

**Preliminary Course Outline for CS 2301B (Winter 2024)**  
**Crime and Punishment in Ancient Greece and Rome**  
**Asynchronous/Online**



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**Welcome To Crime And Punishment!**

Ancient Greek and Roman history and literature are full of stories of crimes and representations of criminals. This course examines the ways Greeks and Romans thought about what it meant to be a criminal and what kinds of solutions they had for the problems of crime. We'll look at Orestes' murder of his mother, Clytemnestra, and at Socrates' idea of crime. We'll argue whether Catiline, who conspired to assassinate Cicero and burn Rome, should have been treated as a Roman citizen with a right to a trial or whether he was rightly treated as an enemy combatant. We'll ask whether modern theories of criminology are applicable to ancient Greece and Rome or whether ancient ideas of crime were completely different from modern ones. No previous knowledge of Greece and Rome is necessary and all readings will be in English.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the end of this course you will be familiar with a variety of ancient ideas of crime and criminality as well as some modern criminological theory. You will understand the similarities and differences between ancient Greek and Roman ideas of crime and modern ones. This will give you a new perspective on crime in today's society.

More generally and more importantly, you will have gained or advanced an ability to analyze ancient Greek and Roman sources in a variety of genres. Ancient sources are not always straightforward or trustworthy, and you will practice "reading against the grain," i.e. reading ancient texts to find out more than just what they want to tell you.

By the end of this course you will have learned not just how to use ancient sources as evidence, but also how to evaluate those sources for their accuracy and significance. In the process you will have improved your skills in critical thinking and analysis—skills which are transferrable to a variety of fields of study and professional employment, and which will improve your appreciation of any text.

Most importantly, this course aims to develop an appreciation of ancient Greek and Roman literature, philosophy, rhetoric, and history. It will be work, but it should also be fun, and you may find yourself with a lifelong appreciation of ancient Greece and Rome.

### **Required Texts:**

The following is a list of editions I have ordered for the Western Bookstore. You may obtain these texts however you wish, but it is your responsibility to get them. I will discuss passages from these specific editions and translations in class and I will include passages from them in questions on tests. If you do not have the same editions and translations as I'm using you will be at a disadvantage in class and in evaluations. Additional readings will be available in OWL.

1. Aeschylus. *Aeschylus II: The Oresteia*. eds. David Grene, Richmond Lattimore, Mark Griffith, and Glenn W. Most. trans. Richmond Lattimore. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013. ISBN: 978-0226311470. I have requested that this book be placed on reserve in DBW (PA3827.A46 2013).
2. Plato. *Gorgias*. trans. Robin Waterfield. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994. ISBN: 978-0199540327. I have requested that this book be placed on reserve in DBW (B371.A5W37 1994).
3. Sallust. *Catiline's War, The Jugurthine War, Histories*. trans. A.J. Woodman. New York: Penguin, 2007. ISBN: 978-0140449488. I have requested that this book be placed on reserve in DBW (DG207.S4W66 2007).

### Recommended Texts:

The lectures on Greek Law and Roman Law are derived from Russ VerSteeg's book listed below. This book is often difficult for students to acquire. If you can get a copy of this book, I recommend it, but the absolute essentials for the course will be covered in the lectures. I have also assigned some chapters from Sandra Walklate's introduction to the study of criminology. This book (now in its third edition) is available online through Western Libraries. You can download/print the assigned chapters, or, if you wish, purchase a print/digital copy through your preferred bookseller.

1. VerSteeg, Russ. *The Essentials of Greek and Roman Law*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2010. I have requested that this book be placed on reserve in Weldon Library. (KJA172.V47 2010).
2. [Walklate, Sandra. \*Criminology: The Basics\*. 3rd ed. New York: Routledge, 2017.](#) (The link takes you to Weldon's electronic copy).

### Evaluation/Grade Breakdown:

#### NOTE: MIDTERM TESTS WILL BE SYNCHRONOUS, ON OWL\*

1. Midterm Test 1: 25% (**February 09 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. [60 minute exam in that window]**)
2. Midterm Test 2: 25% (**March 15 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. [60 minute exam in that window]**)
3. Final Exam: 50% (Scheduled by the Registrar)

\* If you have an academic conflict with the exam time, contact your academic counselling office to be eligible for the make-up midterms. Make-up midterms will be scheduled for **February 13, 2024 (10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)** and **March 19, 2024 (10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)** respectively.

## IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES:

1. **Midterm Tests:** Failure to complete midterm test as scheduled will result in a grade of zero. If serious and unforeseeable circumstances beyond your control prevent you from writing any of the above, please let me know as soon as possible that you will be seeking academic consideration. See the Policy on Academic Consideration for Absences/Missed Work, below.
2. **Collaboration and Academic Integrity:**
  - a. Your learning experience can be enhanced by group discussion, sharing thoughts and ideas with your colleagues, and asking questions of your instructors and your classmates. **You are, however, expected to complete all tests, and exams independently.**
  - b. Consultation or sharing of questions and answers during online assessments will be considered to be an academic offence on the part of all who are involved and will result in serious consequences. **This includes, but is not limited to, group chats on social media or any other communication program.**
  - c. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.
  - d. If you have any questions about what does and does not constitute an academic offence, please discuss this with me. See also Western's Academic Handbook section on [scholastic offences](#).
3. **Academic Progression:** If you know that you need a specific minimum course grade to maintain your AEO status, scholarship, program standing etc., it is your responsibility to check throughout the term to ensure that you are on track. No additional points will be added at the end of the course to help you achieve your desired grade (see next bullet point).
4. **Policy on Extra Work and/or Grade Increases:** Do not ask to do an extra assignment to improve your grade. In the interests of fairness to all students, I do not grant such requests. For the same reason, final grades are not negotiable and, unless there has been an error in calculating your grade, I will not grant any requests that a grade be changed.
5. **Rounding Policy for Final Course Grades:** The final course grade is rounded up if the first decimal is 5 or higher (e.g., a calculated grade of 77.5 will be submitted as 78%).

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## Academic Policies

### 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.

### 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).

**Scholastic Offenses:**

Scholastic offenses are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offense, at the following website:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**Policy On Academic Consideration For Student Absences:**

Please note that Western's policy on academic consideration is currently being reviewed and may change before this course begins. The policy as it is now can be found here:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

Students seeking academic consideration for any missed tests, exams and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Office of the Dean (i.e., an academic counsellor) of their home faculty and provide documentation. Academic consideration cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

In addition to applying to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty, students seeking academic consideration must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Student Medical Certificate, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence.

**Western 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, visit the [Accessibility Services](#) website.

**Accessibility Options**

Accessible Education plays a central role in Western's efforts to ensure that its academic programs are accessible for all students at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Accessible Education arranges academic accommodation for classes, exams, internships and other course or program activities. Accessible Education also provides digital and Braille textbooks, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction for students with learning disabilities, access to computer labs that are equipped with assistive technology, referrals for assessments and other services, and bursaries for students who meet OSAP's eligibility criteria. You may wish to contact SAS at 519 661-2111 x 82147 or visit their website:

[http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible\\_education/index.html](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html) for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

[www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

**Mental Health:**

Students who are in emotional and/or mental distress should refer to the [Mental Health@Western](#) website for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Copyright**

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own

educational use. You may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

### **Technical Requirements For Remote Learning**

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system requirements for Zoom. Information about the system requirements are available at the following link: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>.

## Schedule of Readings and Lecture Topics

Dates	Lecture Topics and Reading Assignments
Week 1 (Jan. 08-12)	<b>Lecture:</b> Introduction to Crime and Punishment in Ancient Greece and Rome <b>Reading:</b> No reading for this week
Week 2 (Jan. 15-19)	<b>Lecture:</b> Historical Background and Context <b>Reading:</b> No reading for this week
Week 3 (Jan. 22-26)	<b>Lecture:</b> Introduction to Greek Law <b>Reading:</b> (Optional) Chapters 1, 2, 7, 8 in VerSteeg, <i>The Essentials of Greek and Roman Law</i>
Week 4 (Jan. 29-Feb. 02)	<b>Lecture:</b> Greek Tragedy of Crime <b>Reading:</b> Aeschylus, <i>The Oresteia</i>
Week 5 (Feb. 05-09)	<b>Lecture:</b> No lecture for this week <b>Reading:</b> No reading for this week <b>Midterm #1 on OWL Feb. 09 [60 minute test, taken between 10:30 am-12:30 pm]</b>
Week 6 (Feb. 12-16)	<b>Lecture:</b> Modern Criminology and Ancient Crime <b>Reading:</b> Walklate, <i>Criminology: The Basics</i> chapters 1, 4, 5 (available online through Western Libraries)
<i>FEBRUARY 19-23</i>	<i>READING WEEK</i>
Week 7 (Feb. 26-Mar. 01)	<b>Lecture:</b> Athens and Draco's Homicide Law <b>Reading:</b> Lysias I (available on OWL)
Week 8 (Mar. 04-08)	<b>Lecture:</b> Greek Philosophy of Crime <b>Reading:</b> Plato, <i>Gorgias</i>
Week 9 (Mar. 11-15)	<b>Lecture:</b> No lecture for this week <b>Reading:</b> No reading for this week <b>Midterm #2 on OWL Mar. 15 [60 minute test, taken between 10:30 am-12:30 pm]</b>
Week 10 (Mar. 18-22)	<b>Lecture:</b> Introduction to Roman Law <b>Reading:</b> (Optional) Chapters 10, 11, 16, & 17 in VerSteeg, <i>The Essentials of Greek and Roman Law</i>
Week 11 (Mar. 25-27) [Mar. 29 = Good Friday]	<b>Lecture:</b> Criminals and Enemy Combatants <b>Reading:</b> Sallust, <i>Catiline's War</i>
Week 12 (Apr. 01-05)	<b>Lecture:</b> Character and Ciceronian Crime <b>Reading:</b> Cicero, <i>In Defense of Marcus Caelius</i> (available on OWL)

***The Final Examination (cumulative) will be Scheduled by the Office of the Registrar***