



CLASSICS (SACR)

LATI 330 Advanced Latin Literature 2009 Trimester 1 (March 2-July 1)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lecturers: Prof. Arthur Pomeroy OK 515 ph. 463-6781
Dr Mark Masterson OK 511 ph. 463-6909

Class Times: Meet Three Times a Week
Monday 2-3
Wednesday 2-3
Thursday 2-3

Place: OK 523

Notices

Any additional information (terms lists, changes, unofficial exam results, etc) will be posted on the Departmental notice board on the FIFTH floor of OLD KIRK. A notice giving examination times and places for all courses taught in the Classics will also be posted there when this information is available.

E-mail enquiries to arthur.pomeroy@vuw.ac.nz and mark.masterson@vuw.ac.nz

Content

This course will read philosophical/epistolographic prose by the Neronian philosopher and statesman, Seneca (*Select Letters*, available from Classics) and selections from the fundamental Roman pastoral collection, Virgil's *Eclogues* (ed. R.G. Coleman, Cambridge).

Learning Aims and Objectives

1. To increase fluency and speed in reading Latin.
2. To think critically about the language and the authors in question.

By the end of the course you should have:

1. Read a substantial portion of the Latin text of Seneca, *Select Letters* and Virgil's *Eclogues* and become familiar with Seneca's and Virgil's vocabulary and style.
2. Been introduced to the main themes of each text.
3. Understood the place that Seneca and Virgil hold in the development of prose and poetry respectively.

The assessment will assess how well you have achieved these objectives.

Course Delivery: classes will meet as a small group, translate sections of the text, and discuss the content of the material. On Thursdays, there will be a short presentation (10-15 minutes) on some aspect of the text as below.

Texts

Seneca, *Select Letters* (Macmillan) - taught March 2 –April 9

Virgil, *Aeneid* ed. Pharr (Bolchazy-Carducci) - taught April 27-June 4

Assessment (Out of 100%)

(1) In-Class Presentation (10%)

A ten minute oral presentation to the class on a topic relevant to the course to be determined in conjunction with the course instructors. Topics might include:

- a. The form of Seneca's letters: Marcus Wilson, 'Seneca's Epistles to *Lucilius: a Reevaluation*' [*Ramus* 16 (1987) 102-121] in Fitch, *Oxford Readings in Seneca* 59-83 (Thursday 12 March).
- b. How much is 'Seneca' an invented character in his letters? Catherine Edwards, 'Self-scrutiny and self-transformation in Seneca's letters' [*Greece and Rome* 44 (1997) 23-38] in Fitch, *Oxford Readings in Seneca* 84-101 (Thursday 19 March).
- c. Seneca as 'judge' in the ethical sphere: Brad Inwood, 'Moral Judgement in Seneca' in Brad Inwood, *Reading Seneca* 201-223 (Thursday 26 March).
- d. Attitudes to Slavery: K.R. Bradley, 'Seneca and Slavery' [*Classica et Medievalia* 37 (1986) 161-172] in Fitch, *Oxford Readings in Seneca* 335-347 (Thursday 2 April).
- e. Psychology or philosophy – what does Seneca mean by '*voluntas*'? Brad Inwood, 'The Will in Seneca' in Fitch, *Oxford Readings in Seneca* 114-135 or Inwood, *Reading Seneca* 132-156 (Thursday 9 April).
- f. Martindale, Charles. 1997. "Green Politics: The *Eclogues*." *The Cambridge Companion to Virgil*. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press. 107-124. (Thursday 7 May)
- g. Sickle, John B Van. 2004. "Virgil Bucolics 1.1-2 and Interpretive Tradition: A Latin (Roman) Program for a Greek Genre". *Classical Philology*. 99.4: 336-353 (Thursday 14 May)
- h. Henderson, J. 1998. "Virgil's Third Eclogue: How Do You Keep an Idiot in Suspense?" *Classical Quarterly* 48 (1): 213-228. (Thursday 21 May)



- i. Hubbard, Thomas K. 1995. "Intertextual Hermeneutics in Vergil's Fourth and Fifth Eclogues." *The Classical Journal* 91. 1: 11-23. (Thursday 28 May)
- j. Breed, Brian W. 2006. *Pastoral inscriptions: reading and writing Virgil's Eclogues*. Classical literature and society series. London: Duckworth. 74-94; (Thursday 4 June)

(2) Commentary (20%)

A critical commentary of about 1500 words on a section of Seneca chosen in consultation with the instructor.

Due by 5 p.m. on 9 April 2009.

(3) Essay (20%)

An essay on Virgil's *Eclogues* on a subject to be determined in conjunction with the course instructor ca. 1500 – 2000 words in length. *Please give a word count with your essay.*

Due by 5 p.m. on 5 June 2009.

(4) Three Hour Final Exam (50%)

[Scheduled in the period: Friday 8 June to Wednesday 1 July 2009.]

Unseen passage for translation (10%)

Four passages chosen from a total of eight, for translation and comment, two from each author (40%).

Citations and Bibliography

The citation of sources must be consistent. There are many ways of citing, but the social science method common now in scholarly journals of all kinds is the most succinct. It requires a certain bibliographical format as well. Here is an example:

As Clifford Geertz writes, "Ideology bridges the emotional gap between things as they are and as one would have them be, thus insuring the performance of roles that might otherwise be abandoned in despair or apathy."¹

¹Geertz (1973) 205

If you cite this book again, then simply cite Geertz (1973) with the page number [e.g. Geertz (1973) 14]. There is no need for Latin abbreviations--*op. cit.*, *loc. cit.*, *ibid.*--etc. Now if Geertz has two or more items in your



bibliography from 1973, then the first one you cite is called Geertz (1973), the second one is called Geertz (1973a) and so on. In your bibliography, you enter

Geertz, C. (1973) *The Interpretation of Cultures*. New York: Basic Books.

You need to enter every source you have consulted in your bibliography, whether you have cited it or not. A bibliography is not meant to impress, but to inform. Include only items that you have read and have influenced your paper. If you use someone else's ideas you must cite the source. This is fundamental precept of scholarly morality. Changing the wording of someone else's ideas and presenting them as your own is plagiarism, a very serious offence: if in doubt, always cite your source.

For citing articles on the world-wide web, the URL and date when consulted must be listed as well as author and name of site.

Mandatory Course Requirements

Students must attend at least 75% of classes and complete all required work as above (including gaining at least 40% on the final examination).

Workload

In order to complete the course successfully an average student should expect to spend about 18 hours per week. This includes 3 hours of class time and 15 hours preparing texts and wider reading and assignment work. Students will be expected to have prepared at least 45 lines of poetry or two full pages of prose (as appropriate to the section) for each class.

In order to pass this course, a student must obtain an overall mark of at least 50% from the combination of assessed work. It is mandatory for a student to hand in in-term work. A mark of at least 40% must be achieved on the final examination.

Overdue Work

Extensions must be sought through the instructor prior to the due date of the work. In the absence of an extension overdue work will be penalised by 5% per day at the discretion of the instructor.



General University policies and statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

This website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

