

Instructions for paper #1

Write a 4-5 page paper (about 1200-1500 words) on Petrarch's *On Religious Leisure*. You may choose a topic to write on, but I suggest that you address one of the following questions:

- What does Petrarch see as the advantage of the religious life, and what obligations go along with it?
- How does Petrarch treat classical pagan authors? Why does he cite and quote them extensively in a book addressed to Christian monks?
- How does Petrarch's discussion of Jews and Muslims compare with his use of classical pagans?

At the end of your paper, include a "reflections" paragraph addressing the following questions: (1) What aspect of the paper are you most satisfied with? (2) What aspect are you least satisfied with? (3) What kinds of comments from your readers would be most helpful?

Your paper should be typed, double-spaced, with at least 1-inch margins on all sides. Pages should be numbered. Sources should be documented with footnotes, following the guidelines in Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th ed., or Harvey, *Writing with Sources*. If you use Harvey, your footnotes should follow the CMS style indicated in section 4.2, beginning on p. 44. You do not need a bibliography for this paper.

Before you draft your paper, read Booth et al., *The Craft of Research*, chapter 14 (starting on p. 222) about introductions and conclusions. You should also read Harvey, *Writing with Sources*, chapters 1-3, on effectively integrating sources in papers, when to cite and not to cite, and how to avoid plagiarism.

Your paper is due on Thursday, February 12, at 5 p.m., posted to the WebCT discussion topic "Paper #1 drafts." It should be posted in Microsoft Word, RTF, or PDF format. RTF or PDF are preferable, because most word processors can open RTF files and any computer with Adobe Reader can open PDF files. If you have problems posting your paper, get in touch with me. I suggest that you finish your draft and try to post it by the morning of Feb. 12, so that if there are any problems you can bring them up in class Thursday afternoon.

You will receive comments from me and from two peer readers by midnight on Sunday, February 15. A revised draft of the paper is due on Thursday, February 19, at 5 p.m., also posted to WebCT. We will discuss strategies for revision in class.