

Department of Classics
Course Offerings
Fall 2008

Revision Date: 8/22/2008

CLASS 1331 Elementary Sanskrit I

X-List: SANSK 1131/LING 1131

351-266 **Class ID:** 5060 4 credits. MTRF 11:15-12:05 Nussbaum, A. Room GSH 144

An introduction to the essentials of Sanskrit grammar. Designed to enable the student to read classical and epic Sanskrit as quickly as possible.

CLASS 1531 FWS: Greek Myth

X-List:

361-732 **Class ID:** 12939 3 credits. MWF 9:05-9:55 McDonald, J. Room BAL 3331

This course examines the central myths of ancient Greece, beginning with description of the gods, such as the wise but womanizing Zeus, his jealous wife Hera, Aphrodite, goddess of sex, and Dionysus, god of wine. Next we will turn to the heroes Herakles, Theseus, and the Trojan warriors, as well as the women that impact their lives, focusing on the femme fatale Helen, and the axe-murderer Klytaimnestra. We will then discuss the reception of myth in literature, including Homer's monumental epics, Athenian tragedy, and Lucian's provocative satires. Attention will be given to the interpretation of myth, how myths from neighboring cultures in the Near East influenced Greece, and the relation between Greek myths and those of the more distant Indians, Vikings and Celts.

CLASS 1547 FWS: Violence in the Ancient World

X-List:

361-733 **Class ID:** 12941 3 credits. TR 10:10-11:25 Bowes, K. Room URH G24

Is modern society particularly 'violent'? How has violence been perceived and used in past societies? This course examines the expressions and functions of violence in the Greco-Roman world. By reading texts like the Iliad, Suetonius' Lives of the Emperors, even Saint Augustine, and looking at archaeological evidence from Greek vases to the Roman amphitheater, we'll look at various forms of violence – war, political strife, even violence in families. We'll ask how violence functioned to create the ideals of the hero and the corrupt politician, the relationship between violence and entertainment, and the role of violence in religion. Writing assignments will ask you to compare your modern experience and ancient lives, and to assume the viewpoint of ancient persons, from gladiators to monks.

CLASS 1563 FWS: Socrates: What is the Good Life

X-List:

361-734 **Class ID:** 12953 3 credits. MWF 10:10-11:00 Kenyon, E. Room BAL 3331

What is the good life? Socrates posed this question in various forms to people famous for wisdom. No one could answer him. This approach to philosophy called traditional values into question, and left several people humiliated. Eventually, an Athenian jury put Socrates to death for undermining conventional morality. So, what did Socrates have to say about the good life -- and its manifestation in politics, art and religion? We will try to identify Socrates' views by a close reading of Plato's Dialogues, which present conversation between Socrates and various individuals. We will critique Plato's characterization of Socrates by comparing it to the caricature presented by the comic poet Aristophanes, and by the studying the lives and works of Socrates's students Xenophon, Aristippus and Antisthenes.

CLASS 2351 Intermediate Sanskrit

X-List: LING 2251/SANSK 2251

351-268 **Class ID:** 9899 3 credits. MWF 11:15-12:05 Ruppel, A. Room GSH 181

Prerequisite: CLASS 1132 or equivalent
Satisfies Option 1.

Readings from the literature of Classical Sanskrit. Fall: selections from the two Sanskrit epics, the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*.

CLASS 2601 The Greek Experience

X-List:

352-306 **Class ID:** 2518 3 credits. TR 1:25-2:40 Ahl, F. Room GSH G22

TA: Matthew Sears

An introduction to the literature and thought of ancient Greece. Topics will include epic and lyric poetry, tragedy and comedy, and historical, political, philosophical, and scientific writings. Some attention will also be given to the daily life of ordinary citizens, supplemented by slides of ancient art and architecture.

CLASS 2603 Initiation to Greek Culture

X-List:

352-311 **Class ID:** 2537 4 credits. MWF 10:10-11:00 Pucci, P. Room GSH 124
One additional hour to be arranged.

