

Department of Classics
Course Offerings
Spring 2015

Revision Date: 1/30/2015

CLASS 1332 Elementary Sanskrit II

X-List: LING 1132, SANSK 1132

351267 **Class #:** 5598 4 credits. MTRF 12:20-1:10 Golovkova, A. Room RCK 185

Prerequisite: CLASS 1331. Sanskrit /Linguistics 1131 or equivalent.

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

CLASS 1531 FWS: Greek Myth

X-List:

361732 **Class #:** 17253 3 credits. TR 10:10-11:25 Carignano, M. Room URH G26

The course will focus on the stories about the gods and heroes of the Greeks as they appear in the works of ancient Greek literature. We will read a selection from Greek authors, inquiring into the relationship between myths and cultural, religious, and political realities of the society in which they were shaped and perpetuated. Alongside the primary texts, we will read a number of recent scholarly works on the subject. We will start by discussing myths in general terms (theories, basic concepts) and will proceed toward the analysis of individual stories and cycles. This fascinating material will serve as a vehicle for improving your written communication skills. Assignments will include preparatory writing and six essays focusing on our readings and discussions in class.

CLASS 1562 FWS: Augustine's Confessions

X-List:

366638 **Class #:** 17254 3 credits. TR 2:55-4:10 Brittain, C. Room GSH 124

The Confessions is an autobiographical account of Augustine's discovery of god through his reading of philosophical texts and, eventually, the Bible. But since he regards his own story as an example of ordinary human development, he uses it as a way of thinking about human nature in general. This allows him to analyze some fundamental problems in life – sin, friendship, emotions, sex, faith and the existence of god – through his narrative.

The course will follow Augustine's intense focus in this work on reading texts (since the decisive changes in his life all came from discovering books). We will learn how to interpret and analyze informal arguments and how to reconstruct theories sketched in the text and to set them out with clarity and concision.

CLASS 1699 English Words: Histories and Mysteries

X-List: LING 1109

357523 **Class #:** 15449 3 credits. MW 1:25-2:15 Nussbaum, A. Room GSH G64

Where do the words we use come from? This course examines the history and structure of the English vocabulary from its distant Indo-European roots to the latest in technical jargon and slang. Topics include formal and semantic change, taboo and euphemism, borrowing new words from old, "learned" English loans from Greek and Latin, slang, and society.

Discussion Sessions:

DIS 201 (Class #: 15827) F 1:25-2:15, GSH G24

DIS 202 (Class #: 15828) W 7:30-8:20, RCK 128

DIS 203 (Class #: 17640) W 7:30-8:20, RCK 187

DIS 204 (Class #: 17641) F 1:25-2:15, GSH 181

CLASS 2352 Intermediate Sanskrit II

X-List: LING 2252/SANSK 2252

357709 **Class #:** 16223 3 credits. MWF 11:15-12:05 Clary, T. Room SSB 105

Prerequisite: CLASS 1332 or equivalent.

Satisfies Option 1.

Readings from the literature of Classical Sanskrit: more selections from the epics, and from either Sanskrit story literature or from Sanskrit dramas.

CLASS 2612 The Roman Experience

X-List:

352309 **Class #:** 9052 3 credits. MWF 1:25-2:15 Mankin, D. Room GSH G76

An introduction to the civilization of the Romans as expressed in their literature, religion, and social and political institutions.

CLASS 2636 Intro to Christian History

X-List: NES/JWST/RELST 2695

358369 **Class #:** 15594 3 credits. MW 8:40-9:55 Haines-Eitzen, K. Room WHT 110

This course offers an introduction to the history of Christianity from the first century through the seventeenth and perhaps a bit beyond. Our emphasis will be on the diversity of Christian traditions, beliefs, and practices throughout history. We will explore the origins of Christianity within the eastern Mediterranean world, the spread of Christianity, the development of ecclesiastical institutions, the rise and establishment of monasticism, and the various controversies that occupied the church throughout its history. Throughout the course, we will supplement our reading of primary texts with art, archaeology, music, and manuscripts.

CLASS 2682 History of Rome II

X-List: HIST 2671

352330 **Class #:** 15408 4 credits. TR 8:40-9:55 Rebillard, E. Room URH 262

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

This course is the second part of a two-term survey of Roman history and will examine the history of the Roman Empire from the beginnings of the Augustan Principate (31 BC) to the fall of the Western Empire in the fifth century (476 AD). We will consider the creation and development of the imperial regime, explore the various types of challenges (military, cultural, and religious) to the hegemony of the Roman state, and try to understand the transformations of Roman society and culture down to the middle of the fifth century AD.

