

**CLASSICAL STUDIES**

Under Construction

**FACULTY**

Kate Birney  
BA, Yale University; MT, Harvard University; PHD, Harvard University  
Associate Professor of Classical Studies; Chair, Archaeology; Associate Professor, Archaeology; Associate Professor, Art History

Christopher Parslow  
BA, Grinnell College; MA, University of Iowa; PHD, Duke University  
Robert Rich Professor of Latin; Professor of Classical Studies; Professor, Art History; Professor, Archaeology

Andrew Szegedy-Maszak  
BA, University of Michigan; MA, Princeton University; MAA, Wesleyan University; PHD, Princeton University  
Jane A. Seney Professor of Greek; Professor of Classical Studies; Chair, Classical Studies; Professor, Environmental Studies

Eirene Visvardi  
BA, University of Crete; MPHIL, Cambridge University; PHD, Stanford University  
Associate Professor of Classical Studies

**VISITING FACULTY**

Elizabeth A. Bobrick  
BA, Marlboro College; MA, Johns Hopkins University; PHD, Johns Hopkins University  
Writing Consultant; Visiting Scholar in Classical Studies; CPE Instructor; Visiting Assistant Professor in Liberal Studies

Serena S. Witzke  
BA, McMaster University; MA, McMaster University; PHD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Classical Studies

**EMERITI**

Marilyn A. Katz  
BS, Columbia University; MA, Yale University; MAA, Wesleyan University; PHD, Yale University  
Professor of Classical Studies, Emerita

Michael J. Roberts  
BA, Cambridge University; MA, Cambridge University; MA, University of Illinois Urbana; MAA, Wesleyan University; PHD, University of Illinois Urbana  
Robert Rich Professor of Latin, Emeritus

Under Construction

Classical Studies Major (https://catalog.wesleyan.edu/departments/clst/ugrd-clst/)

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**GREEK**

**GRK101 Introduction to Ancient Greek: Semester I**

This course is an introduction to the rich and beautiful language of ancient Greek, the language of Homer, Plato, and Euripides. In the first semester students will begin to learn the grammar and syntax of the language and start developing the vocabulary necessary to appreciate and understand Greek with the goal of reading as soon as possible. Throughout the semester we will also explore some inscriptions and dip our toes into both Herodotus and biblical Greek.

This course is a prerequisite for GRK102.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

**GRK102 Introduction to Ancient Greek: Semester II**

This course is a continuation of GRK101. We will complete the study of Greek grammar and continue to develop vocabulary and reading skills. We will read selections from Sophocles, Euripides, Lysias, Apollodorus, Demosthenes, Aristotle, and Plato, among others.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: GRK101

**GRK201 Reading Greek Prose: Court Room Dramas, Selections from Athenian Oratory**

In classical Athens there were no public prosecutors and no lawyers. Citizens took it on themselves to prosecute their political enemies, their wives’ lovers, and violent offenders against family, friends, and state. Court cases are fascinating for the laws, political dynamics, social beliefs, animosities and gossip they bring to light. In this course, we will focus on selections from two cases in Greek and will also read additional cases in translation.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: GRK101

**GRK250 Body, Soul, and Afterlife Journeys in Ancient Greece (CLAC.50)**

The connection between body and soul and their journey in the afterlife were at the center of how the ancient Greeks thought not only of mortality but also of the good life itself. This CLAC course is connected to the Classical Civilization course titled "Death and Afterlife in Egypt and Greece" that will be taught in the fall by Kate Birney. The parent course explores the archaeology of death and burial in Egypt and Greece. It examines how the funerary practices and the very notions of death, the soul, the body, and the afterlife operated in these societies by drawing upon diverse evidence--archaeological, art historical, and mythological.

In this CLAC course students with some background in ancient Greek will read selections of the surviving evidence on death and the afterlife. Sources will be drawn from diverse genres and periods: historiography, Homeric poetry, Platonic philosophy, and religious tablets. This diversity will offer a unique opportunity to identify different registers and to explore how language itself reflects and in turn shapes the ideas and practices for which it is used. We will thus be looking
at: how different media and performances are used to express loss, hope, and heroism in the face of death; how social class, gender, and political ideology are reflected in these media and how they influence ideas about death and the afterlife; and, last, how we are to create adequate methodologies as "readers" of such diverse evidence.

