This course will consist of a close reading of Sophocles’ Antigone, a play about ritual, politics, and kinship that has had an enormous and complicated impact on modern western art and philosophy from Hegel to Anouilh to Butler. This course will engage us in a close study of the poetic language and conventions of Greek tragedy, we will consider questions of staging and performance, we will take some time to compare the other two plays in the Sophoclean Theban cycle, and we will discuss how the Antigone created meaning within its specific Athenian cultural context and also in the history of its reception to the present.
Instructor Contact Information
Aara Suksi, Associate Professor
Phone: 519 661 2111 ext 81555
Email: asuksi@uwo.ca
Office: Lawson Hall 3225
Office Hours: Thursdays 3:30-5pm

Course Website
There is a course site on OWL. On this site you will find some course materials, grade information, and readings. It will be possible for you to add resources to this site, if you wish.

Course Information

Learning Outcomes
At the end of this course you will be very familiar with Sophocles’ Antigone. Your ability to read Greek will be much stronger, and you will be able to identify the stylistic features of Athenian tragic texts. You will understand some of the scholarly debates and discussions arising from this particular play, and from Athenian tragedy in general. You yourself will be an active participant in these discussions; you will have identified a research question, developed an appropriate method for addressing it, and written a proposal for your research. You will have presented the results of your research to your colleagues by means of a seminar presentation and a formal research paper.

Texts
This text has been ordered by the Campus Bookstore.
Links to the other readings will be made available on the course OWL site.

Evaluation (See details below)
Class Participation: 15%
Class Presentation: 20%
Paper: 20%
Midterm Test: 15%
Sight Translation: 10%
Final Exam: 20%

Class Participation
Regular attendance for this course is mandatory. Graduate students are expected to participate fully and professionally as colleagues in our academic community. If you need to miss class for any reason, please contact me in advance.
You should be prepared to participate at every class meeting. I will ask you to translate passages of Greek, identify forms, and explain syntax. In addition to this language work, we will discuss critical and theoretical issues arising from both primary and secondary readings. In evaluating your participation, I will consider both the quality and the quantity of your contributions. You should be prepared to make thoughtful comments in our
discussions, informed by the assigned readings and your own research; at the same time, you should also demonstrate attention, courtesy and respect for the contributions of your colleagues. Each week, one student will be assigned to lead a discussion of a secondary reading. The idea is not to summarize the reading for your colleagues, but to lead the discussion by providing context and sharing your own questions or observations.

**Presentation**

Each student will present a formal, conference-style paper on any topic related to the texts read in this course. Please speak to me about your research proposal before you get started, and as early in the term as possible. I will schedule the presentations in consultation with the members of the class. Each presentation should be a formal paper of twenty minutes followed by up to ten minutes of class discussion. This presentation will be a preliminary version of your final research paper. It will be graded for presentation style as well as content. Criteria will include the quality of the research and argument, the clarity, timing and organization of the presentation, and its integration with a handout and/or PowerPoint slides.

**Research Paper**

Your paper will be a revised version of your presentation, and should be about 3500 words in length. All of your research should be properly, consistently and formally documented by means of footnotes and bibliography. If you are citing any Greek (or Latin), you should include your own translations. Your paper is due by midnight on the last day of term (Dec. 8). You may submit your paper by e-mail as a Word attachment to meet this deadline, but I would like you to also submit an identical hard copy by the end of the next business day.

**Midterm Test and Final Exam**

The midterm test and final exam will consist of passages selected from the text of *Antigone*, for translation and comment.

**Sight Translation Evaluation**

The Sight translation evaluation will be a component of both the term test and the final exam. It will consist of a passage drawn from Athenian tragedy. We will spend some class time working on strategies for sight translation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lines from <em>Antigone</em></th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2:</strong> Sept. 19</td>
<td>100-222</td>
<td>Foley, H. “Sacrificial Virgins: Antigone as Moral Agent,” in <em>Female Acts in Greek Tragedy</em> (Princeton, 2001). 172-200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3:</strong> Sept. 26</td>
<td>223-331</td>
<td>Segal, C. “Sophocles’ Praise of Man and the Conflicts of the Antigone,” <em>Arion</em> Vol. 3, No. 2 (Summer, 1964). 46-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4:</strong> Oct. 3</td>
<td>332-440</td>
<td>Honig, B. “Antigone’s Laments, Creon’s Grief: Mourning, Membership, and the Politics of Exception,” <em>Political Theory</em> 37.1 (Feb., 2009). 5-43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5:</strong> Oct. 10</td>
<td>Study break</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7:</strong> Oct. 24</td>
<td>Mid-term Test</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 8:</strong> Oct. 31</td>
<td>582-723</td>
<td>Neuburg, M. &quot;How Like a Woman: Antigone's Inconsistency,&quot; <em>CQ</em> 40 (1990). 54-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9:</strong> Nov. 7</td>
<td>724-882</td>
<td>Seaford, R. &quot;The Imprisonment of Women in Greek Tragedy,&quot; <em>JHS</em> 110 (1990). 76-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10:</strong> Nov. 14</td>
<td>883-1032</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Week 11:</strong> Nov. 21</td>
<td>1033-1182</td>
<td>Sophocles, <em>Oedipus the King, Oedipus at Colonus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 12:</strong> Nov. 28</td>
<td>1183-1350</td>
<td>Sophocles, <em>Ajax, Electra</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 13:</strong> Dec. 5</td>
<td>Review Research Paper Due Dec. 8</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
UWO Policies and Resources

Plagiarism
Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

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 http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a list of options about how to obtain help.