The Core Course is intended to introduce graduate students to basic scholarly methods and problems in the central areas of the discipline. The section on Greek and Latin literature will focus on the main generic divisions in archaic and classical literature, and discussion will be built around the consideration of particular interpretative problems. Emphasis will fall on both the reading of ancient texts and modern scholarship on them. Each class will begin with lectures on the relevant aspects of literary and scholarly history, and proceed to discuss the texts and the selected scholarship.

Students are not required to read the ancient texts in the original, but discussion in class will frequently refer to issues of language. For the purposes of this class it is unimportant what translations are used, and students are encouraged to make use of on-line resources, such as the Perseus database or Loebs-on-line. The modern scholarship marked with an asterisk (*) is also easily available electronically, and should be consulted; Texts not accessible are occasionally referred to and listed in a bibliographical note below.

**Evaluation**

The grade for the section (worth 25% of the final mark) will be derived from:

- Class participation (25%)
- A take-home test (essay questions) (December exam period) (75%)

**Schedule and Readings**

**Week 1: September 9**

*Introduction: Philology and Interpretation*

- Textual Criticism Handouts (no preparation required)

**Weeks 2-3: September 16 and 23**

*Epic: Oral Theory and Oral Epic? Primary and Secondary Epic?*

Ancient Texts:

- *Iliad* 9 (especially the Embassy to Achilles)
Bibliographical note:


Week 4-5: September 30 and October 7

Greek and Roman Lyric: Fragments and Contexts

Ancient texts:
- Theognis 19-30
- Anacreon fr. 13 Gentili = 358 PMG
- Pindar, Olympian 1
- Horace, Odes 1.37

Modern scholarship:

Week 6: Oct. 14

- Greek Drama: Tragic Hero, Comic Hero, and the Polis
- Poetry to Prose

Ancient Texts:
- Sophocles, Oedipus Tyrannos
- Aristotle, Poetics 13
- Aristophanes, Frogs

Bibliographic Note:
- M. S. Silk, “Serious Issues and ‘Serious Comedy,’” in Aristophanes and the Definition of Comedy (Oxford 2000) 301-349
Week 7: Oct. 21

*Philosophy (1): Fragments and Doxography*

Ancient Texts:
- Presocratics handout

Bibliographic Note:

Week 8: Oct. 28

*Philosophy (2) and Oratory: Systems and Persuasion*

Ancient Texts:
- Plato, *Apology of Socrates*

Bibliographic Note:

*Roman Literature:*

Graecia capta ferum uictorem cepit et artis
intulit agresti Latio

Bibliographical Note:
- G. Hutchinson, *Greek to Latin: Frameworks and Contexts for Intertextuality* (Oxford 2013) [Not for the faint of heart.]

Test after last class