

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR:

CL 3001 CLASSICAL ROMAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

US CR: 3/0/3

(Updated Spring 2012)

PREREQUISITES: NONE

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: A study, in English translation, of some of the most important works of Roman literature placing them within their cultural context. Samples from various genres (drama, lyric and epic poetry, and rhetoric) are examined.

RATIONALE: This course provides a useful and enriching background for students of English literature. In addition, it serves as a general educational foundation for students (enriching their fields of study) of related areas such as history, philosophy, the arts, and the social sciences.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: As a result of taking this module, students should be able to:

1. Improve reading and analytical skills and gain an appreciation of literature.
2. Express their own views and interpretations of the material studied.
3. Define and distinguish the various literary genres.
4. Describe the development of literary themes and the style and structure in the works studied.
5. Place these works of literature within their cultural context; trace the influence of religious, philosophical, social and political ideas in the works studied; outline the major historical and intellectual events and ideas that these masterpieces embody.
6. Demonstrate the universality of themes and analyze the underlying concepts in the works studied; participate in the constant dialectic between the limitations of mortality and the aspirations of greatness, between the ideal and the real; reach some conclusions, support some theses, and discover the essence of the field of humanities.

METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:

In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the College, the following tools are used:

The class will combine lectures, discussions and student reports. The student will be asked to read several Roman masterpieces in English translation, to participate in class discussion, and to deliver reports on topics chosen in cooperation with the instructor. The student will take

oral and written quizzes as well as two written examinations.

ASSESSMENT:

Summative:

Midterm Examination – essay type format (1 hour)	40%
Final Examination –essay type format (2 hours)	60%

Formative:

Participation in class discussions	0
Oral and written quizzes	
Oral and written reports	

The formative assessments aim to prepare students for the midterm and final examinations.

The midterm examination tests Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 4.

The final examination tests Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

INDICATIVE READING LIST:

REQUIRED MATERIAL:

Plautus. Plautus: The Rope and Other Plays. Trans. E. F. Watling. Penguin Books, most recent edition.

Terence. Terence: The Comedies. Trans. and ed. B. Radice. Penguin Books, most recent edition.

Catullus. The Poems of Catullus. Trans P. Whigham. Penguin Books, most recent edition.

Cicero. Selected Political Speeches. Trans. M. Grant. Penguin Books, most recent edition.

Virgil. Virgil: The Aeneid. Translated by David West, Penguin Books, most recent edition.

Horace. Horace: The Complete Odes and Epodes with the Centennial Hymn. Trans. W. G. Shepherd. Intro. B. Radice. Penguin Books, most recent edition.

RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:

Lucretius. The Way Things Are. Trans. R. Humphries. Indiana Univ. Press, 1968.

Ovid. The Tristia of Ovid. Trans. D. Slavitt. Bellflower Press, 1986.

Zimmerman, J. E. Dictionary of Classical Mythology. Bantam Books,

1964.

Tacitus. The Annals of Imperial Rome. Trans. M. Grant, Penguin Books, 1966.

Poschl, V. The Art of Vergil. The Univ. of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, 1962.

Syme, R. The Roman Revolution. Oxford Univ. Press, 1960.

Rose, H. J. A Handbook of Latin Literature. New York, E. P. Dutton, 1960.

**COMMUNICATION
REQUIREMENTS:**

Effective oral communication in class discussions

Written reports

Oral reports

Oral and written quizzes

Exams

**SOFTWARE
REQUIREMENTS:**

WORD

WWW RESOURCES:

Journals:

On-Line Journals:

L'Année Philologique:

<http://www.annee-philologique.com/aph/>

General Resources:

Classics Courses:

Library of Congress:

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/global/classics/claslink.html>

Perseus Project:

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>

Special Sites:

Classical Atlas Project:

http://www.unc.edu/depts/cl_atlas/

Women in Antiquity:

<http://www.stoa.org/diotima/>

Organizations:

American Classical League:

<http://www.aclclassics.org/>

APA:

<http://www.apaclassics.org/>

INDICATIVE CONTENT:

1. Emphasis will be placed on an analysis of the texts within a cultural (religious, philosophical, social) context.
2. The authors to be studied (Plautus, Terence, Catullus, Cicero, Vergil, Horace) reflect the fundamental ideals of Roman culture from the Republic to the Empire.
3. These works of literature have been profoundly influenced by classical Greek literature and culture which, in turn, have influenced Western literature and culture to this day.
4. This module will, therefore, be a study of the cultural roots of the Western humanities, as based on an analysis and interpretation of the most characteristic works of Roman literature.

More specific topics of study will be included in the "Module Outline", which is given to students, with daily class assignments.