

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL STUDIES**

C. G. Brown
LWH 3223
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GREEK 3200A/4904A

GREEK POETRY SELECTIONS

Fall Term
2026

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

In this half-course students will read Book 1 of Homer's *Iliad* in the original Greek and consolidate their understanding of Ancient Greek grammar and syntax. Students will also be introduced to the basic stages of transmission of an ancient text and to the use of a critical edition, and gain familiarity with the most commonly used metrical forms and their role in Greek epic. Topics discussed will include the formal aspects of Greek poetic art and literary interpretation, as well as the nature of Homeric language and oral theory.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students are expected to:

- have developed the advanced language skills necessary to read a poetic text from in the original Greek;
- have acquired a basic understanding of the transmission of an ancient Greek text and the ability to use an *apparatus criticus* effectively;
- be able to scan basic Greek metres;
- -be able to identify the formal features of an ancient Greek poetic text;
- have gained an insight into the intellectual and religious world of early epic;

LEARNING OUTCOMES / TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Students completing this course are expected to have acquired:

- a confident understanding of general narrative and artistic principles that can be applied to other forms of narrative literature;
- a basic familiarity with mythological archetypes useful in understanding recurrent themes in Western culture;
- a basic skill in relating specific performance forms and general cultural contexts that will be valuable in understanding all artistic creations.

CLASS COMMUNICATION

Class will be notified of any class cancellations or room change and other special announcements posted on OWL.

PREREQUISITES

Greek 2000 (formerly Greek 222) or permission of the department.

TEXTS

S. L. Schein, *Homer: Iliad Book I* (Cambridge University Press) [ISBN-10: 1108412963; ISBN-13: 978-1108412964] \$31.95

H. G. Liddell. *Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon* (Oxford 1959) (Recommended)

H. W. Smyth, *Greek Grammar* (second edition, Cambridge, MA 1956) (Recommended)

GRADING SYSTEM

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| 1. Quizzes (approximately every two weeks, may include translation, grammar questions, principal parts) | 15% |
| 2. Participation and preparation | 20% |
| 3. Midterm (translation, grammar questions, Oct. 28) | 25% |
| 4. Final exam (translation, grammar questions, short written answers covering various aspects of the text) | 40% |

NOTES TO STUDENTS:

STATEMENT ON THE USE OF GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI): In this course, the use of AI (automatic translation tools, grammar checkers, ChatGPT...) is prohibited. If AI use is suspected, the instructor will ask for research notes, rough drafts, essay outlines, and other materials used in preparing assignments. Students are expected to retain these materials until after final grades have been entered. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, students may be asked to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against them.

NOTE FROM THE DEAN OF ARTS and HUMANITIES: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

ACADEMIC OFFENSES: Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, here:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_offences.pdf

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

Students should review the [policy for Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm. Religious Accommodation requests for final exams should be submitted via the Student Absence Portal.

UWO ACCESSIBILITY POLICY: Western has many services and programs that support the personal, physical, social and academic needs of students with disabilities. For more information and links to these services:
<http://accessibility.uwo.ca/>

MENTAL HEALTH: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

ACADEMIC CONSIDERATION:

Students must familiarize themselves with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs* posted on the Academic Calendar:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

This policy does not apply to requests for academic consideration submitted for attempted or completed work,

whether online or in person. The policy also does not apply to students experiencing longer-term impacts on their academic responsibilities. These students should consult: [Accessible Education](#).

For procedures on how to submit Academic Consideration requests, please see the information posted on the Office of the Registrar's webpage:

<https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academicconsiderations/>

All requests for Academic Consideration must be made within 48 hours after the assessment date or submission deadline.

GENDER-BASED AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE:

Western University is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at the following website: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/studentssupport/survivorsupport/get-help.html>. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

COVID-19: In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence (or other public health concern) during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face- to-face interaction, affected course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.