

GREE 216: Greek literature

Classics Programme — School of Art History, Classics, and Religious Studies
Victoria University of Wellington — Trimester 2, 2007

Course organisation

Class times: Mon./Wed./Fri. 10.00-10.50, Old Kirk 523

Additional information: Any further information, such as announcements and unofficial final results, will be posted on noticeboards in Old Kirk, level 5.

Lecturers:

- Dr Peter Gainsford (course organiser, OK 525), ph. 463 6453, e-mail peter.gainsford@vuw.ac.nz
- Dr David Rosenbloom (OK 516), ph. 463 5478, e-mail david.rosenbloom@vuw.ac.nz

Set texts

- Lysias, *Selected Speeches*, ed. Carey (Cambridge University Press)
- Euripides, *Alkestis*, ed. Dale (Oxford University Press)

We will be working on Lysias in weeks 1-6, and Euripides in weeks 7-12.

Further resources:

- See the introductory bibliographies on Lysias and Euripides in this handout.
- Grammars for classical Greek may be obtained for free from <http://www.textkit.com>. The relevant books are Herbert Weir Smyth, *Greek Grammar*, and William W. Goodwin, *Greek Grammar*. For reference purposes we recommend Smyth.

Course content and objectives

The course examines literary and historical texts for translation and study of subject matter, language and literary setting. We focus on two forensic speeches of Lysias, and Euripides' play *Alkestis*. Students who have successfully passed the course will have improved their fluency in ancient Greek, and reinforced their knowledge of grammatical and morphological points learnt previously; improved their appreciation of niceties of classical Greek prose and verse style; and gained an appreciation of the historical contexts and literary genres of the texts studied (including scansion, in the case of Euripides).

Mandatory course requirements

To pass this course, students must submit all internal assessment. Students who achieve a pass mark for the course as a whole, but fail this requirement, will receive a **fail grade** of K.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you miss one of the in-class tests, you **must** contact Dr Gainsford **immediately** to discuss ways in which it may be possible to fulfil the mandatory course requirements. There is no guarantee that a means of compensation will be offered to you.

Workload

Students should expect to put an average of 14 hours' work per week into this course. There is no requirement on attendance as such (see above), but it is highly unlikely that any student will be able to manage satisfactorily with the 'seen' elements of the assessment without attending at least 85% of classes.

Assessment

Assessment is by internal assessment (40%) and a three-hour final exam (60%). Assessment is designed to determine students' ability to (1) translate classical Greek into English, (2) express coherent, informative, and insightful comments both on specific passages and in the context of the larger work.

Internal assessment (40%)

- **Seen translation test** on Lysias (10%), during the last class of week 6.
- **Lysias assignment** (20%); due date: Wed. 12 September. This assignment will take the form of an

analysis of a passage of Lysias. Further details on the nature of the assignment, word limit, and how to approach it, will be given in class. If the assignment is submitted late without an extension given in advance, it will be subject to a penalty of 5 marks out of 100 per workday.

- **Unseen translation test** (10%), in class on Mon. 24 September. In this test you will translate a prose passage. Practice tests and guidance on how to approach unseens will be given throughout the course.

Exam (60%)

The exam will feature questions on the following; full details on these questions and how much each is worth will be forthcoming in class near the end of the course. The exam period is 19 October to 10 November 2007.

- gobbets on both Lysias and Euripides (translate a seen passage into good English and then provide comments and analysis on the passage); a choice of passages will be offered
- scansion of iambic trimeter
- unseen translation
- essay on Euripides' *Alkestis*

Bibliography

Lysias — general

- Dover, K. J. (1968) *Lysias and the Corpus Lysiacum*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Fairchild, W. D. (1979) "The argument from probability in Lysias." *Classical Bulletin* 55: 49-54.
- Mirhady, D. *NOMOI: A database of bibliography on Greek law* = <<http://www.sfu.ca/nomoi/>>
- Todd, S. (1993) *The Shape of Athenian Law*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Usher, S. (1976) "Lysias and his clients." *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 17: 31-40.
- Weissenberger, M. (2003) "Lysias (1905-2000)." *Lustrum* 45: 7-166.

