



Catullus & Literary Culture in the 50s BCE
01:190:520 Spring 2013
Monday 2:00-4:40 pm
Ruth Adams Building 003, D/C



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Office Hours: Monday 1-2 pm (and by appt.)

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Course Description

The main goal of this course is to put Catullus in the context of the literary culture of Rome in the 50s BCE. Catullus and Lucretius are the only substantially surviving Latin poets from this period, and while Cornelius Nepos has deemed them the best poets of their age, we also know there were many other esteemed poets in Catullus' circle who have survived only in fragments, like Helvius Cinna and Licinius Calvus (as well as some less esteemed poets like Volusius... whoever he may be!). Thus, we will be studying Catullus both to appreciate his own poetry and to gain a window into the wider literary culture of his age. To what extent was Catullus a defining poet of his age and to what extent was he defined by the trends and fashions of his literary culture? Was there a "school" of neoteric poets? Are the terms "Hellenistic," "Callimachean," "Alexandrian," and "neoteric" synonymous or should we distinguish them more carefully? Beyond the Hellenistic poets, what other poetic influences were important for this period? Which poets and writers did Catullus approve of and why (and which did he despise)? Why do some important writers from this period not appear in Catullus' poetry? (e.g Varro Atacinus, Varro Reatinus, Lucretius...or is their influence more subtly felt?). In what sense does the literature of the 50s show continuity with what came before and in what sense does it represent a radical departure? While we will not be able to provide definite answers to these questions given the state of much of the evidence, we will study the fragments of lost writers from the 50s in an attempt to provide Catullus with the literary camaraderie that is so central to his poetics and to the development of Latin literature.

Course Learning Goals

- Gain a sophisticated understanding of Catullus: how to read him, how to translate him, and how others have read him
- Learn more about other important Roman writers and literary trends from the 50s BCE
- Gain practice with public presentation skills through in-class presentations and with teaching through the leading of discussion on individual poems
- Develop research skills in preparation for in-class presentations and/or final paper
- Prepare for Masters and PhD translation and oral exams by learning about a crucial author and time period on the reading list
- Improve essay writing skills (formal paper optional; see below)

Course Website

The course website is accessible through the Sakai homepage. Go to <https://sakai.rutgers.edu> and follow the instructions for logging in as a student.

Recommended Texts

Available at RU Barnes & Noble Bookstore, New Brunswick

1. *C. Valerii Catulli Carmina*. Ed. R. A. B. Mynors. Oxford University Press.
2. *Fragments of Roman Poetry, c. 60 B.C.-A.D. 20*. Adrian S. Hollis, ed. Oxford 2009

On Reserve at Douglass Library

1. *Fragments of Roman Poetry, c. 60 B.C.-A.D. 20*. Adrian S. Hollis, ed. Oxford 2009
2. *The Fragmentary Latin Poets*. Ed. Edward Courtney. Oxford 1993

Note: for a useful comparison/contrast of these two similar volumes, see R. F. Thomas (2010). Review of (A.S.) Hollis 'Fragments of Roman Poetry c. 60 B.C. – A.D. 20' *CR* 60, pp 128-130

Other Recommended Books for Purchase on Amazon or elsewhere (all available in paperback)

1. *Catullus*, ed. and comm. D. S. F. Thomson (full literary commentary with bibliography on each poem and newly edited text with critical apparatus)
2. *Catullus*, ed. C. J. Fordyce, Oxford (good, traditional commentary; omits “dirty” poems)
3. *Catullus: The Poems*. Ed. Kenneth Quinn (good, one volume commentary on all the poems)
4. *Catullus: The Shorter Poems* and *Catullus: Poems 61-68*; tr. and ed. J. Godwin; Aris & Phillips (commentary geared to translation but good, up-to-date analyses)
5. *A Companion to Catullus* (Blackwell Companions); Marilyn Skinner, ed. (Great introduction to Catullus with up-to-date bibliographies)
6. *Oxford Bibliographies – Catullus* by David Konstan (a copy is available on sakai under “Resources”)

Useful Websites

1. <http://www.catullusonline.org> (poems with full apparatus, testimonia, and bibliography)
2. <http://wiki.dickinson.edu/index.php/Catullus> (complete poems of Catullus with vocabulary lists)
3. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Catullus/References (bibliography on each poem)
4. <http://classicsindex.wikispaces.com/CATULLUS> (links to free, online editions, texts, translations, commentaries, and studies of Catullus; particularly recommended: Ellis’ and Merrills’ commentaries)