The selections of readings will be drawn primarily from what the students read in translation in the parent course. The final selection will be based on the level of the students. This CLAC is conceived as appropriate for students on the intermediate and advanced level of ancient Greek.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 0.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Identical With: CGST250
Prereq: GRK102

GRK252 Dionysiac Transformations: Gender, Violence, and Justice in Euripides' Hecuba

Euripides' "Hecuba" dramatizes the immediate aftermath of the Trojan War, as the victorious Greeks are waiting for favorable winds in Thrace—a no-man's-land. At this liminal time and space, we witness the "civilized" victors' abuse of power and the law against their female captives and the brutal revenge of the oppressed, culminating in literal transformation and loss of human form. Working with the Greek and secondary readings, we will explore the rhetoric and morality of power, justice, and empathy, how these shift within the plot, and how the dramatic medium itself may affect the audience's sympathies.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS

GRK258 The Greek Novel

In the course we will read selections from Longus' DAPHNIS AND CHLOE and Chariton's CHAERIAS AND CALLIRHOE. The former is a story of young love in a pastoral setting on the island of Lesbos; the latter, an incident-packed narrative in which a young husband and wife are separated, but after many vicissitudes, reunited. Subjects covered will include genre and setting, narrative and descriptive techniques, cultural context, and likely readership.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS

GRK263 The Homeric Hymns

Students in this course will read the Homeric hymns to Demeter, Apollo, Hermes, and Aphrodite in ancient Greek. They will also read modern scholarship on the structure of the hymns as examples of narrative discourse and on the mythology of the various divinities. Each of these hymns celebrates one of the principal divinities of the Greek pantheon, and each incorporates a story of the god's adventures. Class sessions will include discussion of the manner in which gender exercises an influence on the structure and content of the hymns.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: GRK201

GRK275 Homeric Epic

This course involves a close reading of selections in Greek from the ODYSSEY on the wanderings of Odysseus; his encounters with Polyphemus, Circe, and Calypso; and his return to Ithaca. In addition, we will discuss major scholarly approaches to the Odyssey and Homeric epic more broadly.
GRK365 Greek Tragedy: Euripides
Euripides is well known for being experimental and controversial, in his own time and beyond. Aristophanes famously accuses him of corrupting his audience by bringing too much of a democratic sentiment to his plays—women and slaves having way too much to say. Nietzsche much later will attribute to him the very death of tragedy. In this course, we will explore this legacy by reading one of his plays in the original along with diverse approaches to his work. The selection of the play will be determined by the composition of the student-group and previous exposure to Greek drama.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Identical With: THEA365
Prereq: None

GRK367 The Great Greek Creation Myth: Hesiod’s Theogony
In this seminar, we will read Hesiod’s Theogony, the Greek creation myth, in the original ancient Greek and examine this fabulous work in light of other creation stories of the ancient Near East, Egyptian, and Hittite cultures by which it was influenced. Through examination of structural themes and motifs (how the universe was created and ordered, the role of violence, the origins of an application of justice, the creation of mankind, the shaping of women), we will discuss whether and how the Theogony diverges from other creation myths to establish or reflect values that can be said to be uniquely Greek. Discussion will be supplemented by passages from Hesiod’s Works and Days, along with other creation myths and secondary scholarship.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS

GRK401 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GRK402 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GRK407 Senior Tutorial (downgraded thesis)
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor. Only enrolled in through the Honors Coordinator.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

GRK408 Senior Tutorial (downgraded thesis)
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor. Only enrolled in through the Honors Coordinator.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

GRK409 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GRK410 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GRK411 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

LATIN

LAT101 First-Year Latin: Semester I
Conquer Latin in two semesters! Acquire a basic vocabulary and build your skills with essential grammar as you develop your ability to read passages in Latin from the principal classical authors—including Cicero, Vergil, and Ovid. This first semester covers half the textbook. In the second semester (LAT 102), you will complete the textbook.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT102 First-Year Latin: Semester II
Continue your conquest of Latin by completing your acquisition of a basic vocabulary and essential grammar.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: LAT101

LAT104 Intensive Introductory Latin
Learn Latin in a semester with this intensive introduction to grammar and syntax. Readings in original authors help illustrate and reinforce the fundamental principles of the language in preparation for more advanced reading at the intermediate level. Recommended for students wanting accelerated Latin acquisition or those with some background wanting a quick review.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT201 Catullus and Cicero: Love and Life in Republican Rome
A selection of the poems of Catullus and portions of Cicero’s "Pro Caelio" as a reflection of life in late Republican Rome, with a particular emphasis on the intersection between the lives of Catullus, the young Caelius, and their mutual love-interest Lesbia/Clodia. This course is intended for students with one year of
college Latin or the equivalent (normally three to four years of high school Latin) includes a thorough review of Latin grammar and syntax.