Limited to 18 students. Intended especially for first-year students. Students must apply in writing to chair, Department of Classics, 120 Goldwin Smith Hall. Knowledge of Greek or Latin is not necessary, since all texts are in translation. What is necessary is the willingness to participate in three one-hour seminars each week and also a supplementary one- or two-hour session, during which the class participates in workshops with specially invited guests. This course covers a wide range of Greek literary and philosophical works as well as modern critical and philosophical writings on the Greeks. The focus throughout is on the status of language, the many forms of discourse that appear in the literature, and the attempts the Greeks themselves made to overcome the perceived inadequacies and difficulties inherent in language as the medium of poetry and philosophy. The course inquires into the development of philosophy in the context of a culture infused with traditional, mythological accounts of the cosmos. It asks how poetic forms such as tragedy responded to and made an accommodation with philosophical discourse while creating an intense emotional effect on the audience; how the first historians, using literary and philosophical discourse, created space for their own inquiry; and discusses how these issues persist and are formulated in our own thinking.

CLASS 2604 Greek Mythology

X-List:

352-314 **Class ID:** 2538 3 credits. TR 11:40-12:55 Mankin, D. Room WRN B45

A survey of the Greek myths, with emphasis on the content and significance of the myths in Mediterranean society, including the place of myth in Greek life and consciousness; the factors and influences involved in the creation of myths; and the use of myths for our understanding of Greek literature, religion, and moral and political concepts.

CLASS 2661 Ancient Philosophy

X-List: PHIL 2200

353-858 **Class ID:** 5033 4 credits. TR 10:10-11:25 Brennan, T. Room GSH G64
Open to first-year students. Enrollment in section required.

We will study the origins of Western philosophy as it emerged in ancient Greece: the Presocratics; Socrates and Plato; Aristotle; and the main Hellenistic schools (the Epicureans, Stoics, and Skeptics). Topics to be covered include: knowledge and reality; morality and happiness; free will; the nature of the soul.

Sections:

2661.1(Class ID: 5034) -- R 1:25-2:15, Room GSH 142
2661.2 (Class ID: 5035) -- F 12:20-1:10, Room URH G26
2661.3 (Class ID: 9146) -- M 9:05-9:55, Room URH G26

CLASS 2676 Periclean Athens

X-List: HIST 2580

352-328 **Class ID:** 8105 4 credits. TR 10:10-11:25 Rawlings, H. Room GSH 142
Enrollment in section required.

TA: *Matthew Swoveland*

The first five weeks will provide a synoptic view of Athens' historical and cultural achievement in the middle of the fifth century B.C. - the traditional pinnacle of "The Glory that was Greece." Readings will be taken from Greek historians, philosophers, poets and documentary texts. At least two of the (75-minute) lectures will be devoted to art history, delivered by a guest speaker. The next seven to eight weeks will follow the course of the Peloponnesian War to its end; readings from Thucydides will be interwoven with contemporaneous texts composed by the dramatists (Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes) and the sophists (supplemented with readings from Plato). The remaining classes will consider the fate of Socrates and a few other fourth-century developments. The basic aim of the course is to approach an understanding of how and why a vital and creative society came unglued. There will be weekly discussion sections.

Sections:

2676.1(Class ID: 8107) -- R 12:20 - 1:10, Room LNC B08
2676.2 (Class ID: 8108) -- F 11:15 - 12:05, Room GSH 142

CLASS 2681 History of Rome I

X-List: HIST 2670

352-329 **Class ID:** 8155 4 credits. MW 11:15-12:05 Van Abbema, L. Room MLT 253

Open to first-year students. Enrollment in section required.

TA: *Michael Dybicz and David Elefante*

Rome's beginnings and the Roman Republic. A general introduction to Roman history from the foundation of Rome in the middle of the eighth century BC to the end of the Republic (31 BC). The course is the first part of a two-semester survey of Roman history up to the deposition of the last Roman Emperor in the West (AD 476). Examines the rise of Rome from a village in Italy to an imperial power over the Mediterranean world and considers the political, economic, and social consequences of that achievement.