Discussion sections:

DIS 201 (Class #:15409) R 10:10-11:00, GSH 124, Lindsey Brill/Margaret Moline

DIS 202 (Class #:15410) F 9:05-9:55, GSH 124, Lindsey Brill/Margaret Moline

CLASS 2700 The Classical World in 24 Objects

X-List: ARTH 2200, ARKEO 2700

350883 **Class #:** 8775 4 credits. MW 8:40-9:55 Alexandridis, A. Room GSH G22

Enrollment in section required.

This course is an overview of the art and archaeology of Greek and Roman world, covering the artistic production of the ancient Greeks from the Bronze Age through the Hellenistic period, and the art of the Romans from the early Republic to the time of Constantine the Great. Each lecture will focus on one object or monument and how it can be considered exemplary for its time. Simultaneously students learn different ways of how to look at and analyze material evidence.

Sections:

DIS 201 (Class #9019) R 12:20-1:10, GSH G24

DIS 202 (Class #9020) F 10:10-11:00, GSH G24

CLASS 2802 Classical Tradition

X-List:

365726 **Class #:** 8905 4 credits. MWF 9:05-9:55 Kirk, A. Room GSH 122

Greece and Rome left behind a cultural legacy that still shapes the artistic, literary, scientific, and legal aspects of the world we live in today. This course traces those continuities of influence, while simultaneously tracking how they were transformed by later societies to fit their own cultural, intellectual, and technological circumstances. Readings that illuminate the adaptations and reconfigurations of Classical culture will be focused on a different theme each year.

This year's theme, "Criticism and the Classics," examines the influence of ancient Greek literature on subsequent literary criticism. How have we reinterpreted Greek texts over the last few centuries, and what is the relationship between ancient literature and the history of ideas? Course readings will survey major approaches from the Enlightenment to contemporary literary theory paired with key ancient sources. Areas of focus will include, among others, Romanticism, psychoanalysis, New Criticism, structuralism, and deconstruction.

CLASS 2804 Understanding Ancient Slavery

X-List:

366635 **Class #:** 15414 3 credits. TR 11:40-12:55 Giannella, N. Room GSH 122

This course studies the slavery of Ancient Greece and Rome. While the course will primarily focus on the slave society of Rome, we will begin the course examining Greek ideas of slavery such as in Aristotle's Politics before moving onto Rome in order to understand the nuances of slave societies. The final weeks of the class will be spent discussing the classical underpinnings of slavery in the American South. This course will read legal, philosophical, and literary treatments of slavery.

CLASS 3391 Independent Study in Sanskrit, Undergraduate Level

X-List:

353658 **Class #:** 7232 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room

Permission of DUS, in special circumstances only.

Up to 4 credits.

CLASS 4636 Gnosticism and Early Christianity

X-List: NES/JWST/RELST 4628

357499 **Class #:** 15607 4 credits. W 12:20-2:15 Haines-Eitzen, K. Room WHT B04

What is "Gnosticism" and why has it come to be so hotly debated among scholars and in our contemporary media? What is the Gospel of Judas and are its ideas "heretical"? Who wrote the Gospel of Thomas and the Gospel of Mary and why were these Gospels not included in the New Testament canon? To what extent did Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* draw from ancient Christian gnostic sources? This seminar will explore answers to these questions and many others by focusing on the complex array of literary sources from late antiquity—primarily from a cache of manuscripts found at Nag Hammadi, Egypt, in 1945—that have long been associated with a so-called "Christian Gnosticism." Church Fathers condemned the "movement" on a variety of grounds, but in this course we will not simply read the condemnations written by the opponents of gnostic thought; rather, we will focus our attention on reading (in English translation) substantial portions of the "gnostic" texts written by the adherents themselves. We will give special attention to the ways in which conflicts about Gnosticism connected with conflicts about gender, heresy, power, and authority. To set these texts within a socio-historical context, we will discuss the possible Jewish and hellenistic roots of early Christian Gnosticism and ties to Stoic and other ancient philosophical movements.