This course will fall under the Poetry & Performance track.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT202 Latin Lyric Poetry
In this intermediate-level Latin course, students will continue to develop their facility with the Latin language and their understanding of Roman literary history through a reading of selections of Latin lyric and elegiac poetry, two corpora that are both heavily influenced by earlier Greek models and show a remarkable degree of Roman ingenuity. The work of Horace and Catullus will provide an entry point into this fascinating material. We will then turn to work by the elegists Propertius and Tibullus, as well as shorter poems by Ovid. Throughout the course, we will also be investigating a number of questions. What is lyric poetry, and to what extent must Latin lyric poetry be read as a continuation of the Greek lyric tradition? How do Roman authors take Greek models and rework them to address the interests of their contemporary audience? How and for whom were these poems performed, and how does this affect the way we read this corpus? To facilitate our discussion we will be reading translations of a number of Greek lyric songs and of Latin lyric poetry by Seneca and Statius, some examples of modern lyric, and scholarly literature. In addition to our daily reading in Latin, we will undertake a careful review of Latin grammar, as well as long-term translation and commentary assignments.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT203 Latin Prose: Roman Letters
An introduction to the reading of classical Latin prose, the course will include a review of Latin grammar and syntax. Students will read selections from the letters of Seneca the Younger and Pliny the Younger. Seneca, a distinguished philosopher and statesman of the Neronian period, uses his experiences in contemporary Rome as texts from which to derive simple philosophical messages. Pliny recounts events from the life of an Italian aristocrat of the first century CE, including an eyewitness account of the eruption of Vesuvius. The course will begin slowly, with the aim of gradually acclimatizing students to the rhythms and stylistic and syntactical patterns of Latin prose. The emphasis will be on understanding and translating the Latin, but we will consider the social and cultural background to the texts we read.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT221 Roman Comedy
It has long been recognized that Plautus and Terence displayed widely different comic styles: Terence was an artist; Plautus, an untutored genius. We shall examine this difference through a critical reading of selected plays in their divergent literary and historical contexts.

This course will fall under the Poetry & Performance and History/Social Justice tracks.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS

LAT230 Love and Suffering in Ancient Rome (CLAC.50)
In this CLAC course students with some background in ancient Latin will read selections of the extant sources on love and suffering in Roman myth, history, and thought. The sources that we will cover will be drawn from diverse genres and periods: historiography, epic poetry, lyric poetry, and comedy. This diversity will offer a unique opportunity to students to identify and analyze the intersections of age, class, status, gender, and ethnicity and the way they shaped Roman ideology on “love.” We will be looking at how cultural practice shapes language, how ideology shapes law, and how literature challenged cultural norms of love and marriage, all the while unpacking and interrogating the Roman belief that love had no place in the citizen life dedicated to serving the state: love produces suffering. In turn, we will reflect on the ideological shift in the last 150 years that has come to dominate “western” beliefs on love and marriage, that is, “all you need is love,” over family, friends, and society, despite the obstacles: suffering produces love.

The selections of readings will be drawn primarily from what the students read in translation in the parent course. The final selection will be based on the level of the students. This CLAC is conceived as appropriate for students on the intermediate and advanced level of ancient Latin.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 0.50
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Identical With: CGST231
Prereq: LAT102

LAT251 The Age of Nero
Nero: artist or monster (or both)? This course will focus on the personality and politics of the emperor and the reaction he evoked in contemporary and subsequent accounts of his reign, concentrating especially on the powerful picture of Nero and the Neronian regime painted by the Roman historian Tacitus in his “Annals,” with supplementary evidence from Suetonius’s “Life of Nero,” imperial inscriptions, and visual propaganda. Topics discussed will include Tacitus as a historian, public and private life in Neronian Rome, how to die well, and whether Nero really sang of the Fall of Troy while Rome burned.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS

LAT254 Apuleius: THE GOLDEN ASS
Fast-paced, magical, sexy, and bizarre, Apuleius’ GOLDEN ASS, or METAMORPHOSES, contains more than enough rowdy episodes to keep us entertained for a semester. The novel tells the story of the reckless Lucius, the man-turned-ass whose encounters with the residents of Thessaly range from the vulgar to the weird to the sublime. Our goals, in addition to reading and understanding the Latin, include tracing prominent themes and becoming acquainted with recent relevant scholarship.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS

LAT262 Reading Latin, Writing Latin
This is a nontraditional introduction to writing Latin. Through reading and discussing short selections of mainly narrative and descriptive Latin prose from all periods, from the classical to the Renaissance, students will develop greater familiarity with Latin styles and the expressive possibilities of the language. Students will try writing Latin themselves (often collaboratively and with ample opportunity for revision). Subjects will include proverbs, familiar sayings or
catchphrases, song lyrics, and so forth (anything is fair game for translation), as well as short narratives, culminating in a final project. As well as developing greater facility with Latin, students will reflect on the experience of learning Latin, the history of Latin, and its place in the modern world.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-LAT
Prereq: None

