

Zoom Guidelines

Class will meet online via Zoom (Weeks 1-8) on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:20-1:15 pm except for the following days:

- Mon 9/6: Labor Day Holiday
- Mon 9/13: Recorded Lecture (*Cassandra*)
- Mon 9/27: Recorded Lecture (*House of Names*)
- Wed 10/13: Recorded Lecture (*Contemporary Odysseys*)

At the end of Week 7, I will poll the class about where we're at with COVID-19 to determine whether we will begin in-person class discussions from Weeks 9-13 or continue meeting online. It is my hope that we can meet in-person but that will depend on the level of necessary precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone. I know that we are all eager to get back into the classroom, and that remote learning isn't ideal for everyone, but I've spent the last year teaching with Zoom and have worked to ensure that it offers a clear, effective, and participatory experience. Please follow these guidelines to help create a consistent and dynamic classroom experience; this depends as much on the teacher as it does the students, and keep in mind your attendance and participation grade is based on your presence in the Zoom meetings. I understand there may be times when you will not be able to attend—please communicate with me if you are sick or need to take care of loved ones. I hope everyone stays healthy and safe and that the Delta variant will have subsided enough by October for us to meet in-person.

General Zoom Guidelines

- **When you enter the virtual classroom, be sure to note that you are present, and your mic is muted.** You may leave your camera on or off—I don't require students to use their video—however, I ask that you provide a profile image if possible. This can help everyone feel like there are at least faces in the classroom and not empty boxes.
- Class discussions will be a mix of informal lecture and discussion of the assigned readings. **You should come prepared with having read the material for that day** (see class calendar in syllabus) and able to discuss your thoughts or questions in response to the readings.
- **You should also prepare at least one written question about the reading before each class.** At the start of class, I will ask you to post your question in the Zoom chat box. Because this is such a large class, and we only have roughly 50 minutes each class, I won't be able to review or read all the questions as they are posted. I may randomly ask students to present their question or ask for volunteers to share their question. This way part of class discussion is led by the students. If you would like to speak while someone else is speaking, or you have an immediate question or comment in response to something that is said, use the raised hand emoji.
- **Use the Zoom chat box.** Besides posting questions, I encourage everyone to use the chat box as a discussion tool with each other, though you should keep comments and responses focused on the class topic and material and respectful toward others. I've found that students who freely use the chat box with each other while I am discussing the readings or answering questions tend to gain a greater social experience and sense of community. When posting to the chat box make sure you are replying to Everyone and not having private conversations. Some students are not always comfortable posting in the chat box, but they nevertheless gain a great deal hearing/reading the contributions of their peers. Once class is over, I save the chat box discussion, review as part of your participation grade, and then post an edited version on the course website for students to reference, especially if you missed class or couldn't keep up with discussion.