Department of Classics
Course Offerings
Fall 2017
Revision Date: 8/15/2017

CLASS 1331  Elementary Sanskrit I  X-List: SANS/LING 1131
351266  Class #: 6422  4  credits.  MTRF  1:25-2:15  Clary, T.  Room GSH 158
An introduction to the essentials of Sanskrit grammar. Designed to enable the student to read classical and epic Sanskrit as soon as possible.

CLASS 1515  FWS: Great Roman Inventions  X-List:
368809  Class #: 8977  3  credits.  MW  8:40-9:55  Van Oyen, A.  Room IVS 103
What do the book, blown glass, the calendar, and concrete have in common? Our modern world would not be imaginable without them, from the ability to schedule meetings to the construction of New York’s skyscrapers. But they also have something else in common: all of these were Roman inventions. How did such new concepts come into being? What was it about the historical context of the Roman empire that facilitated their development? And how did they become building blocks of our modern world? While exploring these questions, the seminar will dissect the different stages and strategies of writing, which students will practice through six essays of different length and scope.

CLASS 1531  FWS: Greek Myth  X-List:
361732  Class #: 3  credits.  See below  Room
This course will focus on the stories about the gods and heroes of the Greeks as they appear in ancient literature and art. We will examine the relationship between myths and the cultural, religious, and political conditions of the society in which they took shape. Beginning with theories of myth and proceeding to the analysis of individual stories and cycles, the material will serve as a vehicle for improving your written communication skills. Assignments include preparatory writing and six essays focusing on readings and discussions in class.
Times:
SEM 101 (Class #:) MW 8:40-9:55, LNC 117, Micaela Carignano
SEM 102 (Class #:) MW 2:55-4:10, URH 369, Sophia Taborski
SEM 103 (Class #:) TR 11:40-12:55, LNC 107, Theodore Harwood
SEM 104 (Class #:) TR 1:25-2:40, URH G24, Dennis Alley
SEM 105 (Class #:) MWF 1:25-2:15, BAL 3331, Natasha Binek

CLASS 1615  Introduction to Ancient Rome  X-List:
367265  Class #: 8977  3  credits.  MWF  2:30-3:20  Fontaine, M.  Room GSH G64
Ancient Rome was a village the size of Ithaca that grew into a world empire. In this course students will be introduced to some of its literature, art, and famous personalities in the classical period (2nd c. BCE – 2nd c. CE). In it we will read the masterpieces of Latin literature, from Virgil’s Aeneid to Ovid’s Metamorphoses and from Catullus’ lyrics to Livy’s moralizing History of Rome. Special attention will be given to the late republic and Augustan period. No prior knowledge of the ancient world is necessary. All readings are in English.

CLASS 2351  Intermediate Sanskrit I  X-List: LING/SANSK 2251
351268  Class #: 6701  3  credits.  MWF  12:20-1:10  McCrea,L.  Room GSH G24
Prerequisite: CLASS 1332 or equivalent
Satisfies Option 1.
Readings from Classical and Epic Sanskrit literature.

CLASS 2601  The Greek Experience  X-List:
352306  Class #: 8305  3  credits.  TR  11:40-12:55  Ahl, F.  Room GSH 124
This course introduces students to the literature and intellectual life of ancient Greece from Homer to the early centuries of Roman rule. We will read and discuss ancient writers as creative artists in their own right, to develop a clearer sense of what the Greeks themselves sought to express, rather than as sources for a synthetic modern overview of antiquity. Among our texts will be Homer’s Odyssey, Greek lyric poetry, the tragedians, Aristophanes, Plato, and Lucian, set against a backdrop of Greek geography, history, and art. No knowledge of Ancient Greece (or Greek) is either assumed or required. Texts will be read in English translation. But students wishing to read parts of any assigned works in the original may apply do so independently with the instructor for additional credit.
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. No prior knowledge necessary (all texts are in translation). What is necessary is a willingness to participate actively in two seminar meetings each week and occasional supplementary 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. 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 grapple with the challenges inherent in language as the medium of poetry and philosophy. The course inquires into the intellectual development of a culture infused with traditional, mythological accounts of the cosmos. It asks how poetic forms such as tragedy engage with philosophical discourse while creating intense emotional effects on audiences both during antiquity and beyond.

CLASS 2604 Greek Mythology

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 2605 Theater, Sport and Spectacle

Performance and Competition in Greece and Rome

A study of the richly documented tradition of competitive artistic, athletic, and spectacular performances sponsored by cities, wealthy individuals, and kings/emperors in antiquity, with special attention to the ongoing connections and cross-influences between music/theater, athletics, and human/animal combats. We will take our comparative material from the fifth century BCE to the late Roman empire. Topics include organizational frameworks, funding sources, associations of performers and their ideologies and rivalries, regulation and hierarchies of audiences, public claques, the adaptation of performance to political events, influence on art, and institutional and intellectual opposition. Evidence will include ancient treatises, inscriptions, mosaics, wall-paintings, and terracottas; all source readings available in English.

