

LATIN POETS IN ENGLISH
01:190:315 Spring 2006
Mon, Thurs 11:30-12:50 pm (3rd Period)
Murray Hall-204 CAC

Leah Kronenberg
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Office Hours: Thurs. 3:00-4:00 pm

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Course Description

In this course we will read selections from three of the most famous Latin poets of the “Golden Age” of Roman literature, namely Catullus, Virgil, and Ovid. While each poet has a distinct style and subject matter, which ranges from the shockingly obscene to the impossibly learned and refined, it is possible to trace a continuous line of influence from Catullus to Virgil to Ovid. Thus, this course will aim not only to study each poet on his own but to examine the connections between them. We will focus in class on close interpretation of the texts which, while often not long (as short as 2 lines), are dense and require careful reading. We will primarily study these texts in their own cultural context—namely the Roman world of the “Late Republic” and “Early Empire” (ie 1st century BC-early 1st century AD)—though we will also look at how these poets have been reinterpreted and retranslated through the ages.

Course Website

The course website is accessible through the WebCT homepage. Go to <https://webct.rutgers.edu> and follow the instructions for logging in as a student. You will need to have a NetID and password to access the website.

Required Texts (available at Rutgers Ferren Mall Bookstore)

1. *Catullus: The Complete Poems*. Tr. Guy Lee. Oxford World Classics. 1998. ISBN 0192835874.
2. *Golden Verses: Poetry of the Augustan Age*. Tr. Paul T. Alessi. Focus Publishing. 2003. ISBN 1585100641.
3. *Virgil: Aeneid*. Tr. Stanley Lombardo. Hackett Publishing. 2005. ISBN 0872207315
4. *Ovid: Metamorphoses*. Tr. David Raeburn. Penguin Classics 2004. ISBN 014044789X

Grading and Evaluation

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|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Attendance and class participation | 15% |
| 3. Midterm (Thurs Mar 9) | 35% |
| 4. Final (Fri May 5 8-11 am) | 50% |

Tentative Schedule

Week 1

Thurs Jan 19: Introduction

Week 2

Mon Jan 23: Rome and Literature in the Late Republic; Introduction to Catullus

Thurs Jan 26: Catullus and Literary Criticism
Read Poems 1, 14, 22, 36, 95

Week 3

Mon Jan 30 Catullus and Lesbia I
Read Poems 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 36, 51, 58, 70, 72, 75, 76, 79, 83, 85, 87, 92, 107, 109

Thurs Feb 2 Catullus and Lesbia II.

Week 4

Mon Feb 6 Catullus and his Guy Buddies (and Lovers)
Read Poems 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 48, 50, 99, 101

Thurs Feb 9 Catullus and his Enemies
Read Poems 15, 16, 29, 30, 49, 57, 69, 71, 73, 77, 93

Week 5

Mon Feb 13 Catullus' Fancy Poetry I
Read Poems 62, 63, 64

Thurs Feb 16 Catullus' Fancy Poetry II
Read Poems 65, 68 (parts A and B)

Week 6

Mon Feb 20 Virgil Introduction and *Eclogues* I
Read *Eclogues* 1, 4, 6, 10

Thurs Feb 23 Virgil *Eclogues* II; *Georgics* I
Read *Georgics* Book 1

Week 7

Mon Feb 27 Virgil *Georgics* II
Read *Georgics* Book 2 (selections) and 4

Thurs Mar 2 Virgil *Georgics* II

Week 8

Mon Mar 6 Introduction to the *Aeneid*
Read introduction to your translation of the *Aeneid* by W. R. Johnson (xv-lxxi)

Thurs Mar 9 **MIDTERM**

Week 9

Mon Mar 13 **SPRING BREAK**

Thurs Mar 16 **SPRING BREAK**

Week 10

Mon Mar 20 Virgil *Aeneid* I
Read Books 1-3

Thurs Mar 23 Virgil *Aeneid* II
Read Book 4

Week 11

Mon Mar 27 Virgil *Aeneid* III
Read Books 5-6

Thurs Mar 30 Virgil *Aeneid* IV
Read Books 7-8

Week 12

Mon Apr 3 Virgil *Aeneid* V
Read Books 9-11

Thurs Apr 6 Virgil *Aeneid* VI
Read Book 12

Week 13

Mon Apr 10 Ovid Introduction and his Elegiac Poetry I
Read *Heroides* 7, 10; *Amores* 1.1, 1.9

Thurs Apr 13: Ovid's Elegiac Poetry II
Read *Art of Love* Book 1

Week 14

Mon Apr 17 Ovid *Metamorphoses* I
Read Books 1-2

Thurs Apr 20 Ovid *Metamorphoses* II
Read Books 5-6

Week 15

Mon Apr 24 Ovid *Metamorphoses* III
Read Books 10-11

Thurs Apr 27 Ovid *Metamorphoses* IV
Read Books 12-13

Week 16

Mon May 1 Ovid *Metamorphoses* V
Read Books 14-15