

CLAS 210/310

Greek and Roman Epic

TRIMESTER 1 2015



Circe mixes her potion for Odysseus' men to turn them to animals, while Odysseus hurries to the rescue

SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS, AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CLASSICS PROGRAMME

CLAS 210/310: GREEK AND ROMAN EPIC

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015

Study period: 8–12 June 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 12 June to 1 July 2015

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

This course is taught through a combination of lectures and tutorials. Students must sign up for a tutorial group using SCUBED.

Lectures: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 2:10 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Tuesday and Thursday, Hunter (HU) 323; Friday, Hugh Mackenzie (HM) 104

Tutors and tutorial times TBC.

Names and contact details

1. Course coordinator and instructor: Dr Simon Perris, Old Kirk (OK) 512, 04 463 5478

Office hours: by email appointment (8am to 4pm, weekdays)

2. Instructor: Dr Mark Masterson, Old Kirk (OK) 514, 04 463 6909

Office hours: 11:00–11:50 on Mondays and 3:10–4:00 on Tuesdays, and by appointment.

Communication of additional information

Any additional information will be provided via announcements on Blackboard and, where necessary, notices by the entrance to the lecture theatre.

Prescription

The development of Classical Epic, from Homer to Vergil and his successors. What is distinctive about epic artistry and the connection of epic poetry to the societies that value it.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass CLAS 210 should be able to:

1) describe the main formal elements of ancient epic;
2) discuss the development of ancient epic;
3) apply knowledge about ancient epic to specific examples from the set texts;
4) analyse theatrical, mythological, social, and other phenomena in ancient epic.

Students who pass CLAS 310 should be able to:

1) describe, and identify examples of, the main formal elements of ancient epic;
2) discuss the development of ancient epic using examples from the set texts;
3) apply knowledge of ancient epic to specific examples from the set texts;
4) critically analyse theatrical, mythological, social, and other phenomena in ancient epic;
5) synthesize readings in secondary scholarship with their own ideas about ancient epic.

Teaching format

CLAS 210/310 is taught through a combination of lectures and tutorials. Tutorial groups are scheduled at various times and places throughout the week. Students can sign up to tutorials on SCUBED during the first week. All students are expected to prepare for tutorials, using the tutorial sheet(s) provided via Blackboard, and to participate in the discussion. CLAS 210 students also hand in a brief tutorial assignment at the beginning of each tutorial.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must attend **at least 4** tutorials.

Workload

Students should expect to spend on average fourteen hours per week on CLAS 210 or CLAS 310: two hours preparing for each lecture (more preparing for tutorials), three hours a week attending lectures and tutorials, and five hours a week in general reading, revision, and preparing written assignments. The estimated total workload for the course, all inclusive, is 200 hours.

Assessment

Assessment for CLAS 210 and CLAS 310 comprises **50% internal assessment** and **50% external assessment (final examination)**. CLAS 210 students can earn up to 10% for tutorial assignments; CLAS 310 students will not submit tutorial assignments.

CLAS 210 ASSESSMENT		%	CLO(s)	Due
1	Text analysis (1200–1500 words)	15%	1, 3, 4	2 Apr
2	Research essay (1800–2000 words)	25%	2, 3, 4	15 May
3	Tutorial assignments	10%	ALL	various
4	Final examination (TWO HOURS)	50%	ALL	TBC

CLAS 310 ASSESSMENT		%	CLO(s)	Due
1	Research essay 1 (2000–2500 words)	25%	1, 3, 4, 5	2 Apr
2	Research essay 2 (2000–2500 words)	25%	2, 3, 4, 5	15 May
3	Final examination (THREE HOURS)	50%	ALL	TBC

Tutorial assignments (CLAS 210 only): weekly (10% total)

CLAS 210 students hand in a tutorial assignment to their tutor at the start of each tutorial. Each assignment is worth 2.5%, and you will receive points for your best four, for a total of 10%. For tutorials 1–3 and 5–6, choose ONE of the tutorial preparation questions and write a brief (1–2pp) response to that question, focusing on your interpretation of the epic. Although these are not formal essays, you must write in proper sentences and paragraphs, and you must make a sensible, intelligible point or points. To receive credit for the tutorial assignment, you must stay for the tutorial. Tutorial assignments will be graded on the following scale: unsatisfactory = 0/satisfactory = 1.5/good = 2.5. Marking criteria are as follows: clarity of written expression; demonstrated preparation for the tutorial; evidence of independent thought about the question.

For **tutorial 4**, write a brief (1–2pp) essay plan for your research essay, including (i) a list of at least three important passages from the primary text(s) accompanied by a few sentences for each passage explaining why each passage is important, (ii) a list of at least three relevant secondary sources dating from after 1985, accompanied by a few sentences for each source explaining its relevance, and an outline of your argument (research question, paragraph topics, and conclusions/hypotheses).

Text analysis (CLAS 210 only): 2 April (15%)

The text analysis, of a passage to be assigned, is a formal piece of written work which assesses your ability to analyse and write about ancient literature. Secondary reading is recommended but not required. Although this is not a research essay, it is still a formal piece of academic writing and must be presented as such.

Research essay: CLAS 210: 15 May (25%). CLAS 310: 2 April (25%) AND 15 May (25%)

The essays are formal research essays, requiring students to investigate the primary sources, construct an argument, support that argument with primary evidence, and improve or sharpen that argument with secondary sources. CLAS 310 assignments are longer and require evidence of critical engagement with secondary readings.

Final examination: date TBA (50%; 210: TWO HOURS; 310: THREE HOURS)

The final examination will assess knowledge of the entire course, combining elements of the tutorials, practical exercise and commentary, and in-term essay.

Marking criteria

Formal written work will be assessed according to the mechanics of formal written work (presentation, referencing, style, paragraphs, etc); clarity of expression; appropriate and effective use of evidence (primary and secondary); and quality of analysis. In addition, essays will also be assessed according to use of essay form and clarity of argument. The final exam will be a comprehensive assessment of students' knowledge of the entire course.

Submission and return of work

Submit written work in hard copy, with a Classics coversheet attached; these are available from outside the Classics office, OK 508. Submit text analyses and essays via the assignment box outside OK 508 by 4pm on the due date. Tutors will collect CLAS 210 tutorial assignments at the start of the tutorial and return them in the following tutorial. Other work can be collected from the Classics office. We aim for a two-week turnaround, although the university standard is three.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

In the event that you require an extension, you must apply to your tutor **in advance**. All reasonable consideration will be taken; you may be required to provide a medical certificate or other documentation. In particular, please tick the box denoting the granting of an extension on the Classics coversheet.

Penalties

In the absence of a formal extension, late written work will be penalised 2% per working day (that is, 2 marks of the overall grade out of 100 for that particular piece of work). Work that exceeds the set word limit may also receive a penalty, or may only be read and graded up to the set word limit.

Set texts

Homer, *Odyssey* trans. E. V. Rieu (Penguin).

Vergil, *Aeneid* trans. Robert Fitzgerald (Vintage Classics).

Ovid, *Metamorphoses* trans. David Raeburn (Penguin).

Statius, *The Thebaid: Seven Against Thebes*, trans. Ross (Johns Hopkins).

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter

- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz