

FIRST ESSAY ASSIGNMENT

ASSIGNMENT:

To trace the development of an aspect of Hector's characterization in the *Iliad*.

Near the end of Book 6 of the *Iliad*, Hector reveals to Andromache a fatalistic vision of Troy's demise,
 "For in my heart and soul I also know this well:
 the day will come when sacred Troy must die,
 Priam must die and all his people with him..." (*Iliad* 6.530-32).

Later in Book 6, however, Hector appears to hold out hope that Troy might yet be saved, and as the events of the *Iliad* unfold, he becomes increasingly convinced of this possibility. In 2-to-3 pages, you are to trace Hector's evolving understanding of Troy's fate. Some of the questions you may want to consider include: what motivates Hector's initial change of opinion? How do events confirm or alter his belief? Do you see any dangers that arise from Hector's newfound hope (for this, consider especially how others react to him as the *Iliad* progresses)? Be sure to support your analysis with **evidence** from the *Iliad*—i.e. citations and *short* quotations.

Your only source for this assignment will be Homer's *Iliad*, Books 1-20. You are not to incorporate material from Chs. 21-24 or from outside of the *Iliad*.

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

DUE: Friday, September 22nd, in box outside my office.

DETAILS:

Length: 2-to-3 pages, plus a title page.

N.B. a 2-to-3-page paper must include 2-to-3-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")

Footnotes (not endnotes)

Attach a completed and accurate **Checklist for Papers**

SUGGESTIONS:

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

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