



Department of Classics

COURSES Spring 2021

CLASSICS

**CLAS
02100**

Sport in the Ancient Greek World

J. Cherry

MWF 11am-11:50am

Online Course

Athletics and sports were as popular and significant in the ancient Greek world as they are today, and so offer an excellent introduction to its archaeology and history. This class will discuss the development of Greek athletics, the nature of individual events, the social implications of athletic professionalism, women and athletics, and the role of sport in Greek education.

**CLAS
0450**

Philo of Alexandria and His World

P. Nieto

MWF 1pm-1:50pm

Online Course

Philo, a Hellenized Jew, lived in Alexandria at the moment when Egypt saw the last of the Ptolemies (Cleopatra) and became a province of Rome. Philo developed, for the first time, a sophisticated allegorical interpretation of the Bible (which he read in Greek), that became the basis of Christian exegesis for centuries to come. He led a mission to Rome to defend the Jewish population of Alexandria at a time of conflict with the Greeks. We will read a variety of his works and situate them in the context of Jewish and Classical thought and the world of emerging Christianity.

**CLAS
0600**

The Literary Worlds of Late Antiquity

J. Pucci

MWF 10am-10:50am (S01)

MWF 2pm-2:50pm (S03)

We study the manifold literary forms championed in those centuries when Greco-Roman literature was transformed by social, spiritual, and creative forces perhaps unparalleled in the western tradition. Genres to be studied include: history (Gregory of Tours), consolation (Boethius), lyric (Ausonius and Fortunatus), hymnody (Prudentius), epic (Juvenius), apology (Tertullian), the philosophic dialogue (Augustine), the cento (Proba), among others. Close attention will be paid to contextualizing these authors and genres in the Greco-Roman tradition and in their late ancient configurations. (WRIT)

**CLAS
1120E**

Slavery in the Ancient World

J. Bodel

TTh 10:30am-11:50am

Examines the institution of slavery in the ancient world, from Mesopotamia and the Near East to the great slave societies of classical Greece and (especially) imperial Rome; comparison of ancient and modern slave systems; modern views of ancient slavery from Adam Smith to Hume to Marx to M.I. Finley. Readings in English.

**CLAS
1210**

**Mediterranean Culture Wars:
Archaic Greek History, c. 1200 to 479 BC**

G. Oliver
TTh 9am-10:20am

From the end of the Bronze Age to the end of the Persian Wars is a period of considerable change in the Mediterranean and beyond. The Greek polis challenges the powers of the ancient Near East. Over seven centuries we meet Greek writing, Homeric epic, and the first historian (Herodotus). But the Greek world lay on the edges of the Ancient Near East and this course tries to offer a more balanced approach than the typically Hellenocentric perspective of the standard textbooks. CLAS 1210 addresses cultural, political, social, and economic histories. Literary, epigraphical and archaeological cultures provide the evidence. This is a hybrid course, with synchronous (recorded) meetings Tu/Th and one section (online only; time to be arranged) per week from week 3. There are no written exams for this course. No previous knowledge of the ancient world is required. (WRIT)

**CLAS
1441**

**Merchants, Trade, and Commerce
in the Roman World**

C. Rice
TTh 2:30pm-3:50pm

Exotic spices, fermented fish sauce, mass-produced pottery, olive oil, fine wine, not so-fine wine, marble, bricks, metals, people, art, elephants – these are just a few of the things that the Romans traded. This course draws on archaeological, literary, and epigraphic material to investigate the world of Roman trade from the goods that were moved, to the logistics of transport, to the merchants and traders themselves. Who ventured to India in search of spices? Who ran the local wine shop? How were colossal columns transported across deserts?

**CLAS
1750V**

God of the Greek Philosophers

M. Gill
W 3pm-5:30pm

This seminar will focus on the views of Plato and Aristotle on god's thought and human thought. Plato treats god as a craftsman who looks to unchanging forms and attempts to replicate them in recalcitrant materials. By contrast, Aristotle regards the cosmos as eternal. His god maintains the world as the relatively stable place it is and does so as an object of desire and thought. God's own activity—thinking of thinking—is extremely simple, whereas ours is necessarily more complex and involves recognizing our place and contribution to the order of things.

