Course Notes Descriptions

Ca.120 words or less

CLAS 1040: Myth 9-9:50
Stories can be powerful! Delve into ancient myths about the cosmos, gods and goddesses, heroes, and monsters that have shaped the cultural heritage of the Ancient Mediterranean. Examine these myths in their original contexts and gain valuable insights into their social, cultural, and religious significance for their ancient communities. You'll also consider how some of these myths continue to resonate in contemporary literature, art, and popular culture.

CLAS 1030-01: The Greeks
Who were the ancient Greeks and why do they still matter? This course takes a broad survey of the civilization that gave us democracy, drama, and the Olympic Games, exploring it through vivid themes: legendary heroes, war, tyranny, law, religion, gender, and more. Rather than a march through dates, we interrogate primary evidence, wrestle with scholarly debate, and examine how we know what we know about the ancient world.

CLAS 1050 The Romans
Who did the Romans think they were, and what did they ever do for us? In "The Romans" you can explore these questions and more, such as how ancient Romans lived, worked, played, and ate. Through selections of Roman literature, inscriptions, graffiti, and material culture, we will examine how the Romans organized their society and the major institutions of government, law courts, and the military that supported it. You'll also learn about Roman influences on modern life, for example, the format of our calendar. The focus of this course is on the society and culture of the Romans, how we learn about it and what we can learn from it.

CLAS 2220 New Testament Historical Intro
This course is a literary and historical introduction to the canonical New Testament. It will engage issues of authorship, dating, theology, genre, and special problems related to the scientific" (or scholarly) study of the New Testament. There will be some engagement with literature outside of the canonical New Testament but only as it relates to special issues and topics in New Testament interpretation."

CLAS 2310 Tyrants and Democrats in Ancient Greece
What is democracy? Is it the best form of government? What is tyranny? Is it always a bad form of government? What is the difference between oligarchy and aristocracy? The ancient Greek city-states (*poleis*) experienced a range of political constitutions, sparking debates about the pros and cons of each and which was best. In this class, we will read the words of the ancients (historians, philosophers, poets, etc.). These texts will serve as lenses through which we reflect on how we understand and define political constitutions today.

Course Notes Descriptions

CLAS 2400: Ancient Medicine
Why is Hippocrates considered the "Father of Medicine" and why do doctors still recite his *Oath* today? How did medicine shift from divine explanations of disease to an empirical "art"? This course offers an introduction to the theory and practice of medicine in ancient Greece and Rome. Topics include medicine in mythology, the diverse range of healing methods and theories, pharmacology, women's medicine, practitioners, and plague theory. As you engage with literary and material evidence, you will explore the ways that culture and politics shape both ancient and modern medicine. Throughout the course, you will learn about the lasting impacts of ancient Greek and Roman medicine into modern times.

CLAS 3120 Etruscans & Early Rome
The Etruscans are frequently called 'mysterious.' No Etruscan literature survives. Their language is not related to the Latin that was spoken by their southern neighbors, the Romans. We know the Etruscans primarily through their material culture. Occupying what is now modern Tuscany, they were a significant culture of Iron Age Italy that left behind monumental tombs, beautiful jewelry, and spectacular bronzework. They were partners in Mediterranean trade networks with the Phoenicians and Greeks. This course aims to demystify the Etruscans and examine their importance to early Rome.

CLAS 3160: The Aegean Bronze Age
Explore the world of Minoans and Mycenaeans through the evidence they left behind. From pottery and burials to palaces, frescoes, and ancient writing, you'll work like an archaeologist, using hands-on labs and real evidence to ask what we can know about ancient societies, and how we know it.

CLAS 2320: Ancient Greek Religion
Did you know that Greek Religion isn't just gods and myths? As investigators, we'll reconstruct the daily practices, the rituals, we'll study the sanctuaries and the texts, to see what religion actually meant in the lives of ancient Greeks?

CLAS 3090 Law and Society
This course will introduce you to the study of Roman law by focusing on the law of the family. We will discuss such topics as the father's power, marriage, divorce, children, the dowry, and the Augustan adultery law. There is also an optional service-learning component.

CLAS 3180 Roman Art and Archaeology
This course will undertake an intensive analysis of Rome's ancient remains, tracing the development of the city's urban fabric from a collection of huts on the banks of the Tiber River to a metropolis of over a million inhabitants, the heart of an empire that stretched across the Mediterranean. Together, we will explore Rome's material culture—the "stuff" ancient people left behind—focusing on how archaeology can illuminate the lives of its inhabitants.

Course Notes Descriptions

CLAS 4200/6200 Gender in Roman Archaeology
Women of the ancient world are notoriously “invisible,” excluded not only from the preserved texts but also from the historical narrative that has been constructed around them. In fact, women’s lives have been seen as a valid category for study only since the late 1970s, and it is only in the past several decades that scholars have begun to explore the considerable potential of archaeology to provide further illumination. This semester, we will examine Roman women through their material culture—the "stuff" they left behind—focusing on close readings of secondary scholarship and on conducting independent research. Furthermore, by applying intersectional theories we will extend our investigation to other “invisible” ancient groups, considering especially attitudes towards race in antiquity.

CLAS 4810/6810 Mind and Soul in Ancient Greece
From the very beginning of their intellectual history, the ancient Greeks were fascinated by human cognitive capacities. This course centers on the ancient Greek word *psychê* (from which we have “psychology”), which is usually translated as “soul” but, for the ancient Greeks, encompassed a wide range of meanings, from the breath of life that leaves the body at death and wanders in the Underworld to the seat of thought, desire, and emotions. In this course, we will ask questions that remain debated today. What distinguishes living from non-living things? Is the mind something over and above the body? How do perception, memory, imagination, and reason work, and how are they related to our emotions? We will read ancient Greek poetic, medical, and philosophical texts.

Latin 1020
This course continues the introduction to the Latin language begun in LATN 1010, including pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, style, and translation. In addition to learning a lot of Latin, you can also anticipate learning about English grammar and vocabulary. Studying Latin is also an important way to learn about ancient Roman culture, especially Latin literature.

Latin 4030/6030: Vergil
In this advanced Latin course, we will read selected passages from Vergil, one of the most famous Roman poets, and consider how he makes use of the divine in his poetry. Through close readings of the *Aeneid, Georgics, and Eclogues,* you will refine your translation skills and master reading and scanning dactylic hexameter. Graduate students will read sections of Servius’ Latin commentary alongside the *Aeneid* selections.

Greek 1020
This course teaches you how to read Ancient Greek with fluency and pleasure. Continuing from GREK-1010, you'll master the remaining core grammar and vocabulary of Attic Greek while diving into real, unabridged passages of prose and poetry. Weekly asynchronous assignments keep skills sharp, and a semester-long annotation project lets you watch your

knowledge accumulate in real time. Whether you're drawn to philosophy, epic poetry, or history, this course puts the original texts within reach.

Greek 4060/6060 Greek Historians
This course explores Greek literary descriptions of the customs of non-Greek cultures. We will approach Greek ethnographic writings from two main perspectives: the Ionian historian Herodotus and Lucian of Samosata, a Hellenized Syrian who wrote in Greek. We will explore how Greeks conceived of non-Greeks ("*barbaroi*") and their customs and the role that these attitudes had in shaping corresponding notions of "Greekness." We will also consider how educated elites of neighboring cultures represented their own cultures to a Greek audience.