Lysias 1, Against Eratosthenes

- Avery, H. C. (1991) "Was Eratosthenes the Oligarch Eratosthenes the Adulterer?" *Hermes* 119: 380-84.
- Cohen, D. (1984) "The Athenian Law of Adultery." *Revue Internationale des Droits de L'Antiquité* 31: 147-165.
- Harris, E. M. (1990) "Did the Athenians regard seduction as a worse crime than rape?" *Classical Quarterly* 40: 370-77.
- Herman, Gabriel (1993) "Tribal and civic codes of behaviour in Lysias I." *Classical Quarterly* 43: 406-419.
- Kapparis, K. (1993) "Is Eratosthenes in Lys. 1 the same person as Eratosthenes in Lys. 12?" *Hermes* 121: 364-65.
- Morgan, G. (1982) "Euphiletos' house: Lysias I." *Transactions of the American Philological Association* 112: 115-123.
- Porter, J. (1997) "Adultery by the book." *Échos du monde classique/Classical Views* 16: 421-453.
- Scodel, R. (1998) "Meditations on Lysias 1 and Athenian adultery" *Electronic Antiquity* 1 = <<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/EIAnt/V1N2/scodel.html>>
- Wolpert, Andrew (2000/2001) "Lysias 1 and the politics of the *oikos*." *Classical Journal* 96: 415-424.

Lysias 3, Against Simon

- Cairns, Francis (2002) "The civic status of Theodotos in Lysias 3." *Emerita* 70: 197-204
- Harris, William (1997) "Lysias III and Athenian beliefs about revenge." *Classical Quarterly* 47: 363-66.
- Herman, Gabriel (2000) "Athenian beliefs about revenge." *Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society* 46: 7-27.

Euripides, Alkestis

The bibliography on *Alkestis* is large; this list focuses on relatively recent articles. Hunt around for more.

Dellner, J.J. 2000. 'Alkestis' double life.' *Classical Journal* 96: 1-25.

- Goldfarb, Barry E. 1992. 'The conflict of obligations in Euripides' *Alcestis*.' *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 33: 109-26.
- Marshall, C.W. 2000. 'Alcestis and the problem of prosatyrlic drama.' *Classical Journal* 95: 229-38.
- Nielsen, Rosemary M. 1976. 'Alcestis: a paradox in dying.' *Ramus* 5.2: 92-102.
- Padilla, M. 2000. 'Gifts of humiliation: charis and tragic experience in *Alcestis*.' *American Journal of Philology* 121: 179-211.
- Schein, Seth L. 1988. 'ΦΙΛΙΑ in Euripides' *Alcestis*.' *Metis* 3: 179-206.
- Segal, Charles 1992. 'Euripides' *Alcestis*: female death and male tears.' *Classical Antiquity* 11.1: 142-58.
- Segal, Charles 1993. 'Cold delight: art, death, and the transgression of genre,' in *Euripides and the Poetics of Sorrow: Art, Gender and Commemoration in Alcestis, Hippolytus and Hecuba*, Durham, London: Duke University Press.
- Slater, Niall W. 2000. 'Dead again: (en)gendering praise in Euripides' *Alcestis*.' *Helios* 27.2: 105-21.
- Stanton, G.R. 1990. 'ΦΙΛΙΑ and ΞΕΝΙΑ in Euripides' *Alkestis*.' *Hermes* 118: 42-54.

Regulations and miscellanea

General university statutes and policies

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 hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the VUW homepage at:

http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically at:

http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/downloads/course_outlines_general_information.pdf

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

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.

[PS: Small grammar quiz: what wrong with first sentence of this definition? — PJG]

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