Grading and Evaluation

1. Class participation	10%
2. Midterm (Mon Oct 15)	20%
3. 2 Presentations	30%
4. Final Exam or Final Paper	40%

Reading Schedule

	Date	Topics	Reading
Week 1	Mon Jan 28	*Introduction to Course	None
Week 2	Mon Feb 4	*Neoteric Poetry *Cornelius Nepos (<u>Presentation 1: Scott Barnard</u>) *Polymetrics	Neoteric Poetry: *Crowther, "Catullus and the Traditions of Latin Poetry," <i>CP</i> 66 (1971) 246-49 *Lyne, "The Neoteric Poets," <i>CQ</i> 28 (1978) 167-87 *Johnson, "Neoteric Poetics" in Skinner (ed.) <i>Companion (sakai)</i> <u>Presentation 1:</u> *Catullus 1 *Pryzwansky, "Cornelius Nepos: Key Issues and Critical Approaches," <i>CJ</i> 105 (2009) 97-108 *Stem, <i>The Political Biographies of Cornelius Nepos</i> pp 1-11, 83-95 (sakai) *Rauk, "Time and History in Catullus 1," <i>CW</i> 90 (1997) 319-32 *Batstone, "Dry Pumice and the Programmatic Language of Catullus 1," <i>CP</i> 93 (1998) 125-35. Polymetrics: *Catullus 1-12
Week 3	Mon Feb 11	*Helvius Cinna & Parthenius; Asinius Pollio (<u>presentation 2: Dave Wright</u>) *Polymetrics	<u>Presentation 2:</u> *Catullus 10, 12, 95, 113 *Hollis 11-48; 215-218 * Wiseman, "Cinna the Poet," 44-58 (sakai) *Noonan, "Myth, Humor and the Sequence of Thought in Catullus 95," <i>CJ</i> 81 (1986) 299-304 *Crowther, "Parthenius and Roman Poetry," <i>Mnemosyne</i> 29 (1976) 65-71 *Hinds, "Cinna, Statius, and 'Immanent Literary History' in the Cultural Economy," 2001 (sakai) Polymetrics *Catullus 13-22
Week 4	Mon Feb 18	*Licinius Calvus (<u>presentation 3: Nicole Freeto</u>) *Polymetrics	<u>Presentation 3:</u> *Catullus 14, 50, 52, 53, 96 *Hollis 49-86 *Gruen, "Cicero and Licinius Calvus," <i>HSCP</i> 71 (1967) 215-33 *Dugan, "Preventing Ciceronianism," <i>CP</i> 96 (2001) 400-28 *Burgess, "Catullus c. 50: The Exchange of Poetry," <i>AJP</i> 107 (1986) 576-86. *Hawkins, "On the Oscanism <i>salaputium</i> in Catullus 53," <i>TAPA</i> 142 (2012) 329-

			53 *Davis, "Quo Desiderio: The Structure of Catullus 96," <i>Hermes</i> 1971: 297-302 (sakai) Polymetrics *Catullus 23-34
Week 5	Mon Feb 25	* Furius Bibaculus (<u>presentation 4: Isaiah Clough</u>) *Polymetrics	<u>Presentation 4:</u> *Catullus 11, 16, 23, 24, 26 *Hollis 118-145 *Heidel, "Catullus and Furius Bibaculus," <i>CR</i> 15 (1901) 215-17 *Green, "Furius Bibaculus," <i>CJ</i> 35 (1940) 348-56 *Loomis, "M. Furius Bibaculus and Catullus," <i>CW</i> 63 (1969) 112-14 *Uden, "Impersonating Priapus," <i>AJP</i> 128 (2007) 1-26 *Hawkins, "Catullus' Furius," <i>CP</i> 106 (2011) 254-60 *O'Bryhim, "Catullus 23 as Roman Comedy," <i>TAPA</i> 137 (2007) 133-45 Polymetrics: *Catullus 35-45
Week 6	Mon Mar 4	* Valerius Cato & Tigidas (<u>presentation 5: Ella Wallace</u>) *Polymetrics	<u>Presentation 5</u> *Catullus 56 * Hollis 158-63; 429 *Dirae and Lydia (text/translation in Virgil Loeb Vol 2; also online http://virgil.org/appendix/dirae.htm (English) and http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/appvergcomp.html (Latin) *Robinson, "Valerius Cato," <i>TAPA</i> 54 (1923) 98-116 *Crowther, "Valerius Cato, Furius Bibaculus, and Tigidas," <i>CP</i> 66 (1971) 108-109 *Scott, "Catullus and Cato (c. 56)," <i>CP</i> 64 (1969) 24-29 *Ellis, "The Dirae of Valerius Cato," <i>AJP</i> 11 (1890) 1-15 *Somerville, "Ch. 4 Valerius Cato: the Neoteric experiment," in Harvard Diss. <i>Ovid and the Tradition of Exile Elegy</i> 2006, pp 342-379 (sakai) *Breed, "The pseudo-Vergilian <i>Dirae</i> ," <i>Trends in Classics</i> 4 (2012) 3-28 (sakai) *Cowan, "Valerius Cato, Callimachus and the Very Large Girl," <i>Latomus</i> 2012 Polymetrics *Catullus 46-60
Week 7	Mon Mar 11	Midterm	
Week 8	Mon Mar 18	SPRING BREAK	