CLASS 4637 Talmud and the Art of Reading

X-List: NES/JWST/RELST 4776

366881 **Class #:** 15655 4 credits. M 10:10-12:05 Septimus, Z. Room WHT 104

The Babylonian Talmud has long been viewed as the central text of post-Biblical Judaism. Yet little is known about who wrote it and when it was written. Since the Talmud is an extremely difficult text to master, its readership has therefore until recently been limited to few expert traditional scholars. Over the past fifty or so years, with the advent of translations and study guides, the Talmud has gained increasing popularity. The Talmud has long been viewed as a source for history, law, or moral lessons. But literature interacts with the cultures that produce and read it in far more nuanced and significant ways. In the past century, advances in theories of how and why to read literature have opened up new avenues for understanding what the Talmud says and, more importantly, how it works. This course will examine provocative, bizarre, and salacious Talmud passages through the lens of the evolution of the major theoretical schools of the past century. Each week we will explore a theoretical movement (e.g. New Criticism, Formalism, Post-Structuralism, Feminist Criticism, New Historicism, etc.) and apply their reading strategies to close readings of Talmud passages. We will simultaneously read the work of modern Talmud scholars whose reading practices align with each of these theoretical schools. All Texts will be read in translation and no previous knowledge of Talmud or Critical Theory is necessary.

CLASS 4662/7173 Topics in Ancient Philosophy

X-List: PHIL 4200/6200

354077/89 **Class #:** 5836/8460 4 credits. W 1:25-4:25 Brennan, T. Room GSH 164

Topic: Aristotle's Nichomachean Ethics

Advanced discussion of some important figures and movements in Ancient Philosophy. Specific texts and topics vary from year to year.

CLASS 4722 Honors Course: Senior Essay

X-List:

361899 **Class #:** 5837 8 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 4761 Archaeology of Violence in the Ancient Mediterranean

X-List: ARKEO 4761

366738 **Class #:** 15418 4 credits. R 1:25-4:25 Pilkington, N. Room GSH 122

Interpersonal to Interstate. Students will develop a knowledge of current methods and techniques used to identify violence in the archaeological record. We will study practices from animal sacrifice to the destruction of cities.

CLASS 7346 Classics Graduate Preparation

X-List:

366570 **Class #:** 15420 0 credits. TBA Rebillard, E. Room

A course for all pre-A exam graduate students that will both prepare them to be professional ABD classicists and help review progress in language and reading list exams preparation.

CLASS 7684 Topics in Ancient Greek History X-List: HIST 6330
 359428 Class #: 16792 4 credits. T 1:25-4:25 Strauss, B. Room MCG 344
 Spring. 4 credits. Barry Strauss.
 Topic: Narrative and Ancient History. We will look at the theory and practice of narrative history in the study of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds and their neighbors. Topics include: microhistory, family, sex, battle, murder, riot and revolt.
 Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

CLASS 7950 Independent Study in Sanskrit X-List:
 354493 Class #: 5559 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
 Up to 4 credits.

CLASS 7960 Independent Study in Classical Studies X-List:
 354489 Class #: Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
 Up to 4 credits

GREEK 1102 Elementary Ancient Greek II X-List:
 351785 Class #: 5589 4 credits. MTRF 11:15-12:05 Rusten, J. Room GSH 124
 Prerequisite: Greek 1101 or equivalent.
 A continuation of GREEK 1101, prepares students for GREEK 2101.

GREEK 3102 Greek Historiography & Oratory X-List:
 353309 Class #: 15422 4 credits. MWF 1:25-2:15 Kirk, A. Room GSH 124
 Prerequisite: GREEK 1105 or one 2000-level Greek course.
 Satisfies Option 1. Undergraduate seminar.
 Topic: CSI Athens: The Ethics of Murder
 Beginning with Lysias' oration "On the Murder of Eratosthenes," in which the killer denies he premeditated his act, we will read Greek texts to examine homicide in ancient Athens. What were ancient motives for harming someone? What were the penalties for doing so? Who had license to kill? In addition to forensic speeches we will look at selections from legal, philosophical, and dramatic writers.

GREEK 3185 Independent Study in Greek, Undergraduate Level X-List:
 359311 Class #: 5556 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
 Permission of DUS, in special circumstances only.
 Up to 4 credits

GREEK 4112 Adv. Reading in Latin and Greek X-List: LATIN 4212
 366759 Class #: 15424 3 credits. MW 8:40-9:55 Clary, T. Room MRL 110
 The course will prepare students to read the texts that are on the Classics Reading List (<http://classics.cornell.edu/graduate/classics-reading-list.cfm>).

