

## **Classics Undergraduate Courses Fall 2022**

This fall, the Classics Department offers elementary and intermediate Latin and Greek courses, as well as Greek and Latin Survey (taught by Elizabeth Scharffenberger and Katharina Volk, respectively):

### **Classical Civilization**

#### **CLCV UN2441: Egypt in the Classical World/TR 1:10-2:25/Morris, Ellen**

This class tracks Egypt's entanglement in the Greco-Roman world from the country's initial welcoming of Greek merchants and mercenaries to the point at which Justinian shuttered its last remaining temple. In examining archaeological, textual, and artistic evidence, we'll pay close attention to the flashpoints that divided society along ethnic lines (*viz.* Egyptian, Nubian, Levantine, Greek, and Roman inhabitants) and according to religious belief (among polytheists of Egyptian and Greek heritage, Jewish Egyptians, and Christians) as well as to syncretism, mixed marriages, and other integrative aspects of society.

#### **CLCV UN3008: The Age of Augustus/MW 1:10-2:25/Mignone, Lisa**

The reign of the first Roman emperor, Augustus (27BCE-14CE), has been seen as a Roman revolution, both political and cultural. Rome had for centuries been governed as a Republic, but a series of increasingly divisive civil wars allowed Augustus to create a new political system in which he exercised sole rule as the 'first citizen' within a 'Restored Republic'. Augustus' reign lasted more than 40 years, and established a model of autocratic rule that would last for four centuries. During this time there were profound changes in the political, social, and cultural structures of Rome. In this course, you will examine the nature of these changes, Augustus' political strategies, military activities, and religious initiatives through his own writing, the accounts of literary authors, and a range of documentary and archaeological sources. Ultimately, we will address the question: how did Augustus achieve the seemingly paradoxical feat of becoming a monarch within a republican system?

#### **CLCV UN4190: Virtue & Happiness: Philosophy in Classical Rome/TR 2:40-3:55/Volk, Katharina**

This class provides an introduction to philosophical texts and practices of Rome's classical era (1st century BCE to 2nd century CE). Readings will be in English translation and include works by Lucretius, Cicero, Horace, Seneca, Marcus Aurelius, and others.

#### **CLCV GU4440: Society and Environment in the Ancient Mediterranean/MW 6:10-7:25/Morris, Ellen**

In this seminar we seek, quite literally, to map out the influence of environment on culture and history in the ancient Mediterranean. Students will learn to create custom maps in QGIS (a free and open-source cross-platform geographic information system application) that will engage with themes discussed in seminar. Areas of interest include the various ways in which different types of human societies (e.g., pastoralists, autonomous villages, cities, colonists, kingdoms, empires, and insurrectionists) have sought to exploit specific environmental niches for their own purposes. So, too, we'll be attuned to the ways in which the natural world remained ungovernable and exerted its own agency via storms, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, diseases,

droughts, floods, and fires. Some familiarity with *either* the premodern Mediterranean world or QGIS is recommended but not required.

### **Comparative Literature**

#### **CPLS BC4161 Tragic Bodies II: Surfaces, Materialities/W 2:10-4:00/Worman, Nancy**

This course is an advanced seminar (i.e., upper-level undergraduate and graduate) that addresses in more depth the themes of the lecture course Tragic Bodies (BC 3160). It explores how dramatic enactment represents boundaries and edges and thus skin, coverings, masking, and dress-up in relation to gender and sexuality as well as race and class. The skin's tragedy most often is its vulnerabilities – its othering and debasement, its tendency to be denigrated or willfully cast off. This course will focus on these bodily edges, surfaces, and coverings, as well as touching, proximity, and affect in ancient and modern drama as well as in film. In more depth and more expansively than the lecture course, the seminar treats the three canonical Greek writers of tragedy (Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides) as unifying threads and features modern re-envisionings of their dramas that challenge gender, racial, and human conventions. The course will also feature ground-breaking work on aesthetics, affect and the senses, materialities, and the post-human in order to foster activist engagements with embodiment.

Pre-requisite: Priority will be given to students who have taken BC 3160, but others may request permission from the instructor.

### **English**

#### **ENGL UN3891 Introduction to Classical Rhetoric/T 8:10-10:00/Mendelsohn, Susan**

Note: email Prof. Mendelsohn (sem2181@columbia.edu) by April 11 with the heading Rhetoric seminar. Include your name, school, major, year of study, and relevant courses taken along with a brief statement about why you are interested.

### **History**

#### **HIST UN1002 Ancient History of Mesopotamia and Asia Minor/TR 4:10-5:25/Van De Mierop, Marc**

Note: Students must also sign up for a discussion section

#### **HIST UN1010 Ancient Greek History 800-146 BC/TR 11:40-12:55/Billows, Richard**

Note: Students must also sign up for a discussion section

#### **HIST UN3023 Mobility and Identity in the Roman World/T 2:10-4:00/Ramgopal, Sailakshmi**

#### **HIST GU4607 Rabbis for Historians/R 2:10-4:00/Schwartz, Seth**

### **Introductory Languages**

GREK UN1101.001 Elementary Greek I/MWF 1:10-2:25/ TBA

GREK UN1101.002 Elementary Greek I/TR 6:10-8:00/ TBA

GREK UN1121 Intensive Elementary Greek/MWF 1:10-2:25/ TBA

LATN UN1101.001 Elementary Latin I/TRF 10:10-11:25/ TBA

LATN UN1101.002 Elementary Latin I/MW 6:10-8:00/TBA

LATN UN1121 Intensive Elementary Latin/MW 6:10-8:00/ TBA

### **Greek**

**GREK UN3309/Greek Lit Selections, Poetry TR 1:10-2:25/Worman, Nancy**

**GREK GU4009/Greek Lit Selections: Sophocles/ TR 2:40pm-3:55pm/Steiner, Deborah**

### **Latin**

**LATN UN3012/Augustan Poetry/MW 4:10-5:25/Williams, Gareth**

This course introduces students to Augustan poetry and culture, while also serving to improve translation facility, reinforce grammatical and syntactical principles, and expand vocabulary. Readings will be drawn from all five major poets of the era (Vergil, Horace, Propertius, Tibullus, and Ovid). The class is especially geared towards those who have just finished the intermediate Latin sequence or incoming students who received a 5 on the AP Latin exam.

**LATN UN3309/Latin Lit. Selections: Tacitus/MW 10:10-11:25/Ma, John**

Readings in Tacitus' *Histories*.

### **Modern Greek**

**CLGM UN3005/Dictatorships and their Afterlives/ T 12:10-2:00/Antoniou, Dimitrios**

What does the investigation of a dictatorship entail and what are the challenges in such an endeavor? Why (and when) do particular societies turn to an examination of their non-democratic pasts? What does it mean for those who never experienced an authoritarian regime first-hand to remember it through television footage, popular culture, and family stories? This seminar examines dictatorships and the ways in which they are remembered, discussed, examined, and give rise to conflicting narratives in post-dictatorial environments. It takes as its point of departure the Greek military regime of 1967-1974, which is considered in relation to other dictatorships in South America, Asia, Africa, and Europe. We will be drawing on primary materials including Amnesty International reports, film, performance art, and architectural drawings as well as the works of Hannah Arendt and Günter Grass to engage in an

interdisciplinary examination of the ways in which military dictatorships live on as ghosts, traumatic memories, urban warfare, litigation, and debates on the politics of comparison and the ethics of contemporary art.

**CLGM UN3450/How to do things with Queer Bodies/ T 2:10-4:00/Kakkoufa, Nikolas**

Homosexuality, as a term, might be a relatively recent invention in Western culture (1891) but bodies that acted and appeared queer(ly) existed long before that. This course will focus on acts, and not identities, in tracing the evolution of writing the queer body from antiquity until today. In doing so it will explore a number of multimodal materials – texts, vases, sculptures, paintings, photographs, movies etc. – in an effort to understand the evolution of the ways in which language (written, spoken or visual) registers these bodies in literature and culture. When we bring the dimension of the body into the way we view the past, we find that new questions and new ways of approaching old questions emerge. What did the ancient actually write about the male/female/trans\* (homo)sexual body? Did they actually create gender non-binary statues? Can we find biographies of the lives of saints in drag in Byzantium? How did the Victorians change the way in which we read Antiquity? How is the queer body registered in Contemporary Literature and Culture? Can one write the history of homosexuality as a history of bodies? How are queer bodies constructed and erased by scholars? How can we disturb national archives by globalizing the queer canon of bodies through translation? These are some of the questions that we will examine during the semester. The course surveys texts from Homer, Sappho, Aeschylus, Euripides, Plato, Theocritus, Ovid, Dio Chrysostom, Lucian, Walt Whitman, Oscar Wilde, Arthur Symonds, Dinos Christianopoulos, Audre Lorde, Larry Kramer, Tony Kushner etc., the work of artists such as Yiannis Tsarouchis, Robert Mapplethorpe, Dimitris Papaioannou, Cassils, movies such as 120 battements par minute, and popular TV shows such as Pose. No knowledge of Greek (ancient / modern) or Latin is required.

**CSGM UN3567/Thessaloniki Down the Ages/ W 4:10-6:00/Martzavou, Paraskevi**

This course will explore the fascinatingly layered and multicultural history of Thessaloniki, the great city of Northern Greece and the Balkans. We will examine texts, archaeological evidence, literature, songs, and movies and in general the materialities of the city. We will examine this material from the 6th century BCE down to the 21st cent. CE. We will notably think about the problems of history, identity, and cultural interaction in reaction to recent work such as Mark Mazower's well known *Salonica, City of Ghosts* [2004]. This course fulfills the global core requirement

**Philosophy**

**PHIL UN2101 History of Philosophy I/TR 10:10-11:25/Jagannathan, Dhananjay**

**Religion**

**RELI GU4120 Gender in Ancient Christianity/W 6:10-8:00/Castelli, Elizabe**