



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CLASSICS PROGRAMME

CLAS 101: GREEK LITERATURE, MYTH, AND SOCIETY

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Study week: 9 – 13 June 2014

Examination/Assessment Period: 13 June to 2 July 2014

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: T, W, F 12:00 midday, Hunter 323

Tutorials commence in week 2 and students can sign up via SCUBED during the first week.

A provisional schedule of lectures and readings will be made available on Blackboard.

The sooner students start reading Homer's *Iliad*, the better.

Names and contact details

Lecturer and course coordinator

Dr. Simon Perris

Old Kirk (OK) 512

(04) 4635478

simon.perris@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours TBA

Communication of additional information

Any additional information will be provided via Blackboard and/or VUW student email addresses.

Prescription

A study of significant texts of Greek literature, the myths behind the texts, and the societies which the texts reflect. Special emphasis is placed on Homeric epic, tragedy and comedy.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

- 1) demonstrate familiarity with selected ancient Greek myths;
- 2) understand selected Greek texts (read in English) and identify literary, philosophical and other features in them;
- 3) account for the importance of Greek myth and literature in ancient and modern society.

Teaching format

CLAS 101 is taught through a combination of lectures and tutorials. Students are expected to have done *all* set readings *before* class. In addition, students must prepare for tutorials in advance, and come ready to participate in group discussion.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Attend *at least* 6 of 9 tutorials
2. Submit the text analysis and the essay
3. Sit the final examination

Workload

Students should expect to spend *on average* fourteen hours per week on this course across fourteen weeks: three hours in class, five hours reading and preparing for class, four hours preparing written assignments, and two hours revision.

Assessment

The assessment for CLAS 101 comprises **60% internal assessment** and **40% external assessment (final examination)**.

CLAS 101 assessment		%	CLO(s)	Due
1	Tutorials	10%	1, 2	Weekly
2	Text analysis (1000–1200 words)	20%	2, 3	11 Apr
3	Essay (1200–1500 words)	30%	2, 3	16 May
4	Final examination (TWO hours)	40%	ALL	TBC

Tutorials (10%)

Eight of the nine tutorials (not the essay-writing tutorial) will include a 5-minute quiz, worth 1% of your overall grade, to be graded out of 10 for a total of 8%. For the essay-writing tutorial, you will instead submit a 1-2 page essay plan for the upcoming essay, to be awarded either 0%, 1%, or 2%. You must attend the relevant tutorial for the whole class to be considered eligible for that tutorial's assessment, whether quiz or essay plan. If for whatever reason you are unable to attend your scheduled tutorial in a given week, see Tania or Hannah in the Classics office as soon as possible to arrange attendance at a different tutorial.

Text analysis (20%, 1000–1200 words)

Due: Friday 11 April 2014, 5pm

For this assessment, you will write a critical analysis of a short passage from Homer's *Iliad*. You will discuss such things as character, Homeric society, theme, formal features, and so on, focusing throughout on both traditional and unique features which render the passage significant. An entire tutorial is devoted to writing text analyses, and we will talk further about the matter in lectures also. You might also consult the *Classics Study Guide*, and the to be posted on Blackboard.

The passage for the text analysis in 2014 is *Iliad* 12.337–446 (Fagles).

Essay (30%, 1200–1500 words)

Due: Friday 16 May 2014, 5pm

For this assessment, you will write an argumentative essay on Sophocles answering ONE of the following questions:

1. Discuss staging and stagecraft in *Antigone*. What, in your opinion, makes *Antigone* effective (or not) as a piece of *theatre* to be performed?
2. Does *Oedipus Tyrannus* offer a model of how to live a good and/or happy life? How does this contribute to the overall effect of the play?

An entire tutorial is devoted to writing essays, in addition to relevant material in other tutorials. The *Classics Study Guide* contains helpful advice pertinent to essay writing.

Examination (40%, two hours)

Date: TBC, during university examination period

The final examination will assess knowledge of the entire course, combining elements of the tutorial quizzes, text analysis, and in-term essay.

Marking

Formal written work will be assessed according to the mechanics of formal writing (presentation, referencing, style, paragraphs, etc); clarity of expression; appropriate and effective use of evidence (primary and secondary); and quality of analysis. Written work will also be assessed with respect to proper treatment of primary and secondary evidence, and proper understanding of the relative merits of primary and secondary evidence. The essay in particular will also be assessed according to use of essay form and clarity of argument. The final examination will assess knowledge of the entire course (across all CLOs), combining elements of the quizzes, text analysis, and essay.

Submission and return of work

Submit written work in hard copy, with a Classics coversheet attached; these are available from outside the Classics office, OK 508. Submit text analyses and essays via the assignment box outside OK 508. Your tutor will collect tutorial quizzes (and the essay plan) at the relevant tutorial and return them in the following class. Other work can be collected from the Classics office.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

In the event that you require an extension, you must apply to your tutor **in advance**. All reasonable consideration will be taken; you may be required to provide a medical certificate or other documentation. In particular, please tick the box denoting the granting of an extension on the Classics coversheet.

Penalties

In the absence of a formal extension, late work will be penalised 5% per working day. Work that exceeds the set word limits may also receive a penalty, or may only be read and graded up to the set word limit.

Set texts

Homer, *Iliad*, trans. Robert Fagles (Penguin)

Sophocles, *Three Theban Plays*, trans. Fagles (Penguin).

Euripides, *Medea and Other Plays*, trans. Morwood (World's Classics).

Aristophanes, *Lysistrata and Other Plays*, trans. Henderson (Focus Classical Texts).

Plato, *Symposium*, trans. Waterfield (Oxford World's Classics).

For information on Victoria's own student bookstore, Vicbooks, go to www.vicbooks.co.nz.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz