

LT 111 INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE 2011-2012

1. Primary texts

Unless an edition is specified, any academic edition (e.g. Oxford World's Classics, Penguin, Norton) is fine.

- *The Epic of Gilgamesh*. I like the Norton edition, which has good notes; there is also *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, trans. N.K. Sandars (London: Penguin, 1973) or *Gilgamesh: A New English Version* trans. Steve Mitchell (New York: Free Press, 2005)
- The Old Testament: you can find this online, but it is useful to have a copy. There are literally hundreds of translations to choose from, and all have their different merits. Different lecturers may refer to different versions: check on Moodle.
- Homer, *The Odyssey*. There is a good edition translated by Robert Fagles (London: Penguin, 1997) with a useful introduction and notes, or you could try *The Odyssey* trans. Albert Cook (New York, London: Norton Critical ed. 1993)
- Derek Walcott, *Omeros* (Faber)
- Derek Walcott, *The Odyssey: A Stage Version* (New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1993)
- *Dante in English*, eds. Eric Griffiths and M. Reynolds (2003) You will only need to consult one or two poems in this collection so you probably do not need to buy it: there will be a copy available on short term (3 hour) loan in the library.
- Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex* (also known as *Oedipus the King* and *Oedipus Tyrannus*). I like the Cambridge Translations from Greek Drama edition, trans. J. Affleck, CUP, but there are good editions from Penguin and Oxford also.
- Aristotle, *Poetics*. Any academic edition, including the 'Classical Literary Criticism' anthology from Oxford World's Classics.
- Shakespeare, *Hamlet*. I like the Arden Shakespeare edition, but many people find that the volume of notes is distracting on the page. If you prefer a cleaner-looking reading copy, you might try Penguin. Norton has good notes. I strongly recommend that you buy your Shakespeare in individual paperbacks rather than one Complete Works: you will have to be able to carry your volume to class with you, and the Complete Works is very heavy.
- Howard Barker, *Gertrude the Cry* in *Howard Barker Plays 2* (London, Oberon Books, 2002)
- Moliere, *Tartuffe*. I like the Norton edition for its excellent notes on staging.
- Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. As with *Hamlet*, above, any academic edition will be fine.

- Dario Fo, *The Accidental Death of an Anarchist* [1970], trans. Joseph Farrell (London: Methuen Student Editions, 2003)
- Dante, *Inferno*. My favourite edition is the Oxford University Press prose version ed. J. Sinclair, but there are many very good alternatives. If you want a verse rendering, try the Dorothy L. Sayers translation.
- Ovid, *Metamorphoses*. Any academic edition; Norton has good notes.
- Philip Terry, ed., *Ovid Metamorphosed* (London: Vintage, 2001) Make sure you buy this well in advance: it is in big demand on the campus when the lecture rolls around.
- Carson McCullers, *The Ballad of the Sad Café* [1951] (London: Penguin, 1999)
- Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper" [1892] [available online]
- William Faulkner, *A Rose for Emily* [1930] [available online]
- Bram Stoker, *Dracula*. There are a million editions of this knocking around, but the Oxford World's Classics is particularly good and I'll be recommending it. Make sure you buy an academic edition: you will be glad of notes and a proper introduction.