LAT270 Catullus
The poetry of Catullus often has an immediate appeal to contemporary readers. In Tom Stoppard’s play THE INVENTION OF LOVE, the claim is made that he invented love as we think of it. But in addition to his love poetry, Catullus is also the writer of a mini-mythological epic (an epyllion), an account of the strange story of the self-castration of Attis, wedding hymns, translations from Greek lyric, invective, and elegy. In this course, we will read an extensive selection of Catullus’ poetry and discuss the critical issues they raise in the light of selected readings from modern scholarship.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT281 Roman Satire: Juvenal
Roman satire, as practiced by Lucilius, Horace, Persius, and Juvenal is a strange hybrid: it combines social criticism, literary parody, philosophical rumination, and obscene burlesque, a self-consciously “humble” genre set in the framework of dactylic hexameter, the meter of high-flown Homeric and Vergilian epic. It is among a small minority of ancient literature which directly addresses itself to the humber aspects of the everyday lives of Roman citizens. This course on Roman satire will focus on Juvenal, the last practitioner of Roman verse satire. We will begin the course with a selection of short readings from each of the four Roman satirists in order to orient ourselves with standard topics of Roman satire (including dining, country vs. urban life, the body, sex, and gender roles) and differentiate the approaches. We will spend the rest of the semester exploring Juvena’s seminal works: his first and second book of Satires, wherein he situates himself as a figure marginalized by a new order of foreign interlopers, powerful gender deviants, and tyrannical patrons and emperors, as well as Satire 10, his caustically philosophical take on the “Vanity of Human Wishes.”

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT301 Petronius
Follow the down-and-out Roman Encolpius as he embarks on a titillating tour of the Mediterranean, persecuted (with impotence!) by the phallic god Priapus. Join him as he attends the longest dinner party in Latin literature, a class-crossing affair including nouveau riche, citizens, slaves, freedmen, and foreigners. In addition to reading the Latin, we will examine issues of scholarship, from the title (Satyrica? Satyricon?), to the genre, to sexuality, to class and status.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT331 Vergil: AENEID 2
Vergil’s Aeneid book 2 is almost cinematic in its tragic, poignant, and frenetic depiction of the fall of Troy, from looming threat of the Trojan Horse to the firing of the city, rooftop battles, and the violent loss of loved ones while the gods manipulate events with petty disdain for human life. Students will read book 2 in its entirety in Latin, and the rest of the work in English. The purpose of this course is to continue to develop skills in reading Latin poetry and to continue the study of Latin grammar with close reading and critical analysis.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT353 Demagogues and Tyrants in the Roman Historians
Reading selections from Livy’s ab Urbe Condita, Sallust’s Bellum Catilinae, and Tacitus’ Annales we will consider these historians’ depictions of tyrants and demagogues (e.g., the Tarquins, Catiline, Tiberius, Nero) throughout Rome’s political history, their views on the interactions between these controversial figures and the Senate and people of Rome, and their narratives describing the circumstances behind their rise and fall. At the same time, we will explore the role of fact vs. fiction, propaganda, and bias in the writing of Roman history through comparative analysis with contemporary sources and inscriptional evidence.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT360 Constructing Masculinity and Identity in Roman Elegy
This course will explore the ways in which Roman elegists used the genre of their poetry to construct a literary alternative to Roman masculinity and mores. Propertius, Tibullus, and Ovid each developed a masculine persona that rejected career politics and militarism in favor of the battlefields of love, creating a culture war between the status quo and a new Roman masculinity. The course will include weekly translation and secondary readings.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT375 Set in Stone: Reading Roman Life through Inscriptions
Inscriptions are our tweets from the ancient Romans. From the alphabets scrawled by school children on wax tablets to the curse tablets of scorned lovers and the biographical epitaphs on funerary monuments lining the roads leading into Roman cities they provide an intimate view of daily life in the ancient world, while public inscriptions document the political, religious, and social workings of the Roman state. This course will survey a representative sampling of the Latin inscriptive record from the earliest period through the Empire, including examples of laws, decrees, and religious dedications, Augustus’ Res Gestae, and the methods employed in inscribing objects.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CLAS
Prereq: None

LAT401 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

LAT402 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
LAT407 Senior Tutorial (downgraded thesis)
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor. Only enrolled in through the Honors Coordinator.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

LAT408 Senior Tutorial (downgraded thesis)
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor. Only enrolled in through the Honors Coordinator.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

LAT409 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

LAT410 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

LAT411 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

LAT412 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

LAT424 Advanced Research Seminar, Undergraduate
Advanced research tutorial; project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

LAT491 Teaching Apprentice Tutorial
The teaching apprentice program offers undergraduate students the opportunity to assist in teaching a faculty member's course for academic credit.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

LAT492 Teaching Apprentice Tutorial
The teaching apprentice program offers undergraduate students the opportunity to assist in teaching a faculty member's course for academic credit.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT