Introduction to Classics | Spring 2016 | Syllabus

COURSE DETAILS
CLAS 2000
Howell East 301, MWF 11-11:50

Instructor: Lisa Ellison
ellisonl15@ecu.edu
Office Hours Bate 3317
MWF 12-1:30 | TTh 12:30-1:30

Required texts, available at student stores
  Bantam Classics, 1981.
- *Greek Tragedies, Vol. 1*, Grene and Lattimore,
- *Metamorphoses*, Ovid (trans. Mandelbaum)
- *Plato on Love*, C.D.C. Reeve
  Hackett, 2006.

Optional texts, available at student stores
- *Poems of Catullus*, trans. Peter Green
- *Cicero's Selected Works*, trans. Michael Grant
- *Iliad*, Homer (trans. Fagles)
- *Portable Greek Historians*, ed. M.I. Finley

Required texts, available at student stores

COURSE DESCRIPTION and OBJECTIVES
This course is a survey of about 800 years of Greek and Roman literature from the 8th – 1st centuries B.C.. In a chronological approach, students will read and respond to a variety of literary genres including epic poetry, philosophy and history.

Students will gain knowledge of classical literature, history, philosophy and oratory and the times and people that produced it.

Through critical and creative thinking and analysis of literary, historical and cultural influences surrounding the literature, students will draw comparisons between classical authors themselves and how these artistic traditions and the circumstances of their creation remain relevant.

Course Requirements
Attendance is taken daily and is crucial to success in this class.

If students are looking at phones in class, the instructor will assume they have looked up something relevant and will ask them to share what they have found. If phone use is unrelated to class, the violating student will not be counted present that day.

Students should read the assigned work instead of trying to find summaries online.

Students should come to class prepared (writing implement, paper, the day's reading, any assigned work, etc.).

Disclaimer
This course contains content that some might find controversial (violence, sex or otherwise potentially offensive material). See the instructor if you have any concerns about your ability to handle the content of this course.
Foundations Credit: Humanities Classics Goals

1. Disciplinary Knowledge: Students have a foundational knowledge of the discipline of Classics.
2. Research Methodology: Students are able to locate, organize, and evaluate information in Classics from multiple sources within related disciplines.
3. Contribution to General Knowledge: Students can generalize their knowledge of Classics and apply it to other subjects.

GRADING

Attendance
Each student will have one no-questions-asked absence allowed. All other absences must be University- or Instructor-excused. (See http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentaffairs/dos/excused_absences.cfm for information about university-excused absences. For instructor-approved absences, contact the instructor before absence, if possible, or as soon after as possible.)

For each unexcused absence beyond the one free one, students will lose 1/3 of a letter grade from the final grade (A becomes A-, B+ becomes B, B becomes B-, etc.). An excellent attendance record will help the instructor make a decision to bump up a borderline grade.

Quizzes (20%)
There will be at least one announced quiz on material discussed in class for each unit. These quizzes will focus on the facts surrounding the literature: historical, cultural, literary and other contexts. Unannounced quizzes may also be given.

Projects (30%)
Students will complete three creative projects (10% each) in response to the readings. These projects can be digital or tangible (no live performance, sorry). Projects can be 5-10 minute dramatic readings or skits, visual representations of a selection, character examinations, imitation of style or theme, etc..

Mid-term exam (20%)
The mid-term will test students’ knowledge on the readings. Excerpts from the readings will be given and students will be asked to identify the author and the text and to answer questions about the passage and text. Bring a blue (or green) book, large or small.

Final exam (30%)
The final exam will be like the mid-term with an additional essay in which students will relate the content of the course to the world today. Is the literature from ancient Greece and Rome relevant today? Use examples from the literature we’ve read to support your claim. Bring a blue (or green) book, large or small.