**CLAS
2021R**

Ancient Bucolic Poetry

J. Reed
Th 4pm-6:30pm
Online Course

This seminar studies the corpus of ancient Greek and Latin bucolic poetry (including Theocritus, Virgil's Eclogues, and other texts) and its reception through the early modern period. How is bucolic to be delimited as a genre? What are its intertextual and cultural origins within the Hellenistic, specifically Ptolemaic, culture in which Theocritus worked? What persists, and what changes, in the reception of Theocritus' dialogues through the later Hellenistic, Augustan, later Roman, and early modern periods? We will pay special attention to the ways this poetry mirrors or filters political changes and implies different ideological positions.

**CLAS
2100G**

The World of Late Antiquity

J. Conant
M 3pm-5:30pm

Focused on the Mediterranean world between the third and ninth centuries CE, this seminar introduces students to the study of late antiquity and the early middle ages from a multidisciplinary perspective. Class sessions focus on the intensive reading of a small collection of closely-related primary sources in the original language and contextualizing them through a grounding in other disciplines essential to the study of ancient and medieval history, including archaeology, codicology, palaeography, numismatics, and prosopography. Topics vary by semester and may include such themes as the body, emotional and psychological histories, trauma, slavery, violence, "barbarians," or interfaith interaction. Prerequisite: Latin.

GREEK

**GREK
0100**

Essentials of the Greek Language

M. Vitas (TF)
MWF 9am-9:50am

A two-semester approach to ancient Greek with special emphasis on developing facility in rapid reading of Greek literature. Selections from Attic Greek authors. No previous knowledge of Greek is required.

**GREK
0110**

Introduction to Ancient Greek

L. McInerney (TF)
MWF 9am-9:50am
TTh 12pm-12:50pm

Intensive, one-semester introduction to Greek. No previous knowledge of Greek is required. This is a double credit course.

**GREK
0400**

Introduction to Greek Literature

D. Hill (TF)
MWF 10am-10:50am

Prerequisite: GREK 0300 (or the equivalent). Review of grammar of the Attic dialect through rapid reading of texts by Lysias, Plato, or Xenophon. Emphasis on syntax and style.

**GREK
1050A**

Aristophanes

P. Nieto
MWF 10am-10:50am

The course is addressed to students with at least a medium-level command of Ancient Greek, but previous knowledge of Aristophanic language and poetry is not required. We will be reading in the original language Aristophanes' "Ecclesiazusae" ("Assemblywomen"). This late play of Aristophanes is the last of his three comedies on the topic of women, and is remarkable in representing women as taking complete control of the state and instituting a radical communism in property and family. There will be readings of modern essays on different aspects (language, meter, historical background, theatrical performances, literary interpretations, etc.) of this play and of Aristophanes' production.

**GREK
1110O**

Aristotle: Nichomachean Ethics

M. Gill
TTh 1pm-2:20pm

In this class we will read Books I, II, III, and X of Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics and discuss his treatment of the highest human good, moral virtue, the doctrine of the mean, and his theory of action.

**GREK
1150**

Greek Prose Composition

A. Scafuro
TTh 9am-10:20am
Online Course

Survey of Greek grammar and an opportunity to reflect on problems of translation. Main goals: to improve the students' command of prose syntax (both in reading and writing), and to develop a keen sensitivity towards issues of translation. A variety of texts written in Attic prose are read and analyzed in class. Students are expected to write two to three compositions a week in good Attic prose. Advanced knowledge of ancient Greek is a prerequisite for this course.

LATIN

**LATN
0100**

Essentials of the Latin Language

C. Fennerty (TF)
MWF 12:00-12:50

An intensive two-semester approach to Latin with special emphasis on developing facility in the rapid reading of Latin literature. No previous knowledge of Latin is required.

**LATN
0110**

Introduction to Latin

C. Jotischky-Hull
MWF 9:00-9:50
TTh 12:00-12:50

This course offers a rapid introduction to the Latin language and grammar. As a one-semester introduction to material often covered in two semesters, this course carries two credit hours instead on one. The workload for this course is correspondingly heavy; students may expect an average of ten hours of homework—including memorization, practice, and preparation of vocabulary and grammar—per week. There are no prerequisites for this course.

**LATN
0400**

Introduction to Latin Literature

B. Driver (TF)
MWF 11am-11:50am

Introduction to Latin literature through intensive reading of major authors in prose and poetry with careful attention to grammar and style. Prerequisite: LATN 0100, 0200 or 0110 (or equivalent).