CLASS 2630 Intoxicating Beverages-Drinking Through the Ages

Intoxicating Beverages in Near Eastern and World History

This course examines the production and exchange of wine, beer, coffee and tea, and the social and ideological dynamics involved in their consumption. We start in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, and end with tea and coffee in the Arab and Ottoman worlds. Archaeological and textual evidence will be used throughout to show the centrality of drinking in daily, ritual and political life.

CLASS 2661 Ancient Philosophy

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:
DIS 201 (Class # :8095) - T 3:35-4:25
DIS 202 (Class #: 10088) - F 11:15-12:05
DIS 203 (Class #: 8097) - F 11:15-12:05
**CLASS 2675**  
Ancient Greece from Helen to Alexander  
X-List: HIST 2650  

352629  
Class #: 16587  
4 credits.  
MW  
11:15-12:05  
Strauss, B.  
Room RCK 115  

Students must also enroll in a section.  
An introduction to ancient Greek history from the era of the Trojan War to the conquests of Alexander the Great. Topics include the rise and fall of the Greek city-state, the invention of politics, democracy, warfare, women and the family. Course readings are in classical texts and modern scholarship.  

Discussion Sections:  
DIS 201 (Class #16589) - F 11:15-12:05  
DIS 202 (Class #16586) - R 1:25-2:15  
DIS 203 (Class #16590) - F 11:15-12:05  
DIS 204 (Class #16587) - R 1:25-2:15  

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**CLASS 2685**  
Egyptomania  
X-List: NES 2985, ARKEO/ANTHR 2285  

364463  
Class #: 15976  
4 credits.  
TR  
10:10-11:25  
Barrett, C.  
Room GSH G24  

Throughout Greek and Roman history, the idea of Egypt inspired powerful imaginative responses ranging from fascination to fear. This course investigates Egyptian interactions with the Greco-Roman world and the changing Greek and Roman attitudes towards Egypt. Readings will cover subjects including the earliest Egyptian-Aegean trade, Herodotus' accounts of Egypt, Greco-Macedonian kings on the throne of the pharaohs, Roman perceptions of the notorious Cleopatra, the worship of Egyptian gods in the Greco-Roman world, and the incorporation of Egypt into the Roman empire (among other topics). Through an examination of Greek and Roman representations of Egypt, we will investigate how Greeks and Romans conceived of their own societies and cultural identities. Finally, we will also address images of Egypt in modern popular culture; how have Greco-Roman portrayals of Egypt helped shape today's view of the Pharaonic world?  

Discussion Sections:  
DIS 201 (Class #:15977) - M 12:20-1:10, GSH 348  
DIS 202 (Class #:15978) - R 12:20-1:10, LNC 117  

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**CLASS 2700**  
The Classical World in 24 Objects  
X-List: ARTH 2200, ARKEO 2700  

350883  
Class #: 16450  
4 credits.  
TR  
1:25-2:40  
Anderson, B.  
Room GSH 142  

Enrollment in section required.  
Why did the Gorgon turn people into stone? Did Cleopatra really have such a big nose? Did the Romans make wax death masks? Should the British Museum return the Parthenon Marbles to Greece? Come and explore all these questions and more in "An Introduction to the Ancient World in 24 Objects". Each class will focus on a single artefact, showing how it is exemplary of key trends and historical moments in Greek and Roman culture, from the temples of ancient Athens to the necropoleis of Roman Egypt and the rainy outposts of Hadrian's Wall. In addition to the history of Greco-Roman art in antiquity, we will explore the influence of Classical art on later Western culture. While focusing on major monuments from Classical antiquity in class, we will also examine Cornell's collection of plaster casts, ancient objects in the Johnson Museum, and the Greek and Roman collections in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.  

Sections:  
DIS 201 (Class #16613) W 1:25-2:40, GSH G24  
DIS 202 (Class #16614) W 10:10-11:00, GSH G24  
DIS 203 (Class #16615) F 10:10-11:00, GSH G24  
DIS 204 (Class #16616) F 11:15-12:05, GSH G24
With megacities, long-distance trade, and fluid identities, the Roman empire can seem uncannily close to our modern world. This course adopts a thematic approach to explore whether this is a valid parallel, based on archaeological evidence ranging from temples to farms, from wine containers to statues.

Central topics include imperialism, urbanism, economy, and social life. What was the archaeological imprint of conquest? How did goods travel around such a wide geographical expanse? What images did people in Britain have of the emperor? In investigating these questions, we will explore methodological issues, such as what archaeological evidence can tell us, how to handle and describe objects (with various museum visits!), or how to introduce protagonists other than emperors and armies in our reconstructions of the Roman world. Throughout the course, we will question whether the modern world is a productive and valid parallel for archaeological study of the Roman world.

