



TEACHING *THE ODYSSEY*

February 11 and 18, 2026 • 5:00–6:15 p.m. CT

HUMANITIES TEXAS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINARS

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Teaching *The Odyssey*

The interactive sessions will introduce strategies and resources to engage students in reading *The Odyssey*. Content will be aligned with the secondary-level English language arts (ELA) TEKS.

DEBORAH BECK is professor of classics and Christie and Stanley E. Adams, Jr. Centennial Professor in Liberal Arts at The University of Texas at Austin. Her research focuses on how classical epic poetry tells a good story that connects emotionally with its audience(s), primarily but not exclusively Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*. She regularly publishes opinion essays in Texas and national publications. With her advanced Greek students, she produces the podcast "Musings in Greek Literature." Her recent awards include the 2021 Society for Classical Studies Award for Excellence in Teaching at the College and University Level, the 2025 UT Austin College of Liberal Arts Leslie Waggener Centennial Teaching Fellowship in foreign language and the 2025 College of Liberal Arts Dean's Faculty Mentoring Award.

Image: Iby John William Waterhouse, 1911. National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.