# Department of Classics
## Course Offerings
### Fall 2019

**Revision Date:** 8/22/2019

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**Revision Notes**

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

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.

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.

The colloquium presents students with diverse approaches used to interest, educate, and motivate people to consider, address, and solve environmental and sustainability challenges. The 1-credit version consists of a series of lectures given by experts with different specialities and perspectives who are addressing a variety of environmental and sustainability problems. The 3-credit version introduces an additional 2-credit option led by a professor in the Humanities, which will explore themes related to the lectures with a greater focus on eco-criticism across different disciplines and contemporary art practices. There will be readings connected to the lectures, together with discussions and short writing assignments, all aimed at developing critical thinking skills.

Readings from Classical and Epic Sanskrit literature.
Initiation to Greek Culture

Class #: 16238  4 credits.  TR  10:10-11:25  Pelliccia, H.  Room GSH 122

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.

Greek Mythology

Class #: 5586  3 credits.  TR  2:55-4:10  Clary, T./Sansom, S.  Room GSH G64

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.

Sex and Gender in Ancient Greece and Rome

Class #: 9369  4 credits.  MWF  1:25-2:15  Haselswerdt, E.  Room GSH 350/122

How did the ancient Greeks and Romans understand differences in gender and sexuality? And how did their gendered identities intersect with other identity categories, like race, class, and citizenship status? In this introductory course we will explore these questions using a wide-ranging selection of philosophy, literature, medical writing, legal texts, magic spells, and material evidence. We will also ask how ancient ideas about sex and gender have influenced our own construction of these categories, and investigate the consequences of modern identification with antiquity. No prior knowledge about the ancient world is required, and all readings will be in English.

Ancient Philosophy

Class #: 7420  4 credits.  TR  11:40-12:55  Brennan, T.  Room GSH 132

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 #:7422) - T 3:35-4:25, RCK 105
DIS 202 (Class #:8364) - F 11:15-12:05, LNC 107
DIS 203 (Class#: 17983) - F 11:15-12:05, RCK 231

Slavery in the Ancient World

Class #: 16107  4 credits.  MW  2:55-4:10  Giannella, N.  Room URH G88

From democratic Athens to imperial Rome, the ancient economies of Greece and Rome ran on slave labor and slavery pervaded all areas of life: farming; industry; families; the civil service; police; and more. This course examines Athens and Rome as slave societies and how slavery was integrated into all social structures and accepted as normal. We will address the following topics: definitions of slavery (including chattel slavery, eventually the predominant form of servitude); the sources and numbers of slaves; the slave mode of production and the ancient economy; the treatment of slaves; resistance to slavery and slave revolts; emancipation and the position of freed people; the social position of slaves; the family life of slaves; slavery and the law (civil and natural); slaves in literature.

Advanced Sanskrit I

Class #: 8580  4 credits.  McCrea, L.  Room

Pre-requisites: 2 years of Sanskrit or equivalent.

Readings in Sanskrit at the third level and above. Topics vary.
CLASS 3676  
Ancient Political Thought  
368565  Class #: 16722  4 credits. TR 2:55-4:10  Frank, J./Rusten, J.  Room MRL 107  
Ancient political debates about democracy, empire, and justice appear in late fifth-century BCE Athenian dramatic, historical, and philosophical literatures composed against the backdrop of the 27-year Peloponnesian War over the control of Greece (which Athens lost). Reading selected tragedies of Euripides, comedies of Aristophanes, and philosophical dialogues of Plato, in combination with the history of Thucydides, this course retraces, explores, and interrogates these texts' complex, provocative, and surprisingly relevant arguments for and against the pursuit of equality (democracy), security (war and imperialism), goodness (aretê from "excellence" to "virtue"), and fairness (justice), and their often unexpected results in practice. All the readings for this course are in English and there are no prerequisites.