Discussion sections:
DIS 201 (Class #: 15988) - T 12:20-1:10, RCK 127, Rebecca Gerdes
DIS 202 (Class #: 9835) - F 12:20-1:10, LNC B08, Rebecca Gerdes

CLASS 3395 Advanced Sanskrit I

Pre-requisites: 2 years of Sanskrit or equivalent.
Readings in Sanskrit at the third level and above. Topics vary.

CLASS 3645 The Tragic Theatre

Tragedy and its audiences from ancient Greece to modern theater and film. Topics: origins of theatrical conventions; Shakespeare and Seneca; tragedy in modern theater and film. Works studied will include: Aeschylus' Agamemnon; Sophocles' Oedipus Tyrannus, Philoctetes; Euripides' Alcestis, Helen, Iphigeneia in Aulis, Orestes; Seneca's Thyestes, Trojan Women; Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Titus Andronicus, Othello; Strindberg's The Father; Durrenmatt's The Visit; Bergman's Seventh Seal; Cacoyannis' Iphigeneia.

CLASS 3669 Plato

Prerequisite: At least two previous courses in philosophy, at least one of which should be at the 2000-level or above.
We will study several of Plato's major dialogues, including the Apology, the Meno, Phaedo, and Republic. Topics to be covered include: knowledge and reality; morality and happiness; the nature of the soul.

CLASS 3750 Intro to Dendrochronology

By permission only. Two labs (Class ID: 9009) TBA
Introduction and training in dendrochronology and its application to archaeology, art history, and environment through participation in a research project dating ancient to modern tree-ring samples especially from the Mediterranean.
Supervised reading and laboratory/project work. A possibility exists for summer fieldwork in the Mediterranean.
LAB to be arranged.

CLASS 4632 Data Corruption's Deep History

How can studying the deep past of information storage and transmission help us understand our current engagements with information and contemplate its future? In this course we will we will explore the materiality of information-bearing artifacts over the long history of semantic inscription. From cuneiform tablets to digital media (whose veneer of immateriality disguises the complexities of the material mechanisms of storage and transmission), we will study the shifting materialities of the matrices through which information is stored, transformed, shared, and obliterated: compilations and remixes, piracies and hacks, inscribed objects and their digital "surrogates."
Advanced discussion of some important figures and movements in Ancient Philosophy. Specific texts and topics vary from year to year.

How and why do landscapes come to inspire the religious imagination? And how do sensory landscapes, more specifically—territories of sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell—inform, inflect, and engage the religious imagination? When and why do religious practices, rituals, traditions, and beliefs inhabit particular landscapes? This seminar treats these questions by focusing on a particular landscape—the “desert,” both imagined and real—as it has shaped religious ascetic practice. Biblical notions of howling desert wastelands and subsequent ideas about deserts inhabited by terrifying and grotesque demons; paradise, a garden where angels’ wings whirl and pure light shines; valleys of rattling dry bones, sinews, and skins that breathe with new life; heavens clanging with the sound of war between seven-headed dragons and angels; demons coming in the forms of roaring lions and hissing serpents—the religious imaginary is shaped in striking ways by sensory landscapes. We will read widely from desert Christian monastic literatures, mostly from late ancient Egypt, to explore both the historical development of monasticism in Christianity and examine why the monastic impulse seems so closely tied to the “desert.” In addition to reading saints lives, we will read early monastic rules, the desert fathers, and we will draw from archaeological sources to examine the varieties of ascetic practices in the deserts of late ancient Egypt, Gaza, Sinai, Palestine, and Syria. Throughout the course we will explore ancient and modern ideas about “wilderness” and we will explore parallels between ancient Near Eastern literatures and their nineteenth- and twentieth-century parallels in the American frontier and environmental literatures.

Alexander and Caesar are still today two of history’s greatest conquerors and statesmen. They were each geniuses and visionaries but were also each responsible for death and destruction on a massive scale. Ancient writers often compared the two and so shall we in a course that aims to separate the facts from the legend and to consider each person’s legacy for today. Course readings are in classical texts and modern scholarship. Prerequisite: introductory course in ancient history or permission of the instructor.

An introduction to the field of Dendrochronology and associated topics with an emphasis on their applications in the field of archaeology and related heritage-buildings fields. Course aimed at graduate level with a focus on critique of scholarship in the field and work on a project as part of the course.

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.

