

Department of Classics

Fall 2023 Graduate Courses

ARH4173-1/ARH5174-1

Sex and the Ancient City

Dr. Dylan Rogers

Let's talk about sex. Issues related to sexuality and gender permeate every culture and society from any time period—whether or not they wish to talk about them. As such, this course examines art and architecture in the ancient Mediterranean, in order to explore how sex was conceptualized and understood by Greeks and Romans. Using a variety of art historical and archaeological evidence, from Greek vases to the painted walls of a brothel in Pompeii, we will explore a number of themes, including nudity and the body, gender, sexuality, homosexuality, virginity, prostitution, and marriage. Further, we examine modern notions of sexuality and gender (particularly in the US), in order to understand better how sex has changed over time. For example, what can Victorian taboos of the 19th century or RuPaul's Drag Race today tell us about our own selves—and ancient Greeks and Romans?

MW 11:35AM – 12:50PM LSB002

ARH4173-2/ARH5174-2

Art of the Peoples of the Black Sea

Dr. Nancy de Grummond

The course examines the art and cultural context of the Scythians, Sarmatians and Thracians, three peoples that flourished on the Black Sea during Greek and Roman times, from about the eighth century BCE down into the early centuries of this era. The Greeks called them "barbarians." Our aim is multi-cultural, and we shall attempt to see these cultures on their own terms, but at the same time try to understand their complex interrelationships with the Greeks (especially), but also with the civilizations of the Near East, and later, with the Romans.

MW 9:45AM – 11:00AM LSB002

CLA5799-1/ARH6937-1

Early Iron Age Greece

Dr. Christopher Pfaff

This seminar will examine the dramatic developments that occurred in the Greek world from the 10th through 8th centuries BCE. Among the achievements of this period were the revival of literacy and monumental architecture, the development of narrative arts, the emergence of the polis and formalized sanctuaries, and the beginning of overseas colonization. We will focus on what the archaeological record tells us about these achievements and about other aspects of the material culture of this pivotal era. This seminar is intended to provide an opportunity for graduate students to read extensively about this period of Greece and to develop their research skills through the writing of a research paper on some aspect of it.

R 12:00PM – 2:30PM DOD205I

CLA5799-2/ARH6937-2

Roman Economy

Dr. Elizabeth Murphy

This graduate seminar is designed to provide students with a strong background in the intellectual history of ancient economic studies, as well as with a clear understanding of several current research themes in the field. The first half of this course traces out the intellectual history of Roman economic studies, beginning with the modernist perspectives of Mikhail Rostovtzeff and then the primitivist school led by Moses Finley, as well as their connections to similar discussions that took place in the substantivism and formalism debates of Economic Anthropology. The course will then turn to several current intellectual trends in the field of ancient economy that are informed by the work of modern economists; these include New Institutional Economics and globalization. The second half of this course looks at some central themes in the study of ancient economy, including: monetarization, taxation and value; long-distance exchange; technology and power sources; labor and slavery; and imperial monopolies. While the central case studies will derive from the Roman world, the intellectual traditions and many of the central themes

are also paralleled in the study of Greek economic history, and thus are applicable for students of either period.

T 3:30PM – 6:00PM DOD205I

CLA5931/6932 Text & Monument: An Introduction to Greek & Latin Epigraphy Dr. James Sickinger

This course will introduce students to the study of Greek and Latin inscriptions. We will begin with an overview of the tools, methods, and history of the discipline, followed by a survey of epigraphic corpora and digital resources. Our attention will then turn to exploration of different classes of inscriptions and related topics, ranging from the earliest examples of alphabetic writing, grave monuments, and religious dedications, to inscribed public documents, statue bases, and inscriptions on monumental buildings. One aim of the course will be to expose students to the multiple ways that epigraphic materials contribute to our understanding of economic, political, religious, and social history, taking into account the methodological challenges posed by often fragmentary evidence. At the same time, due consideration will be given to the materiality of inscribed texts and how visual appearance, physical form, and monumental context contributed to their meaning(s) in the eyes of ancient viewers. Most of the texts studied will be available in translation, but participants should have completed at least one year of study of either Greek or Latin (ideally both).

R 3:30PM – 6:00PM – DOD205I

CLA5936

Classics Proseminar

Dr. Tim Stover

This course introduces new graduate students to some of the basic research areas and tools in Classics, to the research interests of the faculty, and to certain matters of professional interest to Classicists.

F 8:00AM – 8:50AM DOD205I

EUH4412/EUH5417

The Roman Republic

Dr. Jessica Clark

This course presents Rome from its origins as a small city-state through its transformation into a Mediterranean empire. Our main focus will be Rome's political, military, economic, and social development during the time of the Punic Wars (264-146 BCE) and the crises and transformations of the century that followed, down to the time of Julius Caesar. We will see the Romans face seemingly insurmountable challenges to their novel form of self-governance as they adapted to meet a wider world and shaped that world to meet them both at home and abroad.

TR 1:20PM – 2:10PM WJBG0039

GRE5305

Greek Style and Stylistics

Dr. Svetla Slaveva-Griffin

When we learn Ancient Greek, oftentimes one of our unfulfilled wishes is that we take a semester to review everything we have learned with the seasoned eye of what we know and what we do not know. This course will fulfill your wish. It offers incoming graduate students an intensive and comprehensive review of Greek grammar. The course will be divided in three parts, featuring morphology, syntax, and stylistics. Each part will culminate in a take-home Greek composition exam. Our daily class work will focus on grammatical details, reading a wide range of prose and poetry authors, and learning how to teach grammatical concepts.

MW 11:35AM – 12:50PM DOD205I

GRW6930

Medea

Dr. Virginia Lewis

As a character who raises issues about race, gender, identity, violence, and revenge, among other things, Medea is a figure who has captured the imaginations of audiences from antiquity to today. In this seminar,

we will focus on representations of Medea in Greek poetry across genres and time periods. Our primary readings will draw from Pindar's Pythian 4, Euripides' Medea, and Apollonius' Argonautica, Book 3, and we will also consider the reception of Medea in the Roman world and in the 20th and 21st centuries.

T 12:00PM – 2:30PM DOD205I

LAT5305

Intensive Latin Review

Dr. Tim Stover

This course is designed primarily for newly entering graduate students who need to improve their knowledge of the forms, vocabulary, and syntax of classical Latin as well as develop their training in how to read, understand, and analyze Latin prose. Emphasis will be placed on assimilating the fundamentals of Latin and on the ways in which sentences in Latin are structured and elaborated, and on the variety of ways in which Latin authors exploited the full range of features in the language.

MW 1:20PM – 2:35PM DOD205I

LNW6930

War Literature

Dr. Jessica Clark

How did Romans write about war? Taking a broad approach to that question, in this seminar we will read (in Latin) significant excerpts from the works of Julius Caesar, Sallust, Livy, Velleius Paterculus, and Tacitus, and (in translation and in Latin) fragmentary texts, military handbooks and collections of exempla, and selections from Latin epic and lyric poetry. We will be concerned equally with matters of historical representation and audience as with style and semantics; topics will include the reconstruction of battles and the dramatization of combat, the commemorative functions of historical texts, and the intersections of war literature and rhetorical education at Rome.

W 3:30PM – 6:00PM DOD205I