



CLASSICS (SACR)

LATI 333 Advanced Latin Literature 2006 (Trimester 2)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lecturers: Assoc. Prof. Arthur Pomeroy OK 515 ph. 463-6781
Dr Mark Masterson OK 511 ph. 463-6909

Time **Class hours: meet twice a week**
 Monday 10-11
 Wednesday 2-4 (2 hr class)

Place: **Library**

Notices

Any additional information (terms lists, changes, unofficial exam results, etc) will be posted on the Departmental notice board on the FIFTH floor of OLD KIRK. A notice giving examination times and places for all courses taught in the Classics will also be posted there when this information is available. The Classics WWW page (<http://www.vuw.ac.nz/classics>) contains useful information on Classics in general. Information on this course will also be available on Blackboard (<http://www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>).

E-mail enquiries to arthur.pomeroy@vuw.ac.nz and mark.masterson@vuw.ac.nz

Content

This course will read epistolographic/philosophical prose by the Neronian politician, Seneca (*Select Letters*, ed Summers, Macmillan) and the slightly demented civil war epic, Lucan's *De Bello Civili* (II, ed. Fantham, CUP).

Course Aims and Objectives

1. To increase fluency and speed in reading Latin.
2. To think critically about the language and the authors in question.

By the end of the course you should have:

1. Read a substantial portion of the Latin text of Seneca's *Epistulae Morales* and Lucan's *De Bello Civili* and become familiar with Seneca's and Lucan's vocabulary and style.
2. Been introduced to the main themes of the text.
3. Understood the place that Seneca and Lucan hold in the development of Roman prose and epic poetry respectively.

The assessment will assess how well you have achieved these objectives.

Texts

Seneca *Select Letters* - taught July 10 - August 16

Lucan *De Bello Civili* II - taught September 4 - October 11

Assessment (Out of 100%)

(1) In Class Presentation (10%)

A ten minute oral presentation to the class on a topic relevant to the course to be determined in conjunction with the course instructors. Topics might include:

- a. Philosophical writing at Rome (Wednesday 19 July)
- b. Seneca as politician till AD 60 (Wednesday 26 July)
- c. Seneca and Nero AD 60-65 (Wednesday 2 August)
- d. Rhetorical techniques in Seneca (Wednesday 9 August)
- e. Stoic and other thought in Seneca (Wednesday 16 August)
- f. Leading discussion of Ahl, Frederick. 1993. "Form Empowered: Lucan's *Pharsalia*." *Roman Epic*. A. J. Boyle, ed. New York: Routledge. 125-142. (Wednesday 13 September)
- g. Leading discussion of a chapter from Bartsch, Shadi. 1997. *Ideology in Cold Blood: A Reading of Lucan's Civil War*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. (Wednesday 20 September)
- h. Leading discussion of a chapter from Johnson, W. R. 1987. *Momentary Monsters: Lucan and his Heroes*. Ithaca/London: Cornell University Press. (Wednesday 27 September)
- i. Leading discussion of a chapter from Masters, Jamie. 1992. *Poetry and Civil War in Lucan's Bellum Civile*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.



(Wednesday 4 October)

j. Leading discussion of Henderson, John. 1998. "Lucan: The Word at War." *Fighting for Rome: Poets and Caesars, History and Civil War*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 165-211. [difficult] (Wednesday 11 October)

(2) Commentary (20%)

A critical commentary of about 1500 words on a letter of Seneca chosen in consultation with the instructor. [NB for some long letters it may be best to choose a section.]

Due by 5 p.m. on 18 August

(3) Essay (20%)

An essay on Lucan's *De Bello Civili* on a subject to be determined in conjunction with the course instructor ca. 1500 – 2000 words in length.

Due by 5 p.m. on 13 October

Citations and Bibliography

The citation of sources must be consistent. There are many ways of citing, but the social science method common now in scholarly journals of all kinds is the most succinct. It requires a certain bibliographical format as well. Here is an example:

As Clifford Geertz writes, "Ideology bridges the emotional gap between things as they are and as one would have them be, thus insuring the performance of roles that might otherwise be abandoned in despair or apathy."¹

¹Geertz (1973) 205

If you cite this book again, then simply cite Geertz (1973) with the page number [e.g. Geertz (1973) 14]. There is no need for Latin abbreviations--*op. cit.*, *loc. cit.*, *ibid.*--etc. Now if Geertz has two or more items in your bibliography from 1973, then the first one you cite is called Geertz (1973a), the second one is called Geertz (1973b) and so on. In your bibliography, you enter:



Geertz, C. (1973) *The Interpretation of Cultures*. New York: Basic Books.

You need to enter every source you have consulted in your bibliography, whether you have cited it or not. A bibliography is not meant to impress, but to inform. Include only items that you have read and have influenced your paper. If you use someone else's ideas you must cite the source. This is fundamental precept of scholarly morality. Changing the wording of someone else's ideas and presenting them as your own is plagiarism, a very serious offence: if in doubt, always cite your source.

For citing articles on the world-wide web, the URL and date when consulted must be listed as well as author and name of site.

(3) Three Hour Final Exam (50%)

Unseen passage for translation (10%)

Four passages chosen from a total of eight, for translation and comment, two from each author (40%).

Mandatory Course Requirements

Completion of the In-Class Presentation, Commentary, Essay, and Final Examination (as specified above).

Workload

In order to complete the course successfully an average student should expect to spend about 18 hours per week. This includes 3 hours of class time and 15 hours preparing texts and wider reading and assignment work. Students will be expected to have prepared at least 50 lines of poetry or two full pages of prose (as appropriate to the section) for each hour of class.

Overdue Work

Extensions must be sought through the instructor prior to the due date of the work. In the absence of an extension overdue work will be penalised by 5% per day at the discretion of the instructor.

Marking and Overdue Assignments

It is a traditional policy to return marked work to students within two weeks of its receipt. Special circumstances may result in failure to achieve this goal. The course essay and commentary should be marked and returned at least 48



hours prior to the final exam. In the case of the receipt of assignments from students after they are due the course organizer reserves the right to mark work without comments and to reduce the grade which the work receives by 5% per day.



General University policies and statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hard copy or under 'About Victoria' on the VUW home page at www.vuw.ac.nz.

Student and staff conduct

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps are to be taken if there is a complaint. For information about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor or refer to the statute on the VUW policy website at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct

The Policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct

Academic grievances

If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned; class representatives may be able to help you in this. If you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean; VUWSA Education Coordinators are available to assist in this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievance Policy which is published on the VUW website at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.



Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html

Students with Impairments (see Appendix 3 of the Assessment Handbook)

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities the same opportunity as other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the course coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively, you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss your individual needs and the available options and support on a confidential basis. DSS are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building:

telephone: 463-6070

email: disability@vuw.ac.nz

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the School Office or DSS.

Student Support

Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Maori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

In addition, the Student Services Group (email: student-services@vuw.ac.nz) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/

VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office (tel. 463-6983 or 463-6984, email at education@vuwsa.org.nz) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.