Sections:

2681.1 (Class ID: 8156) -- T 12:20 - 1:10, Room URH 262

2681.2 (Class ID: 8158) -- R 11:15 - 12:05, Room RCK 231

2681.3 (Class ID: 8159) -- F 2:30 - 3:20, ROOM GSH G22

CLASS 2700 Intro to Art History: The Classical World

X-List: ARTH 2200

350-883 **Class ID:** 5014 4 credits. TR 10:10-11:25 Alexandridis, A Room GSH G22

Enrollment in section required.

TA: *Jeffrey Leon*

An overview of the art and archaeology of the Greek and Roman world. The sculpture, vase painting, and architecture of the ancient Greeks from the Geometric Period through the Hellenistic, and the art of the Romans from the early Republic to the late empire.

Sections:

2700.1 (Class ID: 5015) -- F 9:05 - 9:55, Room GSH G19

2700.2 (Class ID: 5016) -- F 10:10 - 11:00, Room GSH G20

CLASS 3391 Independent Study in Sanskrit

X-List:

353-658 **Class ID:** 3338 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room

Up to 4 credits

CLASS 3393 Advanced Sanskrit I

X-List: SNLIT 3301

361-518 **Class ID:** 12240 4 credits. TBA McCrea, L. Room RCK 370

Pre-requisites: 2 years of Sanskrit or equivalent.

Readings in Sanskrit at the third level and above. Topics vary.

CLASS 3669 Plato

X-List: PHIL 3202

353-996 **Class ID:** 8263 4 credits. TR 2:55-4:10 Fine, G. Room RCK 230

Prerequisite: At least one previous course in Philosophy at the 2000-level or above, or permission of the instructor.

We will study several of Plato's major dialogues, including the the Apology, the Meno, Phaedo, and Republic. Topics to be covered include: knowledge and reality; morality and happiness; the nature of the soul. Prerequisites: at least one previous course in philosophy at the 200-level or above; or permission of the instructor.

CLASS 3686 Independent Study in Classical Civilization,

X-List:

353-655 **Class ID:** 3334 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room

Permission of DUS, in extraordinary circumstances only.

Up to 4 Credits

CLASS 3750 Intro to Dendrochronology

X-List: ARKEO 3090/ARTH 3250

350-839 **Class ID:** 1487 4 credits. W 12:20-1:10 Manning, S. Room GSH B48

By permission only. Two labs (Class ID: 8203) TBA

Introduction and training in dendrochronology and its application to archaeology, art-history and environmental studies through participation in a research project dating ancient to modern tree-ring samples from both the Mediterranean and the Upper New York State region. Supervised reading, laboratory/project work, fieldtrips(s) in local area. A possibility exists for summer fieldwork in the Mediterranean.

CLASS 4605 Hellenistic Jewish Literature

X-List: NES 4787/JWST 4787

Class ID: 13189 4 credits. R 1:25-4:25 Jovanociv, L. Room WHT B04

Apart from translating the Hebrew Scriptures into Greek, Hellenistic Judaism was prolific in its production of other literature in Greek as well. Romances, philosophical treatises, and biblical stories grace this rich and diverse corpus. In this seminar, we will read, in English translation, from a selection of such texts, including the Letter of Aristeas, Joseph and Aseneth, Josephus' Antiquities, LXX, The Testament of 12 Patriarchs, the works of Philo and Atrapanus, among others. We will explore how these texts discourse both with the ancestral biblical material and their adopted Greek culture by examining their interpretations of biblical figures and events, by situating the texts in their cultural context, and by applying the methodologies of modern scholarship. Particular attention will be devoted to individual topics, such as the concern for Jewish self-definition, monotheistic faith, gender dynamics, political convictions, and artistic expression.

An optional third hour will be devoted to reading from the texts in the original language and discussing their linguistic and textual problems. We will look at the idiosyncrasies of the Greek of the LXX and explore its use in different genres of Hellenistic Jewish literature. At least a year of ancient Greek is required for this section of the course.