CLASS 3738  
Identity in the Ancient World  
368601  Class #: 16095  4 credits. TR 11:40-12:55  Van Oyen, A.  Room URH 312  
Have you ever been asked ‘who are you’ or ‘which group do you belong to’? You would have noted how the answer shifts according to who is asking, in which context, etc. While everyone is unique, the possible replies in any one situation are largely defined at the level of society. What is less often realized, however, is that identity shows in particular in ways of doing: what and how one eats; what one wears and when; how one moves in a space. Archaeology is in a unique position to investigate these questions, and the Greek and Roman worlds offer a fruitful test ground, both because of their varied evidence, and because of their peculiar echoing in the modern world and its manifold identities. This course will address current theories about identity and its formation, discuss the various facets of identity (e.g. gender, religion, ethnicity) in the Greek and Roman worlds, and introduce tools for studying identity in the past.

CLASS 3750  
Intro to Dendrochronology  
350839  Class #: 5333  4 credits. W 12:20-1:10  Griggs, C./Lorentzen, B. Room GSH GM09  
By permission only. Two labs (Class ID: 9009) TBA  
Introduction and training in dendrochronology (tree-ring dating) and its applications in archaeology, art history, climate, and environment through lab work and participation in ongoing research projects using ancient to modern wood samples from around the world. Possibilities exist for summer fieldwork in the Mediterranean, Mexico, and New York State. LAB to be arranged.

CLASS 4677  
Desert Monasticism  
366410  Class #: 16322  4 credits. T 1:25-4:25  Haines-Eitzen, K. Room LNC B08  
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.

CLASS 6746  
Aesthetics of the Sacred  
364138  Class #: 16098  4 credits. M 1:25-4:25  Platt, V. Room GSH 122  
This course will explore archaeological and literary evidence for the production, display, ritual treatment, and cultural reception of sacred images in ancient Greece. We will focus on some of the most exciting and problematic themes relating to the representation of divine beings in material form, such as the potential and limitations of anthroporphism; the use of alternative modes of manifestation such as aniconism and theriomorphism (the representation of gods as animals); the “agency” of cult statues; the relationship between cult and votive images; the replication and adaptation of cult statues to new contexts of display; and shifting attitudes to image-worship within polytheistic and monotheistic traditions. The course may be of particular interest to students in Classics, History of Art, Religious Studies, and Anthropology.
CLASS 6754  Byzantine Archaeology  X-List: ARKEO/ARTH/NES 4354/6354
370344  Class #: 17103  4 credits.  M 7:30-9:25  Anderson, B.  Room MCG 125
A seminar on the archaeology of the Byzantine Empire, from the late Roman through to the early modern periods. Topics to be covered include: long-term changes in settlement patterns and urban development; the material traces of state and monastic control over productive landscapes; the idea of the border and the nature of its defense; and the fraught relationship between "Byzantine" and "classical" archaeologies.

CLASS 6755  Archaeological Dendrochronology  X-List: ARKEO 6755
366898  Class #: 7946  4 credits.  W 12:20-1:10  Griggs, C./Lorentzen, B.  Room GSH GM09
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.
Lab to be arranged.

CLASS 7345  Graduate TA Training  X-List:
354479  Class #: 8079  1 credits.  TBA  Roby, C.  Room
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 7700  CIAMS Theory/Method Seminar  X-List: ARKEO 7000
370383  Class #: 17315  4 credits.  T 4:30-6:30  Van Oyen, A.  Room GSH GM09
Archeology studies the past through its material remains. In doing so, it builds on wide-ranging theories and methods to develop its own disciplinary toolbox. This graduate seminar explores this toolbox, treating a topic of broad theoretical and/or methodological interest such as emerging topics in archaeological thought, the history of archaeological theory, key archaeological methods, themes that tie archaeology to the wider domain of the humanities and social sciences, or some combination of the above. The seminar is taught by various members of the Archaeology faculty, each of whom offers their own version of the seminar. The seminar is required for incoming CIAMS M.A. students, and needed for CIAMS membership for Ph.D. students.