**LATN
1040A**

Virgil: *Eclogues* and *Georgics*

J. DeBrohun
TTh 10:30am-11:50am

Virgil, most famous as the poet of the Aeneid, began his career with two smaller masterpieces: a collection of ten bucolic poems (*Eclogues*) modeled on the *Idylls* of the Hellenistic poet Theocritus, and a didactic work on agriculture in four books, the *Georgics*, which found its inspiration both in Hellenistic models and in more recent Roman antecedents (including Lucretius' *De Rerum Natura*) and is viewed by many as the poet's finest achievement. We will read selections from both works, concluding with the epyllion at the end of *Georgics* Four, which relates the tragic love story of Orpheus and Eurydice.

**LATN
1110Y**

Latin Epistolography

J. Bodel
TTh 2:30pm-3:50pm

Through reading letters from different periods of Roman History, students will become more familiar not only with the ways letters negotiated Roman social, political, and intellectual networks but also how Roman authors drew on epistolary conventions to compose literature in other forms. Authors to be read may include but are not limited to Cicero, Ovid, Pliny the Younger, and Fronto.

**LATN
1820**

Survey of Roman Literature II: Empire

J. Reed
MWF 11am-11:50am
Online Course

This course will survey the major authors of Latin literature in chronological order from Virgil.

**LATN
2080I**

Latin Atlantic Epic

A. Laird
W 3:00pm-5:30pm
Online Course

This course will involve study of Latin epics produced in Europe and the Americas (1500-1780) which addressed themes particular to the discovery, conquest and colonisation of the New World. A range of texts will be introduced, but the class will probably focus on two or three works in particular over the course of the semester. The historical conditions in which these epics will be considered as well as the poets' classical models and their sources in early modern Latin and vernacular writing.

MODERN GREEK

**MGRK
0110**

Intensive Beginning Modern Greek

E. Amanatidou
TBA
Online Course

This is an hybrid, intensive, double-credit language course that meets three days a week synchronously in a physical / remote classroom, in addition to three classroom days, in an asynchronous online environment. This proficiency and literacy-oriented, integrated-skills course is designed for students with little or no prior knowledge of Modern Greek. It places emphasis on the acquisition of the four language skills, speaking, listening, reading and writing, within a framework that fosters communicative competences, understanding of discourse and critical insights into Modern Greek societies and cultures, within their world contexts. By the end of MGRK0110, students will be able to transition to MGRK0300. In addition to language and culture-specific work, this course will support the development of transferable skills that will enable students to respond with confidence to the demands of undergraduate study.

**MGRK
0200**

Introduction to Modern Greek

E. Amanatidou
MTWTh 12pm-12:50pm
Online Course

A continuation of MGRK 0100. New students may place into it, after special arrangement with the instructor. The course continues on an integrative skills approach and aims to develop language skills, within a framework of specific topics and functions. The course objectives are to enable students to perform a range of tasks, master a minimum core vocabulary and acquire knowledge and understanding of various forms of Greek culture.

**MGRK
0400**

Intermediate Modern Greek

E. Amanatidou
TTh 10:30am-11:50am
Online Course

A continuation of MGRK 0300. New students may place into it, after special arrangement with the instructor. It aims to enhance language skills within a variety of registers and themes; enable the students to master, use and understand effectively essential linguistic structures; examine a variety of expressive forms within an authentic cultural context.

**MGRK
0600**

Advanced Modern Greek

E. Amanatidou
TBA
Online Course

A continuation of MGRK 0500. Students who have not taken the previous sequence may take a placement test, after consultation with the instructor. The course aims to promote range, accuracy and fluency and enable students to develop ease and spontaneity with the language. Authentic materials drawn from a range of sources inform the content of the course and include films, literature, media, testimonies, music and internet based sources. The development of transcultural competence will be an essential component of the course.

**MGRK
0810**

Film Classics: The Greeks on the Silver Screen

V. Calotychos
TTh 1pm-2:20pm

This course examines the adaptation of classical Greek themes and figures in world cinema. Proceeding from classical texts (that will include The Odyssey, The Iliad, Oedipus Rex, Medea, The Oresteia), analysis of films focuses on the ways such texts are recast to comment upon very different cultural, socioeconomic, and political circumstances. How do such films aspire to be “classic” in their own right? What genres or modes follow such films’ epic, or anti-epic, cycles? Considers Hollywood blockbusters (Ulysses, Jason and the Argonauts, Troy, 300) as well as arthouse fare by Godard, Pasolini, Camus, Merchant, Cacoyannis, Dassin, the Coen brothers, Angelopoulos.

**MGRK
1800**

In Other Words: Translating Greece

E. Amanatidou
TBA
Online Course

This is an advanced undergraduate seminar that will offer students the opportunity to build on their linguistic, cultural and critical literacies, by translating from Greek into English. Over the course of the semester we will be thinking critically about texts, their ideological, historical and social coordinates and their embedded discourses of Greekness, community, diglossia, identity and gender, among others. In addition to translating from Greek into English, we will read and discuss essays on translation, in order to consider in an informed way the issues (untranslatability?) and types of decision making associated with the practice of translation.

**MGRK
2200**

Modern Greek for Classicists and Archaeologists

E. Amanatidou
TBA
Online Course

This graduate level course promotes the acquisition and further refinement of the necessary translanguing and transcultural skills to prepare students in the fields of Classics and Archaeology to carry out research in Greece and Cyprus. In addition, it involves training in linguistic skills that will enable students to study closely a range of texts of relevance to these disciplines. Primary emphasis will be on the development of reading, oral and aural skills using a variety of text and web based materials, of discipline specific content but also in professional and other communicative contexts of cultural currency.

SANSKRIT

**SANS
0100**

Elementary Sanskrit I

D. Buchta

MWF 11am-11:50am

This course introduces Sanskrit to students who have no prior knowledge of any language other than English. Students quickly learn to read the Devanāgarī script and study the basics of the sound-system of Sanskrit. The course rapidly surveys the basics of Sanskrit grammar while using adaptations of classical Indian myths and stories as reading exercises.

**SANS
0200**

Elementary Sanskrit II

D. Buchta

MWF 12pm-12:50pm

This course continues the survey of grammar and the reading exercises of SANS 100. The second half of this course reads selected passages of the Bhagavad Gītā and the beginning of the classic story of Nala and Damayantī from the Mahābhārata. Prerequisite: SANS 0100.

**SANS
1400**

The Sanskrit Grammatical Tradition

D. Buchta

MWF 1pm-1:50pm

Introduction to the Sanskrit tradition of vyākāraṇa (grammatical derivation and analysis) through reading Pāṇini's Astādhyāyī and commentaries upon it.



Department of Classics

COURSES Summer 2021

CLASSICS

**CLAS
0360**

Race and Ethnicity in the Ancient Mediterranean

K. Nguyen

MWF 2pm-2:50pm

Were the Greeks and the Romans racist? How were identities constructed in the ancient Mediterranean world? Did the concepts of “race” and “ethnicity” even exist in antiquity? We will explore these questions through the art, archaeology, and literature of the ancient Mediterranean from Homeric times to the end of the Roman Empire. We will also analyze how the perceptions of race and ethnicity in antiquity have shaped conceptions of identity in more modern eras, especially how they contributed to and authorized violent societal structures, such as slavery, colonization, imperialism, and nationalism.

**CLAS
0640**

Legitimacy, Fairness, and Rhetoric in Political Trials in Athens, Rome, and Britain

A. Scafuro

TTh 9am-10:20am

Online Course

A new fully online course for freshmen. We examine political trials in Athens (treasonous generals; Socrates) and Rome (Verres, governor of Sicily; Gnaeus Calpurnius Piso, governor of Syria, alleged murderer of Germanicus), 18th century Britain (the impeachment of Warren Hastings); we also read Dershowitz’ speech from President Trump’s impeachment trial. We are concerned with constitutional authority, judicial fairness, morality, and rhetoric as we read contemporary records of trials and speeches. Questions to be examined: 1. Regarding source materials (which vary according to period): What particular Tendenz (‘bias’ or ‘spin’) do they display? 2. Regarding constitutional authority and fairness: How do the trials come about and how is the trial process related to the constitutional regime? What rules are at play? Are both (trial and regime) legitimate? What relation do the prosecutorial team and defendants have to the regime?

**CLAS
0650**

War and Society: A Legacy of Ancient Greece?

G. Oliver

MWF 1pm-1:50pm

21st century society can no longer study the worlds of ancient Greece and Rome acritically. Today’s culture can be very accepting about the “culture of war” that was such a dominant aspect of the apogee of ancient Greek ‘civilization’: the 300 Spartans, the Athenian Empire, and the conquest of Persia, are all moments to which some turn in admiration. The exploitation of the martial culture today is a two-edged sword at least. This course explores the legacy of war, and violence, and its impact on our view of “civilization.” We will look at the key topics including Homer and warfare, Sparta, Persia, Athens’ Empire, Philip II and Alexander, violence in the Greek city, martial culture, exploitation, memory, and of course the 21st century legacy.