CLASS 4683 Classics and Early America

X-List: HIST 4861/GOVT 4862

359-748 Class ID: 6259 4 credits. MWF 1:25-2:15 Rawlings, H. Room GSH 124

The point of the seminar is to study several related questions: how deep was the Founders' knowledge of the Classics (i. e., did it go beyond Plutarch and Livy?) How well did they know Latin and Greek? To what extent did these men actually use Greek and Roman texts in developing their political theories and ultimately the U.S. Constitution? How conscious were they of classical influences upon their thought? To what extent did they model their political aspirations and behavior upon the lives of leading Greeks and Romans? How did their views of actual Athenian democracy and the Roman Republic influence their political thinking? The format will be seminar discussion of mostly primary reading. Students will write one shorter paper on the reading, and a longer research paper on a major topic such as religious freedom, the structure of government, democratic vs. republican ideals, or classical origins of federalism. Grades will be determined by class participation as well as by the two papers.

CLASS 4721 Honors Course: Senior Essay

X-List:

359-220 Class ID: 5584 0 credits. TBA Staff Room

An advisor must be chosen by the end of the student's sixth semester. Topics must be approved by the Standing Committee on Honors by the beginning of the seventh semester. See "Honors," Classics front matter.

CLASS 4733 Sexuality in Greek and Roman Art

X-List: ARTH 4236

361-545 Class ID: 10849 4 credits. R 12:20-2:15 Alexandridis, A. Room GSH G20

The question whether sexuality is a given or instead constructed has been and continues to be intensely discussed since Michel Foucault published his "Histoire de la sexualité". As the three published volumes of this work are centered on the ancient 'classical' world, it is particularly appropriate to study Greek and Roman Art with and against Foucault's vision. We will investigate concepts of the male and the female body in visual representations as well as literary and scientific texts; the idea of hetero- and homosexuality; phenomena that are considered to be transgressive such as cross-dressing, hermaphroditism or bestiality. Particular emphasis will be on the rendering of sexual acts in texts and images. Is this pornography? Are these sexual fantasies? How far, if at all, can we relate these representations to historical reality? The images and texts meet traditional Western modes of representation while at the same time showing unexpected attitudes (at least for a Western eye). This mixture of familiarity and otherness will help to question deep-rooted assumptions on sexuality and the body.

CLASS 7173 Ancient Philosophy

X-List: PHIL 6200

354-089 Class ID: 10528 4 credits. M 3:00-5:00 Fine, G. Room RCK 112

Graduate seminar course on topics in Ancient Philosophy.

CLASS 7345 Graduate TA Training

X-List:

354-479 Class ID: 3763 1 credits. F 3:35-4:25 Staff Room GSH 122

Limited to Classics graduate teaching assistants.

Pedagogical instruction and course coordination. Required for all graduate student teachers of LATIN 1201-1202 and First-Year Writing Seminars.

CLASS 7633 Gender and Late Antiquity

X-List: NES 7633, HIST 7633, FGSS 7630,

361-239 **Class ID:** 10853 4 credits. T 1:25-4:25 Bowes/Haines-Eitzen Room GSH 124

This seminar treats gender, broadly construed to include masculinity, femininity and sexuality – from approximately 100 -500 A.D. Of particular interest will be the multiple intersections between gender and late ancient economics, religion, politics, art and archaeology. The seminar will use relevant theoretical works and secondary sources to read ancient texts (hagiography, documentary papyri, ecclesiastical letters, inscriptions) and material culture (art, architecture and other artifactual material).

CLASS 7950 Independent Study in Sanskrit

X-List:

354-493 **Class ID:** 3766 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room

Up to 4 credits. Graduate level.

CLASS 7960 Independent Study in Classical Studies

X-List:

354-489 **Class ID:** 7990 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room

Up to 4 credits

GREEK 1101 Elementary Ancient Greek I

X-List:

351-779 **Class ID:** 5684 4 credits. MTRF 12:20-1:10 Pelliccia, H. Room GSH 122

TA: Samuel Kurland

Introduction to Attic Greek. Designed to enable the student to read the ancient authors as soon as possible.

GREEK 1105 Elementary Ancient Greek III

X-List:

351-786 **Class ID:** 5685 3 credits. MWF 12:20-1:10 Clinton, K. Room GSH 124

Prerequisite: Greek 1102 (102), 1103 (103) or placement by departmental examination.

