

Department of Classics
Spring 2022 Graduate Course Descriptions

ARH4110/5111

Aegean Bronze Age

Dr. Daniel Pullen

A detailed study of the cultures of prehistoric Greece, the Cycladic Islands, and Crete, their monuments, and their history within the context of the eastern Mediterranean. We will begin with the settlement of the Aegean area in the Palaeolithic, continue with the development of civilization in the various regions, and end with the collapse of the Bronze Age cultures in the 12th century B.C. We will pay particular attention to the origins and functions of palaces and their society.

MW 9:45AM – 11:00AM DOD205I

ARH4154/5161

Late Roman Empire

Dr. Andrea DeGiorgi

The course analyzes the visual culture and the history of the Roman world during Late Antiquity, from the days of the Severan dynasty to the Justinianic era. It surveys urbanism, architectural traditions, and figurative arts with special emphasis on the moment when the Roman state and Christianity joined forces.

TR 3:05PM – 4:20PM WJBG039

CLA5799/ARH6937

Dr. Elizabeth Murphy

Recent Trends in Archaeological Theory and Applications in the Study of the Ancient Mediterranean

A rich body of theoretical literature has been produced over the forty years in the field of archaeology and material culture studies, and many of these ideas and perspectives have been applied to the study of the ancient Mediterranean world. Focused on interrogating the human experience and its relation to society and culture, as well as natural / constructed environments, material culture, and time, this course explores some of the major trends in thinking since the 1980s and 1990s. In doing so, this course will explore, interrogate, and challenge these theoretical developments and their applications in the study of the ancient Mediterranean world. While this course primarily focuses on the intellectual tradition in the field of archaeology, such discussions have likewise informed related fields, such as history, literature, and art history. When possible, works from these fields on matters of the Mediterranean world also will be incorporated into the course readings.

M 3:30PM – 6:00PM DOD205I

EUH4413/5418

Roman Empire

Dr. Trevor Luke

This course will focus on the first two dynasties of imperial Rome (the Julio-Claudians and the Flavians) and the evolution of Roman monarchy. In addition to the great battles and political developments, we will also consider changes in Roman society, religion, entertainments, civic organization, and foreign relations in the same period. Examples include: the increasing importance of women in imperial politics; the development of ruler cult; the growing role of entertainments in the capital city; and Rome's reliance on a network of eastern allies. There is no prerequisite for this course.

TR 1:20PM – 2:35PM WJBG039

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 9:45AM – 11:00AM DOD205I

GRW4210/5215 Greek Prose**Dr. James Sickinger**

In this course we will read selections from Greek prose authors, including Herodotus, Antiphon, Thucydides, and Demosthenes, paying special attention to the development of prose style. In addition to translation from Greek to English, we will spend some time working from English into Greek, starting with simple sentences and progressing to short paragraphs of connected prose. Students should have access to a good Greek-English lexicon and good grammar of ancient Greek.

TR 11:35AM – 12:50PM DOD205I**GRW6930 Nature and Human Nature****Dr. Svetla Slaveva-Griffin**

This is an intensive Greek seminar for doctoral students which will examine the concept of “nature” and “human nature” in the history of Greek thought from Homer to Nemesius of Emesa, with stops at the Presocratics, early Greek poetry, Sophocles’ Philoctetes, Hippocratic medical texts, Plato’s Alcibiades, Aristotle’s Physics, Plutarch’s Moralia, Plotinus, On what is a human being? and more. The seminar will include a wealth of primary and secondary readings, punctuated by a series of quizzes, a midterm, and a final research paper.

W 3:30PM – 6:00PM DOD205I**LNW4340/5325 Catullus****Dr. Christopher Nappa**

Catullus’ poetry is among the most familiar, yet also the strangest, literary legacies of Republican Rome. Employing an innovative fusion of Latin language and style with the highly sophisticated aesthetics of Hellenistic poetry, Catullus creates a portrait of unparalleled richness, a literary character that many have felt they knew personally. This class will concentrate on reading as much of Catullus as possible, while placing him in his social, political, and literary context. Class time will be spent on working through passages of Catullus’ text in Latin, analyzing his use of meter, his innovative handling of genre, and the strange portrait he creates of a man both provincial and Roman, elite sophisticate and perpetual outsider. We will also spend time on major questions of Catullan scholarship.

MW 11:35AM – 12:50PM DOD205I**LNW6930 Cato the Elder****Dr. Jessica Clark**

Cato the Elder (234-149 BCE), considered the first author of Latin prose, both witnessed and transformed a pivotal era in Roman history. He generated and attracted controversy in his own lifetime and continues to do so now, and his life, works, and legacy illuminate Romans’ ideas about power, wealth, and justice, ethnicity and masculinity, and public representations and private relationships. This seminar combines readings in Latin (Cato’s whole and fragmentary works, including oratorical fragments, as well as excerpts from other Latin authors, from Ennius to Frontinus) and engagement with modern scholarship on Cato and his historical context.

R 3:30PM – 6:00PM