

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL STUDIES**

C. G. Brown
LWH 3205
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GREEK 3200 B
GREEK POETRY SELECTIONS

Winter Term
2016

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

In this course students will read Euripides' *Alcestis* (438 B.C.) in the original Greek and consolidate their understanding of Ancient Greek grammar and syntax. Students will also be introduced to the basic stages of transmission of an ancient text and to the use of a critical edition, and gain familiarity with the most commonly used metrical forms and their role in Greek drama. Topics discussed will include the formal aspects of Greek dramatic art questions of literary interpretation and dramatic performance; also considered will be the place of the *Alcestis* in its cultural context of classical Athens and the Greek literary tradition in general.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students are expected to:

- have developed the advanced language skills necessary to read a dramatic text from Classical Athens in the original Greek;
- have acquired a basic understanding of the transmission of an ancient Greek text and the ability to use an *apparatus criticus* effectively;
- be able to scan basic Greek metres;
- -be able to identify the formal features of an ancient Greek dramatic text;
- have gained an insight into the intellectual and religious world of Classical Athens;
- be able to apply their knowledge of cultural context, performance conditions, and general literary tradition to arrive at an informed interpretation of the play.

LEARNING OUTCOMES / TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Students completing this course are expected to have acquired:

- a confident understanding of general dramatic and artistic principles that can be applied to other forms of theatre and music;
- a basic familiarity with mythological archetypes useful in understanding recurrent themes in Western culture;
- a basic skill in relating specific performance forms and general cultural contexts that will be valuable in understanding all artistic creations.

CLASS COMMUNICATION

Class will be notified of any class cancellations or room change and other special announcements by e-mail (UWO e-mail address)

PREREQUISITES

Greek 2000 (formerly Greek 222) or permission of the department.

TEXTS

C. A. E. Luschnig and H. M. Roisman (edd.), *Euripides' Alcestis with notes and commentary* (University of Oklahoma Press, Norman 2003)

H. G. Liddell. *Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon* (Oxford 1959) (Recommended)

H. W. Smyth, *Greek Grammar* (second edition, Cambridge, MA 1956) (Recommended)

GRADING SYSTEM

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| 1. Quizzes (approximately every two weeks, may include translation, grammar questions, principal parts) | 15% |
| 2. Participation and preparation | 20% |
| 3. Midterm (translation, grammar questions, Oct. 26) | 25% |
| 4. Final exam (translation, grammar questions, short written answers covering various aspects of the play) | 40% |

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).

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf [downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf]

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty and provide documentation. **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION CANNOT BE GRANTED BY THE INSTRUCTOR OR DEPARTMENT.**

UWO 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: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca/>

MENTAL HEALTH: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.