Introduces students to reading Greek literary texts, such as Xenophon's *Anabasis* or a dialogue by Plato. The course covers complex syntax and reviews the grammar presented in GREEK 1102 or 1103.**GREEK 2101 Greek Prose**

X-List:

Class ID: 13658 3 credits. MWF 10:10-11:00 Fontaine, M. Room GSH 122

GREEK 1105 or equivalent.

Selected readings from Herodotus' *Histories*.**GREEK 3102 Greek Historiography & Oratory**

X-List:

353-309 **Class ID:** 7727 4 credits. TR 8:40-9:55 Pelliccia, H. Room GSH 124

Prerequisite: GREEK 1105 (104) or one 2000-level Greek course.

History and myth in Herodotus and Plato. Readings in Greek from Herodotus' *Histories* and Plato's *Phaedrus*, *Critias*, and *Timaeus*. Further readings in English from these and other ancient and modern authors.**GREEK 3185 Independent Study in Greek, Undergraduate Level**

X-List:

359-311 **Class ID:** 5687 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room

Permission of DUS, in extraordinary circumstances only.

Up to 4 credits.

GREEK 4101 Advanced Readings in Greek Literature

X-List:

353-677 **Class ID:** 7735 4 credits. TR 1:25-2:40 Clinton, K. Room OLL 403Topic: Greek Historiography. Texts will include Aristotle's *Athenaion politeia* and selections from Xenophon.**GREEK 4411 Greek Comparative Grammar**

X-List: LING 4451

357-649 **Class ID:** 7981 4 credits. TR 2:55-4:10 Nussbaum, A. Room GSH 122

Prerequisite: Thorough familiarity with the morphology of classical Greek.

The prehistory and evolution of the sounds and forms of ancient Greek as reconstructed by comparison with the other Indo-European languages.

GREEK 7161 Greek Philosophical Texts

X-List: PHIL 6010

361-493 **Class ID:** 11152 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
 Reading and translation of Greek philosophical texts.

GREEK 7171 Graduate Seminar in Greek

X-List:

354-483 **Class ID:** 5689 4 credits. W 1:25-4:25 Pucci, P. Room OLL 403
 Homer: Narrative in the Iliad.

GREEK 7172 Graduate Seminar in Greek

X-List:

354-484 **Class ID:** 7983 4 credits. M 1:25-4:25 Parker, R. Room GSH 122
 Townsend Seminar on Greek Religion. This course will tackle major problems in Greek religion through a series of case studies; the aim will be to bridge the gap between big questions and theory on the one side, and close work with the actual documentary evidence for Greek religion (literary, inscriptional, iconographic) on the other.

GREEK 7910 Independent Study in Greek

X-List:

354-487 **Class ID:** 5690 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
 Up to 4 credits.

LATIN 1201 Elementary Latin I

X-List:

351-788 **Class ID:** Below 4 credits. MTRF 9:05-9:55 See below Room GSH 160

An introductory course designed to prepare students to start reading Latin prose at the end of a year. The class moves swiftly. Work will include extensive memorization of vocabulary and paradigms, study of Latin syntax, and written homework, quizzes, tests, and oral drills.

Times:

1201.1 (Class ID: 5545) - MTRF 9:05-9:55, Room GSH 160, Aaron Pelttari

1201.2 (Class ID: 5546) - MTRF 11:15-12:05, Room GSH 122, Drew Sweet

1201-3 (Class ID: 5547) - MTRF 12:20-1:10, GSH 160, Lindsay Sears

LATIN 1204 Latin in Review

X-List:

352-247 **Class ID:** 5548 4 credits. MTRF 10:10-11:00 Ruppel, A. Room GSH 181

Prerequisite: Placement by departmental examination.

This course is designed to accommodate students who have had some Latin, but are insufficiently prepared to take 1202 (106). It will begin with review of some material covered in 1201 and will then continue with second-term Latin material (1202). The class moves swiftly. Work will include extensive memorization of vocabulary and paradigms, study of Latin syntax, and written homework, quizzes, tests, and oral drills. Students should be ready for Latin 1205 by the end of the course, but may take LATIN 2201 if they pass with A- or better.

