

Bill Hammond

Where you have lived:

CT, PA, CA, NJ, NY, FL, ME

Your intellectual and/or artistic passions:

Classical literature

Intellectual and world history

Ancient, medieval, and modern poetry

Classical music (esp. piano sonatas, chamber music, and operas)

Renaissance and 17th-c. Dutch art

Five books you treasure:

Fiction: *The Magic Mountain* (T. Mann)

Poetry: *The Divine Comedy*

History: *The Human Web: A Bird's-Eye View of World History* (the MacNeills)

Philosophy: *On the Genealogy of Morals* (F. Nietzsche)

Science: *Maps of Time: An Introduction to Big History* (D. Christian)

Poets and/or types of poetry you enjoy:

Homer, Sappho, Catullus, Ovid, the Provençal troubadours, Petrarch, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Byron, Dickinson, Whitman, Yeats, Rilke, Pound, Borges, Clappitt, Wilbur (and 67,589 others)

On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you enjoy reading poems aloud?

1 — only to myself

Your degree of familiarity with classical Greek culture:

Slightly above-average; should be much higher!

Your favorite Greek myths:

stories related to Odysseus, Oedipus, Hermes, and Dionysus

Your goals for this course:

1. to create a generous, happy, and enthusiastic community of mythomaniacs
2. to strengthen my own attempts to understand and enjoy 2,500 years of myth-making and mythic evolution