



California State University, Sacramento  
Humanities & Religious Studies  
6000 J Street • Mendocino Hall 2011 • Sacramento, CA 95819-6083  
T (916) 278-6444 • F (916) 278-7213 • www.csus.edu/hum

December 22, 2008

Faculty Senate Subcommittee for Writing and Reading  
California State University, Sacramento

Dear Committee:

I am writing this letter of introduction on behalf of Brianna Marron, who is submitting an essay to be considered for *Writing the University*. Brianna originally wrote the essay as an assignment this fall in my Honors 2: Great Ideas in Global Culture, I. This course, a required seminar for sophomores in the University Honors Program, emphasizes reading and discussion of a variety of significant and enduring texts from cultures around the world prior to the fifteenth century. The assignment is based on a thematic question drawn from a list set forth on the syllabus designed to serve as foundational issues for the course. Students are asked to compose a comparative analysis of the literary works noted based on the thematic question. Along with clarifying the theme's overall relevance for each work, students are to show how it affects specific actions and ideas. Here is the main text of the assignment:

What is the relationship between the divine and humankind?

Draw from Genesis 1-11 (option: include Exodus 19-20), the *Bhagavad-Gita*, and either the *Epic of Gilgamesh* or the *Iliad*.

The essay is to be 1200-1400 words, or approximately four pages, typed and double-spaced (one page of text with 1" margins and a normal font size, e.g. Times New Roman 11 as used here, will amount to 300-350 words). Grading will be based on the Essay Rubric (on the back of this sheet). Each of the Rubric categories will be weighted equally. The essay is due at class time on **Thursday, October 2**. A late essay will be accepted within two days of the due date only, with a reduction of one full letter grade.

Be sure to draw extensively from the assigned texts (again, inclusion of *Antigone* and Exodus 19-20 is optional). It is not necessary for the purposes of this course to include a bibliography or "Works Cited" page, since all of the works should be among our assigned readings; nor is it necessary to use footnotes or endnotes, although some way of identifying sources is required. The simplest method is to put in parentheses the name of the source (abbreviated) followed by appropriate chapter and verse, line number, or section number (depending on the source). For example: (*Gilg.* 4.18) or (Gen 1.26) or (*Il.* 9.205).

Brianna has revised her essay through incorporating my review suggestions and with an eye towards submitting it for the Journal. Please let me know if I can provide further information on the assignment or on Brianna's work.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Jeffrey Brodd".

Jeffrey Brodd, Ph.D.  
Professor of Humanities and Religious Studies  
x87703  
[jbrodd@csus.edu](mailto:jbrodd@csus.edu)

enclosures: HONR2 Syllabus, HONR2 Essay Rubric