



Department of Classical Studies
Graduate Course Offerings: Academic Year 2019-20

Fall Term September – December 2019

Classics 9000: Core Course

Drs. Greene & Brown - Wednesdays 2:30-5:30 pm

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major scholarly approaches and questions of the discipline of Classics and to provide a broad perspective on the discipline as a whole, through the examination of selected texts and objects drawn from material culture. Students will be exposed to the theoretical framework for each subject, while engaging in a close scrutiny of selected examples (texts and artifacts).

Part I – Greek and Roman Archaeology: Greene **Part II** – Greek Literature: Brown

Classics 9532A: The Topography of Athens and Attica

Dr. Catherine Pratt – Monday 2:30-5:30pm

This course is a comprehensive overview of the topography, monuments, and material culture of ancient Athens from the Bronze Age to the early modern era with a focus on the time of her greatest power and influence during the 6th and 5th Cs. BCE. The archaeological evidence will be examined within the social, political, and historical contexts of the city in both the private/domestic and public (secular/sacred) spheres. This course will also take into consideration the greater Attic territory and the fluctuating relationships between city and countryside over time.

Greek 9902A: Plato's *Symposium*

Dr. Aara Suksi – Thursday 2:30pm–5:30pm

Plato's *Symposium* is a literary masterpiece central to our understanding of Platonic thought and enormously influential in subsequent literary and philosophical traditions to the present day. It responds to a unique moment in history that brought together major figures of Classical Athenian politics, science, philosophy and drama in the years just before and subsequent to the calamitous Sicilian expedition. It exemplifies a newly emergent genre, the philosophical dialogue, even while it responds to a long tradition of sympotic literature, and it engages in complex ways with such diverse cultural phenomena as the civic institution of the Athenian dramatic festivals and the cults of the Greek mystery religions. In this course we will undertake a close reading in Greek of the *Symposium*. We will also read and discuss a range of scholarly and artistic responses to this complex and enigmatic text.

Latin 9902A: Latin Prose**Dr. Debra Nousek – Tuesday 2:30-5:30pm**

The Latin prose seminar is loosely organized around the theme of 'Cicero before and after exile'. We will read two famous speeches, Pro Archia and Pro Caelio, which demonstrate the orator's intellectual and rhetorical prowess. We will also consider these speeches in the context of the literary, social, and political environment Cicero worked in: both works showcase Cicero's enormous talent for creating a vivid and dramatic narrative that has almost nothing to do with the actual facts or charges in the case. Pro Archia (ca. 62 BCE), on the one hand, is an exploration of the place of art and literature in society, while Pro Caelio (56 BCE) argues, indirectly, that the lawcourt need not be un-entertaining. In the course of our discussions, we will look at how, exactly, Cicero crafts these arguments, their effectiveness, and what the speeches tell us about their author (intentionally or not).

LA9903A: Latin Poetry: Claudian**Dr. Neil Bernstein – Tu 10:30-12:30pm/ Thur 10:30-11:30am**

Claudian may have written late in the Roman Empire, but he was an essential part of the classical canon up through the 18th century. His influence is visible on Renaissance visual art and legible in Milton's Paradise Lost. He's been less well studied in modern times than earlier Classical Latin epic poets. As such, there are ample opportunities for a junior scholar to make a significant contribution. We'll survey all of his works in English, read about 1500 lines of his elegant Latin, and become acquainted with the recent Anglophone scholarship.

Winter Term January – April 2020

Classics 9000: Core Course

Drs. Nousek and Pogorzelski - Wednesdays 2:30-5:30 pm

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Part III – Greek and Roman History: Nousek **Part IV** – Latin Literature: Pogorzelski

Classics 9450B - The Roman Family

Dr. Kelly Olson - Tuesday 1:30 - 4:30pm

This course will analyze the different ways in which, from 200 BCE -200 CE, Romans lived together as families. We will examine the strategies they developed to secure the continuation of the family and its property; how families and their constituent members fitted into public life, and how these issues affected individuals of different social backgrounds. It will study what concepts like childhood, adolescence, or familial affection meant to Romans; what sentiments were invested in the various family-related roles and how these sentiments differed from our own. We will also look at such topics as slavery, adultery, and the dissolution of marriage, and their effects on family.

Greek 9903B - Greek Poetry

Dr. Christopher Brown – Monday 2:30-5:30pm

A survey of the poetic achievement of what is sometimes called ‘the lyric age of Greece’ through a close study of representative texts. A number of literary forms and genres will be considered (iambus, elegy, monody, choral poetry), and the poems will be examined from the point of view of their intrinsic literary merits and social context, as well as their place in literary history. Some attention will be paid to textual criticism and metre.

Latin 9903B - The *Aeneid* and its Reception

Dr. Gervais– Thursday 2:30-5:30pm

In this course we'll explore some of the reception of Virgil in Latin poetry. We'll read (in English) and discuss the entire *Aeneid* throughout the course, but our focus will be on a selection of well-known and less well-known Latin texts from the Classical period, Late Antiquity, and Renaissance. I've yet to finalize the list of readings, but my tentative plan includes: excerpts from Ovid's *Heroides*, Seneca's *Hercules Furens*, and Statius' *Thebaid*; the Classical pseudo-Virgilian *Catalepton* and Maffeo Vegio's "*Aeneid 13*" from the Renaissance; a couple late antique verse summaries of the *Aeneid*; and a selection of Virgilian centos (virtuoso creations that produce a new story by stitching together lines and half-lines from the *Aeneid*). But the reception of the *Aeneid* is an extremely broad field of research, and for your term paper I'll entertain proposal for topics on any area of Virgilian reception, broadly conceived.