The Classics Courses Spring 2014

CLA  GRE  LAT

Classics Department Advising
Friday November 1 -- Friday November 22
Call 305-284-6326 for an appointment

For information on major/minor requirements in Classics, visit our website
http://www.as.miami.edu/classics/

REGISTRATION BEGINS
MONDAY NOVEMBER 11
CLA Courses

Monsters and Fantastic Creatures in Classical Antiquity and Other Cultures

CLA 200
Section P, TR 11:00-12:15
Dr. Han Tran

Course Description: The course explores the notion of the “monster” and the “fantastic creature” in a range of literary representations in the Greek and Roman world and other cultures from diverse time periods. Starting with Homer’s *Odyssey*, and two of its key monsters, the Cyclops and Scylla, we will examine questions such as: Whose mental projection is embodied in a given monster? Are there different *categories* of monsters? What does the monster represent? What fears does the monster crystallize? What “fantasies” does the fantastic creature help channel and epitomize? Our investigation will include the classical and Egyptian phoenix; the Mesopotamian Tiamat; Norse myth’s frost giants, the Midgard Serpent, Hel, and the wolf Fenrir; Grendel and Beowulf’s dragon; the biblical Leviathan and Behemoth; the medieval unicorn; the Qilin and the Chinese dragon; and Zanzibar’s Zimwi.

Classical Mythology

CLA 220
Section F, MWF 1:25-2:15
Dr. Han Tran

Course Description: This class serves as an introduction to classical mythology via Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*. The classic poem weaves together a broad range of Greco-Roman myths, which the lectures will help both to elucidate and expand through the presentation of earlier and/or alternate versions, as well as through slides of relevant (ancient and modern) art.

Ancient Law

CLA 232
Section D, MWF 11:15-12:05
Dr. Scott Farrington

Course Description: Legal systems provide a window not only upon the intricacies of legal reasoning and argumentation but also upon the customs and moral tenets of a people. The American legal scene has produced the trials of O.J. Simpson, Barry Bonds, and George Zimmerman; the ancient world yielded trials no less spectacular. This course examines selected trials from ancient Greece and Rome both as a way to understand these legal systems in themselves and as a way to explore the cultures, values, and biases that shaped them. We study and imitate the legal practices of ancient Greece and Rome not only to learn the history and culture of these civilizations, but also to improve our own critical reasoning skills. We will strive
to suspend judgment, to exercise reason in our class discussions and compositions, and to develop practices of respectful opposition.

**Ancient Medicine**

CLA 233  
Section P, TR 11:00-12:15  
Dr. Wilson Shearin

Course Description: This course provides a historical survey of evidence, practices, and ideas from the ancient medical world, focusing particularly (but not exclusively) on the two most extensive and well-known literary sources for ancient medicine, the Hippocratic corpus and the Galenic corpus. We proceed in chronological fashion, working our way from Homer and pre-Platonic philosophy to Galen and Roman imperial times. Topics treated include the intersection of medicine and philosophy, medicine and religion, and medicine and rhetoric.

**Hellenistic World**

CLA 302  
Section O, TR 9:30-10:45  
Dr. David Graf

After Alexander the Great’s Campaign, the vast territory that he conquered disintegrated into a number of Macedonian dynasties. The examination of the complex world—that stretched from the Aegean to Afghanistan—will emphasize the diffusion and resistance of Hellenic culture among the native peoples of the Near East. Current issues and problems in interpreting the documentary and archaeological evidence will also be a focus. The course is designed to cover the total Hellenistic World and its major aspects.

**Survey of Classical Latin Literature and Culture**

CLA 311  
Section Q, TR 12:30-1:45  
Dr. Thomas Hendren

Course Description: CLA 311 is designed to familiarize students from any field and at any level with Roman cultural history and the major works of Latin Literature through readings in translation. The course focuses on classroom discussion and addresses major cultural issues including gender and sexuality, law, Roman science and philosophy, drama, and the politics of imperialism. CLA 311 concludes with an overview of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire. Through directed readings, classroom discussion, and a term paper students will gain an in-depth
understanding of changes that took place in Rome and the Mediterranean from 300 B.C.E. to 300 C.E.

Age of Augustus

CLA 505
Dr. David Graf

When Julius Caesar adopted Gaius Octavius, he eventually brought about the transition from Republic to Empire in Rome, and the Augustan Principate. The Age of Augustus saw revolutionary changes that transformed Rome, Romanized the provinces, and witnessed an unequalled era of peace and prosperity across the Mediterranean world. This course will track these developments between 27 BCE and 68 CE, from Augustus to Nero, by analysis of the major sources, films, and a survey of the archaeological remains of the early empire.

GRE Courses

Elementary Ancient Greek II

GRE 102
Dr. Scott Farrington

Course Description: A continuation of the University of Miami's introductory Ancient Greek sequence, Greek 102 introduces students to more advanced concepts in ancient Greek. Students continue to build their vocabulary and knowledge of Greek forms. We turn our attention from the syntax of the simple Greek sentence to more complex and challenging subjects like participles, subordinate clauses, and the moods and tenses of the Greek verb. At the same time, we read longer unadapted selections from ancient Greek authors like Plato, Euripides, Lysias, Homer, and Isocrates. Students who successfully complete Greek 102 are prepared to take Greek 201. Prerequisite: Greek 101.

Intro Prose: Plato

GRE 311
Dr. Scott Farrington

Course Description: Greek 311 is an advanced reading course in which students explore a single Greek author or text in depth both by reading the text in its original unadapted form and by reading influential classical scholarship. In the Spring semester of 2014, we will read Plato's Crito in its entirety. In this dialogue, the wealthy Crito visits Socrates in his jail cell as he awaits the execution of his death sentence. Crito offers to finance Socrates' escape from prison, prompting a discussion with Socrates on the nature of injustice and the social contract theory of
government. Crito arrives at the prison in the early dawn and rehearses his arguments as he watches his friend sleep. Socrates responds to Crito's impassioned plea to flee with calm reason. Unjust men and their actions are common detriments to all societies. He urges his friend to remember, after he is gone, to behave justly always and forever abide by just agreements. The dialogue is one of Plato's most tender, offering a picture of two dear friends who will soon lose their friendship to injustice. Simultaneously, the dialogue is profound, addressing the boundary between personal freedom and social obligation. We will explore these issues in the text of the dialogue itself and by reading influential scholarship on the subject. This course is writing intensive. Prerequisite: Greek 201.

LAT Courses

Elementary Latin I

LAT 101
Dr. Han Tran
Section D, MWF 11:15-12:05

Course Description: Latin 101 is an introduction to the Latin language. This course is intended for students who have never studied the language before, or whose previous study has not yet prepared them for Latin 102 or higher (based on the results of the University of Miami’s Latin placement exam). Latin 101 will cover up to Chapter VII in Keller and Russell’s Learn to Read Latin, with the remainder to be covered in Latin 102 and 201.

Elementary Latin II

LAT 102
Dr. Thomas Hendren
Dr. Han Tran
Section B, MWF 9:05-9:55
Section C, MWF 10:10-11:00

Course Description: LAT 102 is the second part of the University of Miami’s introductory sequence for the Latin language. Not only appropriate for those in the Humanities (English, Comparative Literature, History, Philosophy, etc.) Latin forms the basis for our modern medical and legal vocabularies. Art History’s students master syntax and vocabulary through rigorous practice and the exploration of ancient texts and inscriptions. This course is intended for students who have completed LAT 101, or whose previous study has not yet prepared them for LAT 201 or higher (based on the results of the University of Miami’s Latin placement test). Latin 102 will cover a little over one third of the material in Keller and Russell’s Learn to Read Latin, with the remainder to be covered in LAT 201.
Intermediate Latin I

LAT 201
Dr. Thomas Hendren

Course Description: LAT 201 is the third and final course in the introductory Latin sequence, intended for students who have completed LAT 102, or whose previous study has not prepared them for LAT 202. The class completes the overview of Latin grammar and basic vocabulary found in Learn to Read Latin, and spends the final third of the semester reading Apuleius’ novel the Metamorphoses, in addition to shorter selections from Roman authors of the Republic and Empire. LAT 201 equips students to both understand and interpret Latin texts by addressing literary historical context in addition to Latin vocabulary and syntax.

Intermediate Latin II

LAT 202
Dr. Thomas Hendren

Course Description: LAT 202 is an intermediate section that prepares students for more advanced translation and discussion. The course reads selections from the Aeneid, Vergil’s national epic of the Roman World and the single most influential work of Latin literature that survives. Classes consist of translation and grammar review, and discussion of the various themes central to the Aeneid, including war, love, death, and the foundation of the Roman Empire. Quizzes and tests focus on the student’s mastery of the target language, while a term paper will develop their ability to engage in novel research.

Cicero: Orations

LAT 311
Dr. Scott Farrington

Course Description: Latin 311 is an advanced reading course in which students explore a single Latin author or text in depth both by reading the text in its original unadapted form and by reading influential classical scholarship. In the Spring semester of 2014, we will read selections from Cicero's pro Caelio. Delivered on April 4, 56 BCE, the pro Caelio is one of Cicero's masterworks. In it, he defends a young man, Marcus Caelius Rufus, from a capital charge of violence. Much of the speech's interest is in the fact that Caelius associated with both of Cicero's arch enemies, Lucius Sergius Catalina, who was thwarted in his attempt to overthrow the Republic by Cicero himself, and Publius Clodius Pulcher, who exiled Cicero from Rome, burned his villa to the ground, and built a temple on the ruins so Cicero could not recover the land. In another twist, Caelius was accused of attempting to procure poison for the murder of Clodia, his lover and Clodius's sister. Many scholars believe that Clodia was the subject of Catullus's erotic poetry. This speech provides as intimate a look at the intrigues of the Roman ruling class in the late Republic as we can get. While we read the speech in Latin, we will explore the speech's
relationships to the poetry of Catullus, Roman comedy, and Republican politics. *This course is writing intensive.* Prerequisite: Latin 201.

**Elementary Latin for Graduate Research**

LAT 625

Dr. Wilson Shearin

Course Description: This course offers an accelerated introduction to the classical form of the Latin language. In one semester, it provides graduate students (or, in exceptional circumstances, dedicated undergraduates) with a basic reading knowledge of the language. As the course only meets once per week, students must devote extensive time outside of the classroom to mastering the myriad forms of the highly inflected language. Successful performance on the final examination may fulfill, in part, the language requirement for doctoral programs within the university.