

Department of Classics

Spring 2021 Graduate Courses

ARH4173/5174 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.

TR 9:45AM – 11:0AM REMOTE

ARH4173/5174 Art & Archaeology of Iron Age Anatolia Dr. Leticia Rodriguez

The Art and Archaeology of Iron Age Anatolia will explore the kingdoms and cultures of Anatolia (modern-day Turkey) in the early 1st millennium BCE. Chronologically, we will begin by briefly examining the legacy of the Hittite Empire through the Neo-Hittite and Neo-Assyrian powers, and end with the period following the conquest of Anatolia by the Achaemenid Persians in the mid-6th century BCE. Through our examinations of key sites and visual culture, we will learn about the significant artistic and cultural achievements of the many civilizations that inhabited these lands, such as the Phrygians and Ionian Greeks. Moreover, we will also consider questions of cross-cultural interaction and influence, as well as the historical and social contexts in which this visual and material culture was produced and consumed.

MWF 12:00PM – 12:50PM REMOTE

ARH4173/5174 Topography of Rome Dr. Andrea De Giorgi

Relentlessly transformed and re-designed by a variety of agencies, Rome never remained a museum to its own past. As it stands, its ever-evolving built environment is the palimpsest of millennia of building events, each with its own rationale and agencies. Through the analysis of urban fabric and the voices of ancient and modern authors we will navigate the vast cityscape of Rome, investigating the evolution that in a few centuries led a modest constellation of villages to the highest prominence. While much emphasis will be put on the city during the Roman and Medieval periods, we will also look at the modern re-invention of the imperial city.

MW 3:05PM – 4:20PM REMOTE

CLA5799/ARH6937 Ancient Antioch Dr. Andrea De Giorgi

Eighty years ago the Antioch excavations of Princeton University and other institutions produced a remarkable wealth of finds that opened novel, albeit problematic, vistas onto a city that played a fundamental role in the shaping of politics and cultures in the Greek and Roman East for more than a millennium. While the cosmopolitan and classical character of this unique community has been thoroughly addressed by various scholars, questions about the town's built environment, resilience, political centrality and relationship with the countryside must be now brought into focus. These queries can redefine what is traditionally understood about Hellenistic, Roman, and Late Antique Antioch. As new historical frameworks and key archaeological data come to the fore, this course will highlight the city's unique narrative of settlement and role as hinge between east and west, drawing both on the textual and material repertoires of the ancient city. A trip to visit the Antioch collections in St. Petersburg, FL may also be part of the course.

T 3:30PM – 6:00PM REMOTE

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CLA5799/ARH6937

Neolithic & EBA Aegean

Dr. Daniel Pullen

This seminar will explore several topics in the archaeology of the Neolithic through Early Bronze Age in the Aegean, including the arrival of agriculture and village life, regional variation in the later Neolithic, and the emergence of social complexity in the Final Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.

R 3:30PM – 6:00PM REMOTE

EUH4408/5407

Age of Alexander

Dr. James Sickinger

This course examines the history of the Greek world from the reign of Alexander III of Macedon through the rise and fall of the Hellenistic kingdoms, with an emphasis on its political, social, and economic history. It will explore the wide variety of ancient sources—literary texts, inscriptions, papyri—available for this period, and provide an overview of several trends in recent research.

TR 9:45AM – 11:00AM REMOTE

FLE5810

Teaching Classics

Dr. Michael Furman

This course prepares graduate students in Classics for their role as teachers of undergraduates in lower-level courses in etymology, classical civilization, myth and Latin.

TR 8:00AM – 9:15AM REMOTE

GRW4210/5215

Plato's Republic

Dr. Svetla Slaveva-Griffin

The Republic is a canonical text which was composed as a self-reflecting critique of social and individual organization in the wake of the political turmoil in Athens after the Peloponnesian War and the trial of Socrates. It is "consciously and deliberately provocative," "meant to startle and shock." This course will offer a thorough exposure to the intricate thematic world of the work in a hybrid format, alternating between close textual analysis of "purple" sections of each book and a broader discussion of the themes of each book in translation, augmented by recent scholarship. Our course work will be punctuated by 3 exams, class presentations, and a final research project. Our goals for the end of the course are that we become familiar with Plato's style of philosophical writing, we know what Plato's Republic is about and why it still matters today. The course will be enriched by the visit of Professor Melissa Lane, Class of 1943 Professor of Politics and the Director of the University Center of Human Values, Princeton University, as our Langford Scholar in the Spring.

MW 1:20PM – 2:35PM REMOTE

GRW6930

Theocritus

Dr. Francis Cairns

From the time of their composition the Idylls of Theocritus have been the most read and most popular work of Hellenistic literature. These bucolic and non-bucolic works have inspired numerous successors, from Virgil's Eclogues on, in many European languages. We shall read and discuss the Idylls, and investigate their literary and historical background.

M 3:30PM – 6:00PM REMOTE

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LNW4320/5325

Horace's Odes

Dr. Thomas Bolt

Horace's lyric poetry is among the most exquisitely crafted from classical antiquity and it covers a broad range of subjects from murderous trees to fine wine. In this course, we will read and translate his masterwork, the Odes, but we will also look at some passages from his Satires and Epodes to get a more holistic sense of the poet's writings. Class work and assigned secondary readings will focus on familiarizing students with the main trends in scholarship, situating Horace within the Augustan milieu, and working closely with the intricacies of Horace's language, from diction through to meter.

TR 3:05PM – 4:20PM REMOTE

LNW6930

Tacitus

Dr. J. Bert Lott

This course introduces the historian Tacitus as well as a specific historical period and set of events, focusing on the figure of Germanicus Caesar. We read Tacitus' treatment of the final expedition and death of Germanicus in the years 18-20 CE, including the trial of Cn. Calpurnius Piso for treason and the murder of Germanicus. The story is one of the most famous episodes in Tacitus and spans the end of Book 2 and beginning of Book 3 of the Annals. We also read recently discovered bronze inscriptions that detail the honors granted Germanicus and the senate's decision in the trial of Piso.

W 3:30PM – 6:00PM REMOTE