This course is designed as intensive writing seminar that provides graduate students with time, support, and structure for producing a publishable research paper.
The conquests and death of Alexander served as catalysts for major cultural transformation. Throughout the Mediterranean and beyond, Greco-Macedonian dynasties came to rule over foreign populations, establishing elements of Greek culture in places as diverse as Egypt, the Near East, Central Asia, and northwestern India. The resulting cultural interactions led not only to the creation of new, hybrid practices, but also new definitions of “Hellenicity.” This seminar will provide an in-depth exploration of the cultural and historical developments of the Hellenistic period, with a particular emphasis on settlement archaeology and material culture. Chronologically, we will cover the period from Alexander’s death in 323 BCE to the Battle of Actium in 31 BCE, when Octavian defeated Cleopatra VII to conquer the last remaining Hellenistic kingdom. We will examine the interactions between Greek and local cultures throughout the Hellenistic Mediterranean, considering material culture and iconography from both elite and popular contexts.
# Latin in Review
**LATIN 1204**  
**Class #: 6447**  4 credits.  
MTRF 10:10-11:00  
Nussbaum, A.  
Room GSH 158  
Prerequisite: Placement by departmental examination.  
This course provides a comprehensive but streamlined review of the forms and syntax typically covered in Latin 1201-1202 or a comparable first-year Latin sequence. It begins with a quick review of the most basic grammar and continues at a more deliberate pace with second-term material. The final part of the course is devoted to the reading of unchanged selections from Classical Latin authors as a transition to the study of Latin literary texts in more advanced courses. For students who receive an A- or higher, the sequence is continued by LATIN 2201; those who receive a B+ or lower should continue with LATIN 1205.

# Intermediate Latin I
**LATIN 1205**  
**Class #: 6448**  3 credits.  
MWF 11:15-12:05  
Rebillard, E.  
Room GSH 122  
Prerequisites: LATIN 1202, 1204, or placement by departmental exam.  
Satisfies Option 2. This course will introduce students to reading Latin prose, specifically extracts of the first six books of the Roman historian Livy from the foundation of Rome to the first centuries of the Republic. The course covers complex syntax and reviews the grammar presented in LATIN 1202 and 1204.

# Latin Prose
**LATIN 2201**  
**Class #: 7796**  3 credits.  
MWF 11:15-12:05  
Gallagher, D.  
Room LNC 107  
Prerequisite: LATIN 1205 or grade of A- or above in LATIN 1202, 1203, 1204 or placement by departmental exam.  
Satisfies Option 1. Readings from Cicero's Philippics - his fierce denunciations of Mark Antony, delivered after the assassination of Julius Caesar. We will read these speeches with close attention to their rhetorical style and historical context, discovering the reasons for their political potency, which led directly to Cicero's own politically-motivated murder.

# Conversational Latin
**LATIN 2207**  
**Class #: 15997**  3 credits.  
MWF 9:05-9:55  
Gallagher, D.  
Room LNC 107  
Prerequisite: One year of college-level Latin or Latin Placement Exam.  
Despite the tendency to construe analogies between Latin and mathematics, logic, and word games, Latin remains what it has always been: a language. This means that one cannot lay claim to a sufficient mastery of Latin qua language until one has acquired some oral skills. At the same time, unlike a modern language, the goal of spoken Latin is not conversational fluency. Rather, by formulating one's own thoughts into Latin and expressing them in real human-to-human interaction allows one to experience the unique structural, grammatical, and syntactical features of the language actively and not just passively. This will in turn enhance reading comprehension. Thus this course will always draw inspiration from real authors and real texts, including Plautus, Cicero, Jerome, Erasmus, and many others.  
NOTE: This course does not count toward the A&S language requirement.

# Roman Prose
**LATIN 3204**  
**Class #: 16000**  4 credits.  
TR 8:40-9:55  
Gallagher, D.  
Room GSH 158  
Satisfies Option 1. Prerequisite: One term of 2000 level Latin or permission of instructor.  
Topic: Readings from the letters of Cicero, Seneca, Pliny, and later authors with particular attention to Latin grammar, epistolary style, and historical context.

# Latin for Teachers of Latin
**LATIN 7201**  
**Class #: 16001**  3 credits.  
TBA  
Nussbaum, A.  
Room  
A systematic treatment of the phonological, morphological and syntactic structure of Classical Latin intended to give prospective teachers of the language additional tools for explaining its forms and constructions to students in the elementary course. Attention also to strategies for initial presentation of various aspects of the basic grammar of the language to a class of beginners.

# Latin Philosophical Texts
**LATIN 7262**  
**Class #: 7791**  Var. credits.  
TBA  
MacDonald, S.  
Room  
Up to 4 credits  
Pre-requisite: Knowledge of Latin and permission of instructor.  
Reading of Latin philosophical texts in the original.
Topic: The refugee problem in Classical Latin literature
This course examines the problem of uninvited refugees suddenly arriving on one's shores and the political fallout that attends them. Primary readings are taken from Virgil's Aeneid, Ovid's poetry, and Livy's History of Rome. We will examine these texts alongside contemporary developments in Europe, the United States, and Australia. Secondary readings will reflect the full spectrum of political discourse on refugees.