

## SECOND ESSAY ASSIGNMENT

### ASSIGNMENT:

For this essay you are to compare the characterization of a single Greek or Trojan as he or she appears in an Athenian tragedy and either the *Iliad* or *Odyssey*.

*Nota bene:* in this essay you are not simply summarizing what a character does in Homer and what they do in a tragedy. I am already familiar with this and know that you are as well. Rather, you are to analyze how different authors develop and deploy a particular mythological character. You may want to consider, among other issues, what motivates the character in each work, with whom they interact, whether they are sympathetic, and what role they play within the larger narrative. Also, keep in mind that some of the differences in characterization could arise from the difference between epic and tragic genres (e.g. drama consists entirely of speeches, while in Homeric epic speeches play a significant but not exclusive role). This is not to say that you should not note such differences, but be sure to recognize the possible motivations for these differences.

Because you will be analyzing the characterization in two works, you must select a character that is prominent enough in those works that a substantive comparison is possible; therefore you would *not*, for example, want to analyze Talthibius, Agamemnon's herald, who, although he is a prominent character in the Euripides's *Trojan Women*, is mostly mentioned in passing in the *Iliad*.

**DUE:** Friday, November 3rd by 3 p.m., in box outside my office (Hall 008).

### DETAILS:

Length: 4-to-5 pages, plus a title page.

**N.B.** a 4-to-5-page paper must include 4-to-5-pages of your writing; citation footnotes, images, title page, and bibliography do not count towards this figure. Conversely, do not pile information that is critical to your argument into footnotes in an attempt to squeeze your paper down below the page limit.

Font: Times or Times New Roman, 12 pt.; double-spaced.

Margins: Top and bottom margins: 1"; side margins: 1.25" ("MS Word default")

Number pages, beginning with Page 1 on the first page of your writing (i.e. the title page is unnumbered)

Footnotes (not endnotes)

Works Cited: include a proper works cited page.

Attach a completed, accurate, and signed **Checklist for Papers** to the front of your essay.

### SUGGESTIONS:

If you have questions about citing and using quotations, please see the Classic Department resource pages available from the course website and at <http://www.haverford.edu/classics/resources.html>

Be certain to incorporate suggestions and corrections from your first essay when crafting this essay.

Additionally, since every writer can benefit from the insights of another reader, I highly recommend having a friend, classmate, or writing tutor read over a draft of your paper.

I am happy to discuss this assignment with you via email or during my office hours.

**AS ALWAYS, DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT ME WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.**