GREEK 1101  Elementary Ancient Greek I  X-List:
351779  Class #: 5960  4 credits.  MTRF 9:05-9:55  Pelliccia, H.  Room GSH 122
Introduction to Attic Greek. Designed to enable the student to read the ancient authors as soon as possible.

GREEK 2101  Intermediate Ancient Greek I  X-List:
351786  Class #: 5961  3 credits.  MWF 10:10-11:00  Rusten, J.  Room GSH 124
Prerequisite: Greek 1102 or the Departmental Placement Exam.
Combines reading of classical Greek prose texts (Lysias, Plato, Xenophon) with systematic review of forms, study of advanced grammar, vocabulary-building, and sight-reading exercises.

GREEK 3120  Seminar in Greek  X-List:
366644  Class #: 8633  4 credits.  MW 2:55-4:10  Brittain, C.  Room GSH 124
Prerequisite: one 2000-level Greek course.
Satisfies Option 1.
Undergraduate Seminar in Greek
Topic: A reading of Plato's Ion and other works related to his views on poetry.

GREEK 7161  Greek Philosophical Texts  X-List: PHIL 4110/6010
361493  Class #: 7865  Var. credits.  F 1:25-4:25  Brennan, T.  Room
Reading and translation of Greek philosophical texts.

GREEK 7171  Graduate Seminar in Greek  X-List:
354483  Class #: 8897  4 credits.  T 1:25-4:25  Brittain, C.  Room GSH 124
Topic: Plato’s Phaedrus.
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:
SEM 101 (Class #: 5929) - MTRF 9:05-9:55, GSH 348, Colin Behrens
SEM 102 (Class #: 5930) - MTRF 10:10-11:00, RCK 189, Belisarius Welgan
SEM 103 (Class #: 6576) - MTRF 12:20-1:10, GSH 348, Andrew Merritt

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.

Prerequisites: LATIN 1202, 1204, or placement by departmental exam.

Satisfies Option 2. Introduces students to reading a literary Latin text (Livy's Rome). The course covers complex syntax and reviews the grammar presented in LATIN 1202 and 1204.

Prerequisite: LATIN 1205 or grade of A- or above in LATIN 1202, 1203, 1204 or placement by departmental exam.

Satisfies Option 1. A reading of Sallust's Bellum Catilinae. We will read the text with close attention to both syntax and the astonishing events of the second Catilinarian conspiracy.

Prerequisite: LATIN 2201 or placement above LATIN 2201 on departmental exam.

Satisfies Option 1. Latin, like any language, is only mastered when one can speak it. Yet the goal of spoken Latin, unlike modern languages, is not conversational fluency. Rather, by formulating one's own thoughts into Latin and expressing them in real human-to-human interaction, one experiences the unique structural, grammatical, and syntactical features of Latin actively and not just passively. This, in turn, enhances reading comprehension. Remaining rooted in and drawing inspiration from real authors including Plautus, Cicero, Erasmus, Newton, and many others, students will be able to talk about their favorite sports team, television show, musician, or video game, as well as the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle and baking cookies (all presentations students have given in the past!). Students should come to this course with a solid grounding in Latin grammar, although no previous spoken Latin is presumed.

Prerequisite: LATIN 2201 or placement above LATIN 2201 on departmental exam.

No classical author has had a greater impact on how we think about love than Ovid. We'll read the Heroides, the Amores, the Ars Amatoria, the Remedia Amoris, as well as the Medicamina Faciei Feminiae to discover why.
Rapid Reading in Latin

Prerequisite: One term of 2000-level Latin or permission of instructor.

Topic: Apuleius

Building on the intermediate level to acquire a literary vocabulary and syntactic structures, this course prepares students for independent reading of major authors entirely in the original language. It is accompanied by intense discussion and analysis leading to a mentored research project informed by secondary literature but based on close textual study. This course may be repeated for credit.

Advanced Readings in Latin Literature

Prerequisite: Two semesters of 3000-level Latin.

Topic: Semantics of Prose

Latin Philosophical Texts

Pre-requisite: Knowledge of Latin and permission of instructor

Reading of Latin philosophical texts in the original.