LATIN 1205 Elementary Latin III

X-List:

352-249 **Class ID:** 5549 3 credits. MWF 9:05-9:55 Ruppel, A. Room GSH 181

Prerequisites: LATIN 1202 (106), 1203 (107), 1204 (108), or placement by departmental exam.

Provides language proficiency.

Satisfies Option 1. Introduces students to reading a literary Latin text (Ovid, *Ars Amatoria* I). The course covers complex syntax and reviews the grammar presented in LATIN 1202, 1203, or 1204.

LATIN 2201 Latin Prose

X-List:

352-279 **Class ID:** below 3 credits. MWF 9:05-9:55 Brittain/Van Abbema Room GSH 122

Prerequisite: LATIN 1205 (109) or grade of A- or above in LATIN 1202 (106), 1203 (107), 1204 (108) or placement by Satisfies Option 1. Reading of Cornelius Nepos' *Life of Atticus*. Nepos was a Roman biographer and historian as well as the man to whom Catullus dedicated his collection of poems. His biography of Atticus portrays this man of letters and friend of Cicero as a pivotal figure in the fall of the Roman Republic. Attention will be equally devoted to grammar and literary or historical context.

Class ID:

Brittain, C. (Class ID: 5550), Room GSH 122

Van Abbema, L. (Class ID: 10834), GSH 124

LATIN 3201 Roman Epic X-List:
353-607 **Class ID:** 8002 4 credits. TR 11:40-12:55 Ahl, F. Room GSH 124
Prerequisite: One 2000-level Latin course.

LATIN 3217 Latin Prose Composition X-List:
353-631 **Class ID:** 8003 4 credits. MWF 2:30-3:20 Mankin, D. Room LNC 117
Prerequisite: One semester of 2000-level Latin or permission of DUS.

LATIN 3286 Independent Study in Latin, Undergraduate Level X-List:
353-653 **Class ID:** 5720 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
Permission of DUS, in extraordinary circumstances only.
Up to 4 credits.

LATIN 4203 Survey of Latin Literature X-List:
361-237 **Class ID:** 10869 4 credits. TR 8:40-9:55 Fontaine, M. Room GSH 122
Seniors must obtain permission from the instructor to enroll in the course.
TA: Roman Ivanov
Survey of Latin literature from the Roman republic to the Augustan period.

LATIN 4213/7213 Survey of Medieval Latin Literature X-List: MEDVL 4103
359-439 **Class ID:** Below 4 credits. MWF 11:15-12:05 Ruff, C. Room URH G88
The Survey of Medieval Latin Literature this semester will focus on the intellectual culture of western monasticism from the foundations of a Christian curriculum in late antiquity through the twelfth century - a theme which encompasses grammar, exegesis, monastic rules, hagiography, royal and ecclesiastical documents, letter exchange, preaching, and much more. We will begin with Donatus, Augustine, Cassiodorus, and the Rule of St. Benedict; sample early medieval hagiography and foundational documents of the Carolingian renovation; and then move on to more extended reading of selected texts of Aelred of Rievaulx, Peter the Venerable, and Bernard of Clairvaux. The term will finish on a lighter note with some satirical prose and verse. Students should come to the course with a firm grasp of Latin grammar; advanced topics in syntax will be reviewed as necessary, and we will treat linguistic developments in post-classical Latin and matters of style and versification as they arise.
Class ID:
LATIN 4213 (Class ID: 6429)
LATIN 7213 (Class ID: 6431)

LATIN 7262 Latin Philosophical Texts X-List: PHIL 6020, RELST 4100
361-494 **Class ID:** 11153 Var. credits. TBA Brittain, C. Room
Up to 4 credits
Pre-requisite: Knowledge of Latin and permission of instructor
Reading of Latin philosophical texts in the original.

LATIN 7920 Independent Study in Latin X-List:
354-488 **Class ID:** 5722 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
Up to 4 credits.