Week 9	Mon Mar 25*	<p>* Caecilius & Cornificius (<u>presentation 6: Aaron Hershkowitz</u>)</p> <p><i>*carmina docta</i></p>	<p><u>Presentation 6:</u></p> <p>*Catullus 35, 38, 63 *Hollis 421; 149-54 *Basto, "Caecilius, Attis and Catullus 35," <i>LCM</i> 7 (1982) 30-34 (sakai) *Fisher, "Catullus 35," <i>CP</i> 66 (1971) 1-5 *Rawson, "The Identity Problems of Q. Cornificius," <i>CQ</i> 28 (1978) 188-201 *Kowerski, "Sadder than Simonidean Tears," <i>CW</i> 101 (2008) 139-57</p> <p><i>carmina docta</i></p> <p>*Catullus 61-63</p>
Week 10	Mon Apr 1**	<p>*Alfenus Varus and Suffenus; (<u>presentation 7: Aaron Hershkowitz</u>); Sestius (<u>presentation 8: Alan Marrero</u>)</p> <p><i>*carmina docta</i></p>	<p><u>Presentation 7:</u></p> <p>*Catullus 10, 14, 22, 30; 44 *Hollis 428 *Frank, "Catullus and Horace on Suffenus and Alfenus," <i>CQ</i> 14 (1920) 160-62 *Watson, "Rustic Suffenus (Catullus 22) and Literary Rusticity," <i>PLLS</i> 6 (1990) 13-33 (sakai) *Robson, "Catullus 22: <i>Suffenus iste</i> – A Catullan Riddle?" <i>C&M</i> 58 (2007) 209-14 (sakai) *Nisbet, "The Survivors: Old-Style Literary Men in the Triumviral Period," in <i>Collected Papers</i> 390-413 (esp. 406-13) (sakai)</p> <p><u>Presentation 8:</u></p> <p>*De Angeli, "A Literary Chill: Catullus 44," <i>CW</i> 62 (1969) 354-56 *Jones, "Parody in Catullus 44," <i>Hermes</i> 1968: 379-83 *Vine, "A Hipponactean Echo in Catullus (<i>Frigus</i> 44.20)," <i>CP</i> 104 (2009) 213-16</p> <p><i>carmina docta</i></p> <p>*Catullus 64.1-201</p>
Week 11	Mon Apr 8	<p>* M. T. Cicero, Q. T. Cicero and Q. Mucius Scaevola (<u>presentation 9: Nicole Freeto</u>)</p> <p><i>*carmina docta</i></p>	<p><u>Presentation 9:</u></p> <p>*Catullus 49 *Hollis 146-48 *Courtney 148-81 (recommended) *Cicero the Poet, John Spaeth Jr. , <i>CJ</i> 26 (1931) 500-12 *Cicero as a Hellenistic Poet, Peter Knox, <i>CQ</i> 61 (2011) 192-204 (sakai) *The Orion Episode of Cicero's <i>Aratea</i>, David Kubiak, <i>CJ</i> 77 (1981): 12-22 *Flattery and Inspiration: Cicero's Epic for Caesar, S. Byrne, <i>Studies in Latin Literature and Roman History</i>, 1998 129-37 (sakai) *Catullus and Cicero; Poetry and the Criticism of Poetry, D F S Thomson, <i>CW</i> 60 (1967) 225-30</p> <p><i>carmina docta</i></p> <p>*Catullus 64.202-408</p>
Week 12	Mon Apr 15	<p>*Volusius (and Antimachus); Hortenius</p>	<p><u>Presentation 10:</u></p> <p>*Catullus 36, 65, 66, 95, 97</p>

