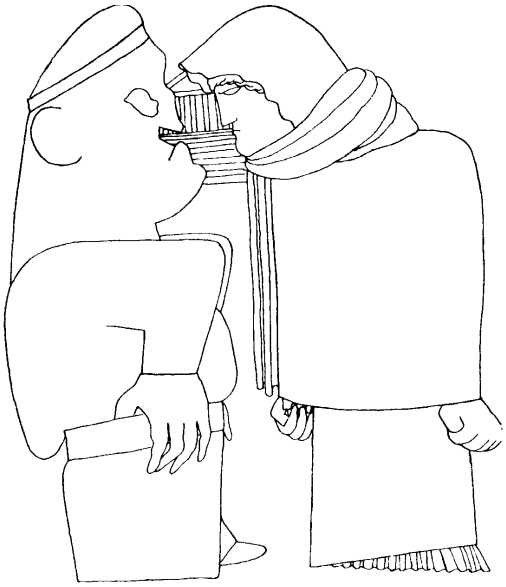
Greek 9231: Ancient Greek Tragedy
Sophocles' *Antigone* and *Trachiniae*



Antigone and Creon (Jean Cocteau)

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Time and Place: Tuesday10:30 -12:30, TC 403

Description: Sophocles' *Antigone* and *Trachiniae* will be read in Greek. Topics for study and discussion will include genre, performance, ritual, the literary tradition and the socio-cultural contexts of Attic drama. Secondary readings will be assigned to guide these discussions.

Objectives: Students will gain experience with the language and formal structures of Sophoclean tragedy. By consulting secondary readings and specialized references, they will be oriented to the major theoretical and practical approaches to interpreting these texts. They will communicate the results of a chosen research project in two ways: an oral presentation to the class, and a formal research paper.

Texts: Mark Griffith. *Sophocles Antigone.* Cambridge 1999.
P. E. Easterling. *Sophocles Trachiniae.* Cambridge 1982.
Secondary readings will also be assigned.

Evaluation: **15%** **preparation and participation**
Students are expected to be present at all classes, ready to translate the assigned text and to discuss any assigned readings.

20% **presentation**
Students will give a formal oral presentation to the class, approximately 20-30 minutes long, on a research topic of their choice.

15% **test February 23**
This test will consist of passages from the assigned texts for translation and detailed commentary with reference to assigned secondary readings.

25% **paper, due April 1**
Students will submit a formal research paper of approximately 5000 words on a topic of their choice, normally related to the subject of the oral presentation.

25% **final exam (date and time to be arranged)**
The final exam will consist of passages for translation and commentary and an essay question.

Plagiarism: *Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage 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 offense.*

Munich 1428, Attic black figure Tyrrhenian amphora, c. 550-540 B.C.
Hercules fighting Nessos, who holds Deianira aloft.