

Hacettepe University
Faculty of Letters
Department of English Language and Literature

Course: İED 142 (01) Classical Literature
Instructor: Assist. Prof. Dr. Pınar Taşdelen
Year/Term: 2016-2017 Spring
Credit: 3 / **ECTS:** 5
Class Hours: Tuesday 13:00-15:50 B2/204
Office Hours: Thursday 10:00-12:00

Aim of the Course: This course intends to enable students to acquire a knowledge and appreciation of classical literature, through the study of the social and political life of Greece and Rome; and create awareness of a common European heritage deriving from the civilisations of Greece and Rome. It undertakes a brief survey of classical Greek and Roman literature with special emphasis on the epic and dramatic genres through the study of exemplary texts, which is essential for a better understanding and appreciation of not only British literature but also all Western literature and art.

Learning and teaching strategies: Lecture, discussion, question and answer, team/group work, role play, brain storming.

Course Content: In this course, ancient Greek and Roman civilisations are introduced to students within a social, cultural, historical, and literary context. Oral literary tradition, the epic tradition, Homeric epics, the birth and development of Classical Greek and Roman tragedy as well as comedy are dealt with in the light of representative literary texts.

Course Outline:

Week I: General introduction

Brief history of ancient Greece
General characteristics of Classical Greek literature
The heroic ideal and heroic age

Week II-VI: The epic tradition and the Homeric epics

Homer *Iliad*

Week VII: Midterm I

Week VIII: Greek poetry background

The birth, development, and features of Classical Greek tragedy

Week IX: Greek tragedy

Sophocles *Oedipus the King*

Week X: Aeschylus *Agamemnon*

Week XI: The birth, development, and features of Roman tragedy

Seneca *Thyestes*

Week XII: Midterm II

Week XIII: The birth, development, and features of Classical Greek comedy

Aristophanes *Lysistrata*

Week XIV: The birth, development, and characteristics of Roman comedy

Plautus *Pot of Gold*

***There may be changes to the course outline.**

Text Book: The primary texts are stated above.

Course Requirements and Method: It is essential for students to read the assigned material before class meetings because the course will be conducted in the form of class discussions and references to the texts will be made necessary. The background material will be briefly introduced in class and a very brief outline of the material will be given as handouts, but the students should not rely only on class material and are advised to do reading of the secondary sources in their spare time (**If there is no time, make time!**). Needless to say each student should have his/her own text that will be brought to class.

Attendance: Attendance is compulsory, those who fail to come to class more than **11 hours** will get **F1**. Moreover, punctual attendance is required at every class meeting.

Assessment: 25% Midterm I
25% Midterm II
50% Final

25% of the marks will be deducted for incorrect English. The lowest passing mark is **50**.

Suggested Reading List

*This list is recommendatory only. There are many other books and articles available at the Beytepe Library and Bilkent Library, in addition to the vast number of online articles.

General

Baldry, H. C. *Ancient Greek Literature: Living Context*
Bowra, C. M. *Ancient Greek Literature*
de Rommily, J. A. *Short History of Greek Literature*
Dihle, Albrecht. *A History of Greek Literature*
Dover, K. J., ed. *Ancient Greek Literature*
Hadas, Moses. *A History of Latin Literature*
Hamilton, Edith. *The Greek Way*
Kennedy, E. J., ed. *Latin Literature*
Lesky, Albin. *A History of Greek Literature*
Levi, Peter. *The Pelican History of Greek Literature*
Petrie, A. *An Introduction to Greek History, Antiquities and Literature*
Rose, H. J. *A Handbook of Greek Literature*
----- *Outlines of Classical Literature for Students of English*
Sinclair, T. A. *A History of Classical Greek Literature*

Epic

Atchithy, Kenneth. *Classical Essays on Homer*
Chadwick, Munro. *The Heroic Age*
Edwards, Mat W. *Homer the Poet of the Iliad*
Greene, Thomas. *The Descent from Heaven: A Study of Epic Continuity*
Hainsworth, J. B. *The Idea of Epic*
Ingalls, Jeremy. *The Epic Tradition*
Jackson, W. T. H. *The Hero and the King*
Jenkyns, Richard. *Classical Epic: Homer and Virgil*
Jones C. Emelyn. *Homer: Readings and Images*
Kirk, G. S. *Homer and the Epic*
Latacz, Joachim. *Homer: His Art and His World*

Milman, Perry. *The Making of Homeric Verse*
Murray Gilbert. *The Rise of Greek Epic*
Merchant, Paul. *The Epic*
Richardson, S. D. *The Homeric Narrator*
Tillyard, E. M. W. *The English Epic and its Background*
Toohey, Peter. *Reading Epic*
Verseyni, Laszio. *Man's Measure*

Drama

Bentley, Eric. *The Great Playwrights*
Kiotto, H. D. F. *Form and Meaning in Drama: A Study of Six Greek Plays*
Krook, Dorothea. *Elements of Tragedy*
Lebeck, Anne. *The Oresteia*
Lesky, Albin. *Greek Tragedy*
Mc Call, Matrsh. *Aeschylus: A Collection of Critical Essays*
Ross, W. D., ed. *The Works of Aristotle: Poetica*
Shipley, Joseph. *Guide to Great Plays*
Solomos, Alexis. *Living Aristophanes*

GOOD LUCK!