

## Summary

In this class, we will explore the history of Arda, the world created by the great author JRR Tolkien. The course will begin with a brief overview of the Ainur and the setup of the world, transitioning shortly into the Awakening of the Elves and their pilgrimage to the undying land. We'll talk about the activities they get up to there and their exile, and the Awakening of Man. After that, we will hop from battle to battle, dwelling on the great rulers of various time periods and their deeds. The short time available to us lends itself to a skimming overview, and so we will be unable to dwell in any sort of depth, but I'm confident we will be able to paint an accurate history in broad strokes, with time for an amusing anecdote here or there sure to make you the life of any party.

## Topics to be covered

- Discussion of historical texts
  - Ainulindalë
  - Valaquenta
  - Quenta Silmarillion
  - Narn i Chîn Húrin
  - Of Tuor and His Coming to Gondolin
- Overview of the Timeline
- Various battles, wars, and sieges
- Nations of Note
  - Noldor, Vanyar, Teleri, Nandor, Sindar
    - Nargothrond, Gondolin
  - Moria (Khazad-dûm), Khuzdul (Belegost), Tumunzahar (Nogrod)
  - The Edain — Houses of Bëor, Hador and the Haladin
- Historical Figures