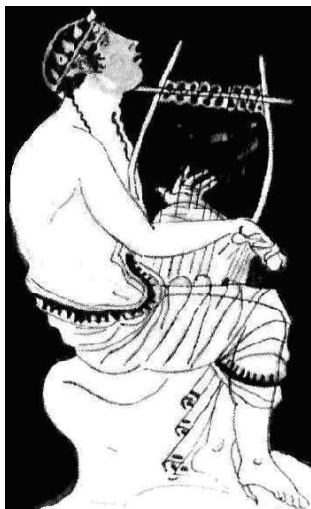


## ENGL 225 Classical Traditions in English Literature

**Trimester 3 2010**

Monday 15 November to Saturday 19 February 2011

**20 Points**



Orpheus with his lyre, from a Greek cup, 5th century BC; Venus and Adonis, engraving by Giorgio Ghisi, c.1556; Pygmalion and his statue, caricature by Honoré Daumier, 1842.

### TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: Monday 15 November 2010 to Friday 3 December 2010 **AND**  
Monday 10 January 2011 to Friday 28 January 2011

Mid-trimester/Christmas break: Monday 6 December 2010 to Friday 7 January 2011

Last piece of assessment due: Friday 4 February 2011

### NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Geoff Miles, VZ 915, phone 463-6809, e-mail [geoff.miles@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:geoff.miles@vuw.ac.nz) (course convener).

Tatjana Schaefer, VZ 917, phone 463-6802, e-mail [tatjana.schaefer@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:tatjana.schaefer@vuw.ac.nz) (lecturer and course administrator).

### CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

#### Lectures

Tuesday and Wednesday 11.00-12.50 pm and Thursday 11.00 – 1.30 pm in Murphy LT101.

There are no tutorials.

## WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

## COURSE DELIVERY

The course will be taught in workshops, a combination of lecture, class discussion, and small-group work. There are no tutorials for this course, so students are expected and required to attend at least 70% of sessions.

## COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Course information (including essay topics, exam information, and updates to the course schedule) will be distributed in classes and posted on the English noticeboard, on the third floor outside Hugh Mackenzie 206; it will also be posted on the course's Blackboard online site at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. If you have any problems accessing Blackboard, contact Tatjana Schaefer. Material on Blackboard will include some supplementary lecture material, but because the classes are largely discussion-based, lecture notes will not be posted on Blackboard; there is no substitute for actually attending the classes!

## COURSE CONTENT

The course falls into two halves. The first half (in November-December) will deal with classical mythology in English literature; we will look in particular at the transformations of three myths (Orpheus, Adonis, Pygmalion). The second half (in January) will look at three classical genres (the epigram, the ode, the satire), and the ways in which these literary forms have been used and modified by writers in English.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course aims to provide both specific knowledge about the classical tradition, and an ability to think about the workings of literary tradition in general. By the end of the course, you should:

- be familiar with the classical gods and the major classical myths, and able to recognise allusions to them in English texts;
- understand the generic conventions of epigram, ode, and satire;
- be able to analyse in detail the use of classical materials in texts of different periods;
- understand concepts involved in discussing a literary tradition (including such terms as influence, allusion, imitation, parody), and be able to use such concepts and terms in formulating arguments about the relationship between classical and English texts.

## EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The guideline for a 20-point 200-level paper is at least 200 hours of reading and study (including class attendance) across the trimester. Since ENGL 225 is accelerated to 6 weeks, workloads must be adjusted accordingly, especially by doing much of your reading in non-teaching weeks.

## READINGS

### Essential texts:

*Classical Mythology in English Literature: A Critical Anthology*, ed. Geoffrey Miles (Routledge, approx. \$80; second-hand copies may also be available), and two course readers from Student Notes, *Ode and Epigram* (approx. \$6.00) and *Satire* (approx. \$16.00).

**Recommended:** Ovid, *Metamorphoses*—any translation, but those of A.D. Melville (Oxford World's Classics, 1986) or Charles Martin (Norton, 2004) are both good.

All textbooks and student notes (undergraduate and postgraduate) will be available for purchase from vicbooks on the top floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

## ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The course is internally assessed. Three pieces of work will be required.

1. A **class test** (20%), on Tuesday 30 November, 12-1 pm (second hour of the class). This will test your knowledge of classical mythology as covered up to this point, i.e. the material in chapters 2–3 of the anthology and the myths of Orpheus and Adonis.
2. An **essay**, of 1200–1500 words (40%), due 5 pm, Friday 10 December. This essay will ask you to compare two or more treatments of a classical myth, and will test your ability in close analysis of texts of different periods.
3. An **essay**, of 1200–1500 words (40%), due 5 pm, Friday 4 February. This essay will be on either ode, epigram, or satire, and will test your knowledge of these genres and your ability to construct an argument about the workings of literary tradition.

All in-term work must be presented in accordance with the minimum standards outlined in a style sheet, which will be available on Blackboard.

## ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

## EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

If you need an extension, you must apply to the convenor, Geoff Miles, before the due date. A simple request will suffice for an extension of a week or less; for a longer or additional extension you will need to provide supporting documentation (e.g. a medical certificate). Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and

unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions. Work that is submitted late without an extension is subject to penalties. If work is handed in late, then one grade is subtracted and minimal comments are offered.

### MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum course requirements which must be satisfied include completion of all three pieces of internally assessed work by **Friday 11 February**, and attendance at **70% of classes** (i.e. at least 13 out of 18 two-hour sessions). Failure to satisfy the course requirements will leave you with a fail grade.

### CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

### STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Work submitted in the final examination will obviously be handwritten. You are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

### 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>

**GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES**

You 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>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information 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. This website can be accessed at:

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx)

**COURSE PROGRAMME****WEEK ONE**

**Tu 16 Nov** Introduction to the classical tradition. Gods: a spotter's guide.

**W 17 Nov** Orpheus 1: classical and medieval.  
Texts: *Classical Mythology in English Literature (CMEL)*, passages O1-8. We will focus especially on Virgil, Ovid, Boethius, and *Sir Orfeo*.

**Th 18 Nov** Orpheus 2: Renaissance to 18th century.  
Texts: *CMEL*, O9-29. We will focus especially on Shakespeare, Bacon, Milton, Pope, Finch, and Collins.

**WEEK TWO**

**Tu 23 Nov** Orpheus 3: 19th century to today.  
Texts: *CMEL*, O30-52. We will focus especially on Shelley, Hamburger, Hoban, Feinstein, Atwood, Gilbert, and Heath-Stubbs.

**W 24 Nov** Adonis 1: classical sources and Shakespeare's *Venus and Adonis*.  
Texts: *CMEL*, A1-5 and A7-11. We will focus especially on Theocritus, Bion, Ovid, and (obviously) Shakespeare.

**Th 25 Nov** Adonis 2: Spenser, Milton, and Shelley.  
Texts: *CMEL*, A6 (Spenser), A7 (Milton), and A20-21 (Keats and Shelley); also read through A8-19.

**WEEK THREE**

**Tu 30 Nov** Adonis 3: modern versions. **CLASS TEST** (4-5 pm).  
Texts: *CMEL*, A22-30, esp. Frazer, Eliot, MacLeish, Yeats.

**W 1 Dec** Pygmalion 1: classical to 18th century.  
Texts: *CMEL*, P1-14. We will focus especially on Ovid, Marston, Shakespeare.

**Th 2 Dec** Pygmalion 2: 19th century to today.  
Texts: *CMEL*, P15-29. We will focus especially on Beddoes, Hawthorne, Mary Shelley, Shaw, Graves, and Carter.

**FIRST ESSAY due Friday 10 December.**

**CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR BREAK**

(Read as much as possible of the *Epigram and Ode* and *Satire* coursebooks during the break.)

**WEEK FOUR**

**Tu 11 Jan** Introduction to genre. The epigram 1: definitions and history from ancient Greek and Latin to Renaissance (*Tatjana Schaefer*).

**W 12 Jan** The epigram 2: translation, adaptation and development from Renaissance to present (*Tatjana Schaefer*).

**Th 13 Jan** The ode 1: classical and Renaissance.

**WEEK FIVE**

**Tu 18 Jan** The ode 2: 18th century to the present.

**W 19 Jan** Introduction to satire. Classical and Renaissance satire.  
Texts: *Satire* coursebook, pp. 1-72 (Horace and Juvenal; Wyatt, Marston, Donne).

**Th 20 Jan** 18th century satire: Pope and Horace.  
Texts: *Satire*, pp.73-107. We will focus particularly on a comparison of Horace's Epistle 2.1 (pp.12-20) and Pope's 'Imitation' of it (96-102).

**WEEK SIX**

**Tu 25 Jan** 18th century satire: Johnson and Juvenal.  
Texts: Juvenal, Satires 3 and 10 (*Satire*, 26-47) and Johnson's 'London' and 'The Vanity of Human Wishes' (108-118).

**W 26 Jan** Fantastic satire. Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*.  
Texts: *Satire*, pp.121-186 (Aristophanes, Lucian, More, Swift).

**Th 27 Jan** Satirical science fiction. Visions of judgement. Conclusion.  
Texts: *Satire*, pp.187-211 (satire in science fiction) and 212-236 (Lucian, Seneca, Byron's *Vision of Judgement*).

**SECOND ESSAY due Friday 4 February.**