		<p>(<u>Presentation 10: Ella Wallace</u>); Aemilius Macer (<u>presentation 11: Alan Marrero</u>)</p> <p>*<i>carmina docta</i></p>	<p>*Hollis 93-117; 155-57; 429-30</p> <p>*Vessey, "The Reputation of Antimachus of Colophon," <i>Hermes</i> 99: 1-10</p> <p>*Watson, "Catullan Recycling? 'Cacata carta,'" <i>Mnemosyne</i> 58 (2005) 270-77</p> <p>*Tatum, "Friendship, Politics, and Literature in Catullus: Poems 1, 65 and 66, 116," <i>CQ</i> 47 (1997) 482-500</p> <p><u>Presentation 11:</u></p> <p>*O'Bryhim, "Malodorous Aemilius (Catullus 97), <i>CP</i> 107 (2012) 150-56</p> <p>*Forsyth, "Order and Meaning in Catullus 97-99," <i>CW</i> 72 (1979) 403-408 (sakai)</p> <p><i>carmina docta</i></p> <p>*Catullus 65-67</p>
Week 13	Mon Apr 22	<p>* Memmius, Piso, and Philodemus (<u>presentation 12: Isaiah Clough</u>)</p> <p>*<i>carmina docta</i></p>	<p><u>Presentation 12:</u></p> <p>*Catullus 10, 28, 47</p> <p>*Hollis 90-92</p> <p>*Skinner, "Parasites and Strange Bedfellows: A Study in Catullus' Political Imagery" <i>Ramus</i> 8 (1979) 137-52 (sakai)</p> <p>*Braund, "The Politics of Catullus 10: Memmius, Caesar and the Bithynians," <i>Hermathena</i> 160 (1996) 45-57 (sakai)</p> <p>*Nappa, "Seeking Noble Friends: The Failure of Masculinity and the Catullan Persona (poems 10, 28, 47)" 85-105 (sakai)</p> <p><i>carmina docta</i></p> <p>*Catullus 68</p>
Week 15	MONDAY MAY 6	<p>* Mamurra and Caesar (<u>presentation 13: Dave Wright</u>)</p> <p>*epigrams</p>	<p><u>Presentation 13:</u></p> <p>*Catullus 29, 41-43, 54, 57, 93, 94, 105, 114, 115</p> <p>*Deuling, "Catullus and Mamurra," <i>Mnemosyne</i> 52 (1999) 188-94 (online through EBSCO)</p> <p>*Forsyth, "The Aemeana Cycle of Catullus," <i>Classical World</i> 70 (1977) 445-50 (sakai)</p> <p>*Frank, "Cicero and the Poetae Novi," <i>AJP</i> 40 (1919) 407-409 (full article is 396-415; provides view of Catullus et al as friendly with Cicero; but interested here in his Mentula-Labienus theory on 407-409; JSTOR)</p> <p>*McDermott, W. C. 'Mamurra, <i>Eques Formianus</i>' <i>RhM</i> 1983: 292-307 (sakai)</p> <p>*Spaeth, "Caesar's Friends and Enemies among the Poets" <i>CJ</i> 32 (1937) 541-56 (sakai)</p> <p>epigrams:</p> <p>*Catullus 69-97</p>
Week 15	Mon May 6	<p>* Lucretius, Egnatius (<u>presentation 14: Scott Barnard</u>)</p> <p>*epigrams</p>	<p><u>Presentation 14:</u></p> <p>*Catullus 37, 39</p> <p>*Hollis 87-89 (Memmius)</p> <p>*Frank, "The Mutual Borrowings of Catullus and Lucretius and What They Imply," <i>CP</i> 28: 249-56 (JSTOR)</p>

			<p>*Brown, "Lucretius and Callimachus," <i>ICS</i> 7: 77-97 (sakai)</p> <p>*Skinner, "Iphigenia and Polyxena: A Lucretian Allusion in Catullus," <i>PCP</i> 11: 52-61 (sakai)</p> <p>*Giesecke, "Atoms and Ariadne's Lament' from <i>Atoms, Ataraxy, and Allusion</i> pp 10-30 (sakai)</p> <p>epigrams</p> <p>*Catullus 98-116; fragments</p>
	Tues May 7	OPTIONAL FINAL CLASS 3 pm	EPIGRAMS/ REVIEW

FINAL EXAM: MONDAY MAY 13 2 PM

**Graduate Translation Exam Week*

***Graduate Oral Exam Week*

****May need to reschedule if called in for Jury Duty on April 29---Unfortunately, Jury Duty is on!*