THE MEDIEVAL WORLD



BOSTON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES CORE CURRICULUM SPRING 2012

## **FACULTY**

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#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An exploration of the theme of "the Way" in Western philosophical and literary traditions from late antiquity to the Middle Ages and in the classic sources of Chinese and Indian civilization. The course begins with Plato's pupil Aristotle, whose work serves as the foundation for Western ethics. It then journeys east to encounter the *Analects* of Confucius, Laozi's *Daodejing*, the *Bhagavad Gita*, and *The Life of the Buddha*. It then returns to the eastern Mediterranean with the *Aeneid's* journey from the destruction of Troy to the Rome Empire, Jesus' journey in the Gospels, and Dante's imaginative journey from the terrors of hell to the contemplation of paradise. These traditions, texts, and thinkers challenge us to consider what it means to be human in the truest sense, how to live in harmony with the cosmos, other people, and ourselves, how to escape the suffering of human existence, and what it means to hope and to love.

## **COURSE STRUCTURE AND GRADES**

Grades will be determined by your seminar leader according to the university's regular grading system (A = 4.0, A = 3.7, and so forth). Final grades will be based on a combination of written work, examinations, and class participation, in the following proportions:

Midterm exam	10%	Seminar papers	50%
Final exam	25%	Seminar attendance and participation	15%

**Examinations**: The Midterm examination will be set by your seminar leader and will be given in a regular seminar session during the week of February 28. The Final examination will be set by the faculty as a whole and given at the time specified by the Registrar. Examinations will be based on the lectures, readings, and seminar discussions. They will include objective, short essay, and long essay questions. Note that exam dates and times are firm commitments and cannot be changed.

**Writing** Each seminar will require approximately 18-20 pages of writing. Common Core assignments for CC 102 include a thesis paper, a revision, a comparison paper, and a paper on the Asian art studied at the Museum of Fine Arts. Other writing assignments will be developed by individual seminar leaders.

The Core Writing Center is open throughout the semester. To make an appointment with a tutor, stop by the Core Office (CAS 119) or call 353-5404. The tutors' office is found in CAS 129.

**Academic Conduct**: All members of Boston University are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. We have the same expectations of each other in this course. Seminar leaders take the issue of plagiarism seriously and expect all the work you do in this course to be your own. All websites consulted for written

work must be acknowledged in your papers. Unacknowledged use of material from the Internet will be considered plagiarism and dealt with as such. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism and how it differs from the appropriate use of other people's work, please consult your instructor and / or the *Academic Conduct Code* (<a href="http://bu.edu/cas/students/undergrad-resources/code">http://bu.edu/cas/students/undergrad-resources/code</a>). It is your responsibility to read the relevant pages from the *Academic Conduct Code* carefully and understand how it applies to your work in this course.

## **Required Texts** will be available at Boston University's Barnes & Noble:

•	Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, tr. Ostwald	9780023895302
•	The Analects of Confucius, tr. Leys	978-0393316995
•	The Daodejing of Laozi, tr. Ivanhoe	978-0872207011
•	The Bhagavad Gita, tr. Miller	9780553213652
•	The Life of the Buddha by Ashvaghosha, tr. Olivelle	9780814762165
•	Virgil, <i>The Aeneid</i> , tr. Fitzgerald	9780679729525
•	The New Testament, Revised Standard Version	9780452006478
•	Dante, Inferno, tr. Mandelbaum	9780553213393
•	Dante, Purgatorio, tr. Mandelbaum	9780553213447
•	Dante, Paradiso, tr. Mandelbaum	9780553212044

# SCHEDULE OF LECTURES

Week 1 (January 17) Aristotle I	Lecturer: Professor Roochnik
Week 2 (January 24) Aristotle II	Lecturer: Professor Bronstein
Week 3 (January 31) Confucius	Lecturer: Professor Denecke
Week 4 (February 7) Lao Tzu	Lecturer: Professor Eckel
Week 5 (February 14) The Bhagavad Gita	Lecturer: Professor Hudson
Week 6 (Thursday, February 23) Indian Art	Lecturer: Professor ten Grotenhuis
Week 7 (February 28) The Life of the Buddha	Lecturer: Professor Eckel
Week 8 (March 6) The Aeneid and Roman History	Lecturer: Professor Samons

# March 10-18: Spring Vacation

Week 9 (March 20) The Aeneid	Lecturer: Professor Johnson
Week 10 (March 27) The Gospel of Matthew	Lecturer: Professor Frankfurter
Week 11 (April 3) The Gospel of John	Lecturer: Professor Knust
Week 12 (April 10) Dante's Inferno	Lecturer: Professor Nelson
Week 13 (April 17) Dante's Purgatorio	Lecturer: Professor Costa
Week 14 (April 24) Dante's Paradiso	Lecturer: Professor Appleford
Week 15 (May 1) Wrap-up and Review	The faculty of CC102

Final Exams begin on Monday, May 7