**CLAS
0900**

Greek Mythology

J. Hanink

TBA

Online Course

“What of these things goes now without disaster?” -Aeschylus, Agamemnon. This course is an introduction to Ancient Greek mythological traditions. Topics include: the Olympian gods; ‘culture heroes’ (e.g. Heracles), Homer and the Trojan Cycle of myths; mythical traditions about the families of Oedipus and Agamemnon; etc. We will conclude with an investigation of ancient mythical scholarship and skeptical views of myth in antiquity. Throughout we will be considering myth’s relationship with literature, visual culture, and religion. The class focuses on the ancient material (texts, images, monuments, rituals and traditions, etc.), with some secondary readings in mythological and cultural theory. (WRIT)

**CLAS
0990**

**Karma and Free Will:
The Self in Indian Philosophy**

D. Buchta

TTh 1pm-2:20pm

Examination of the great Indian epic Mahabharata and related mythology to introduce the context for the most ancient speculations of the Rgveda and the subtle teacher-student dialogues about the self contained in the Bhagavadgita and Upanishads. We will also examine the more systematic Indian philosophical texts and note their resonance in ancient and modern European conceptions of self. (DIAP, WRIT)

**CLAS
1120U**

The American Presidents and the Western Tradition

J. Pucci

TBA

Online Course

We are accustomed to engaging the American presidency as a public office best approached through the prism of government or political science, but this course studies the ways in which the presidents in thought and action are part of a larger continuum of humanistic expression in the western tradition. It is organized around five categories: memory, language, consolation, farewell, and self-reflection. Our work involves reading and viewing/listening to various materials, including videos and original documents. The words we study, both by and about presidents, will be compared to various masterworks of Greco-Roman antiquity and the western Middle Ages. (WRIT)

**CLAS
1750D**

Philosophy of Socrates

M. Gill

M 3pm-5:30pm

In this class we will read and discuss various ancient portraits of Socrates (in Aristophanes' Clouds, Plato's Apology and Symposium, and Xenophon's Apology) and several Platonic dialogues representing Socrates in action discussing moral questions, including the Crito, Laches, Charmides, Lesser Hippias, Protagoras, and Gorgias. We will focus on questions about the historical Socrates (as distinct from the portraits), his avowals of ignorance, irony, methods of argument, and interest in definition, as well as the moral questions explored in the dialogues. All readings will be in English translation. Enrollment limited to 20.

GREEK

**GREK
0200**

Essentials of the Greek Language

L. McInerney (TF)
MWF 12pm-12:50pm

Second half of a two-semester approach to ancient Greek with special emphasis on developing facility in rapid reading of Greek literature. Selections from Attic Greek authors. No previous knowledge of Greek is required.

LATIN

**LATN
0200**

Essentials of the Latin Language

P. Walker (TF)
MWF 10am-10:50am

Second course in an intensive two-semester approach to Latin. Special emphasis on developing facility in the rapid reading of Latin literature. No previous knowledge of Latin is required prior to taking this two course sequence.

**LATN
1110F**

Fortunatus

J. Pucci
MWF 11am-11:50am

Wide reading in the occasional poetry of the most prolific writer of the early Middle Ages, attending to diction, meter, imagery, allusion, and paying special attention to the (homo- and hetero-) erotic pieces written to the poet's friends.

SANSKRIT

**SANS
0200**

Elementary Sanskrit II

D. Buchta
TTh 2:30pm-3:50pm

This course continues the survey of grammar and the reading exercises of SANS 100. The second half of this course reads selected passages of the Bhagavad Gītā and the beginning of the classic story of Nala and Damayantī from the Mahābhārata. Prerequisite: SANS 0100.

**SANS
1030**

The Bhāgavata Purāṇa: Text and Reception

D. Buchta
TTh 10:30am-11:50am

The Bhāgavata Purāṇa narrates the stories of Kṛṣṇa and other gods and is rich with philosophical and theological discourse. Though relatively late, it became one of the most prominent religious texts, attracting many formal commentaries from the 13th century into the modern period. In this course, students will apply their knowledge of the foundational grammar of language to interpret the complex, poetic language of the Bhāgavata, and learn the language and idioms of scholastic Sanskrit to access the interpretations of centuries of the Purāṇa's audiences.