

B.A Undergraduate Sem: II Eng Major

M.D.C.

MINOR

a. The classical period.

The European literature development is strongly linked with the Greek and Roman culture. Greek epic poems "The Illiad" and "The Odyssey" which date to the eighth century BCE are credited to the Homer. They are the oldest extant works of European literature from this era.

The main genres of literature that we are familiar with today — drama, poetry, prose fiction, history, philosophy and biography — were well-established by the time the Roman invaded Greece in the second century BCE.

Greek topic matter, style, and organisation were all influenced by ancient Roman writers who wrote in Latin. Especially in the domains of poetry and comedic theatre, the Roman started to carve out a distinct literary identity throughout the ages moving away from mere imitations of Greek works.

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As Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire by the third and fourth centuries CE, religious morality started to appear in the European writings.

## Classical Greek and Roman literature

Ancient Greek and Roman literature still has a large readership today.

(1) "The Iliad" (8th century BCE)  
by Homer.

(2) "The Odyssey" (8th century BCE)  
by Homer.

(3) "Medea" (431 BCE) Euripides

(4) "Metamorphoses" (8th century)  
by Ovid.

To be continued;  
Prof. Karnaaditya Singh  
Deptt. English  
Sher Shah College, Son.