GREEK 4455 Greek Dialects X-List: LING 4455
 353684 Class #: 15444 4 credits. MW 5:15-6:00 Nussbaum, A. Room GSH 156
 Basic familiarity with the forms of classical Greek.
 An examination of the features of the major dialects of ancient Greek and their historical relationships, with special attention to literary Doric, the Lesbian of Sappho and Alcaeus, Homeric Ionic and the question of "Achaean."

GREEK 7161 Greek Philosophical Texts X-List: PHIL 4110/6010
 361493 Class #: 7926 Var. credits. F 2:30-4:30 Brittain, C. Room GSH 320
 Reading and translation of Greek philosophical texts.

GREEK 7172 Graduate Seminar in Greek X-List:
354484 Class #: 15454 4 credits. M 1:25-4:25 Rusten, J. Room GSH 122
Topic: Thucydides.

GREEK 7910 Independent Study in Greek X-List:
354487 Class #: 5555 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
Up to 4 credits.

LATIN 1202 Elementary Latin II X-List:
351790 Class #: 4 credits. MTRF See below. Room URH 312
LATIN 1201 or equivalent.
A continuation of LATIN 1201, using readings from various authors. Prepares students for LATIN 1205.
SEM 101 (Class #5607) MTRF 9:05-9:55, URH 312, D. Blome
SEM 102 (Class #6738) MTRF 12:20-1:10, URH G20, C. Kearns

LATIN 1205 Intermediate Latin I X-List:
352249 Class #: 5604 3 credits. MWF 10:10-11:00 Clary, T. Room GSH 122
Prerequisites: LATIN 1202, 1204, or placement by departmental exam.
Satisfies Option 2. 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 or 1204.

LATIN 2208 Latin Historiography X-List:
366636 Class #: 15425 4 credits. MWF 10:10-11:00 Fontaine, M. Room GSH 124
This course will focus on Latin historiography through a close reading of Livy book 1. Principal objectives include analysis of literary style, scholarly methods, and authorial bias. Special emphasis will be placed on developing rapid fluency with reading connected Latin prose.

LATIN 3203 Roman Poetry X-List:
353613 Class #: 15440 4 credits. TR 1:25-2:40 Mankin, D. Room RCK B16
Satisfies Option 1.
Prerequisite: One term of 2000-level Latin or permission of instructor.
Topic: Propertius

LATIN 3286 Independent Study in Latin, Undergraduate Level X-List:
353653 Class #: 5560 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room
Permission of DUS, in special circumstances only.
Up to 4 credits.

LATIN 4204 Survey of Latin Literature X-List:
361238 Class #: 15441 4 credits. W 1:25-4:25 Fontaine, M. Room GSH 122
Topic: Roman Drama
Survey of Latin literature of the Roman Empire from the later Augustan period to the mid-second century AD. Readings will be drawn from the Classics Reading List.

LATIN 4212 Adv. Reading in Latin and Greek X-List: GREEK 4112
366759 Class #: 15423 3 credits. MW 8:40-9:55 Clary, T. Room MRL 110
The course will prepare students to read the texts that are on the Classics Reading List (<http://classics.cornell.edu/graduate/classics-reading-list.cfm>).

LATIN 7222 Latin Paleography

X-List: MEDVL 6102

353938 **Class #:** 17111 4 credits. T 4:30-6:30 Hicks, A. Room RCK 104

This course is an introduction to and survey of Latin scripts from Roman antiquity through the early Renaissance, with an emphasis on the identification, localization, and reading of scripts. Class meetings will combine practical study of Latin scripts through medieval manuscripts in the Kroch library, facsimiles, and online digital reproductions with instruction in the cultural-historical background to manuscript production, library practices, and bibliographical resources. Students will also be introduced to basic techniques for codicological description and the principles of textual criticism. There will be a mid-term and a final exam. A solid understanding of Latin grammar and morphology is a prerequisite for the course, and students in doubt about their readiness should consult with the instructor.

LATIN 7262 Latin Philosophical Texts

X-List: PHIL/RELST/MEDVL 6020

361494 **Class #:** 7848 Var. credits. TBA Brittain, C./MacDonald, 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:

354488 **Class #:** 5561 Var. credits. TBA Staff Room

Up to 4 credits.