Elegy has a distinguished history and comprises highly diverse kinds of writing. This course studies the major types of poetry written in elegiac couplets in Latin: love poetry, erudite poems written on a variety of topics, and epigrams. The course follows a roughly chronological scheme beginning with poetry written in the late republic and continuing into the age of Augustus in the early empire. The reading list includes the following. § Several of the ambitious longer elegies of Catullus (65, 66, and 68). § Poems by Tibullus, including 1.1, a programmatic elegy contrasting the life of the elegist with other lives; and 2.5, on the induction of M. Valerius Messalla Messalinus into the priestly college of the quindecimvirī sacris faciundis. § The short love poems written by, or attributed to, Sulpicia, niece of M. Valerius Messalla Corvinus, and the only Roman woman whose poetry survives. § Bk. 1 of Propertius, consisting mostly of love poetry about Cynthia; and selected poems from bk. 4, longer elegies on a range of themes. § Finally, selections from Ovid's Amores. § Some attention may also be given to epigrams written in elegiac verse by other authors.

SYLLABUS


Bibliography. Read Anderson, Parsons, and Nisbet (1979) on Gallus; and, in translation, the Panegyricus Messallae.


**Bibliography.** Read Santirocco (1979) and Parker (1994).


xii. Tues. Nov. 21.
Thurs. Dec. 21. 12:00-3:00. FINAL EXAMINATION.