CC 101: The Ancient World

Fall 2005
Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Tsai Performance Center

Faculty

Clifford Backman (History)                        David Eckel, Course Coordinator (CAS 119)
Ellen Birnbaum (Core)                              Alon Navot (Core)
Nir Eishikovits (Core)                             Eve D'Onofrio (Core)
David Green (Writing/Core)                        Katherine O'Connor (Modern Languages)
Brad Herling (Core)                                Robert Richardson (Modern Languages)
Brian Jorgensen (English/Core)                    David Roochnik (Philosophy)
George Kalogeris (Core)                            Christopher Roosevelt (Archaeology)
                                                    Sassan Tabatabai (Core)

Core Humanities is a four-semester sequence of courses that explore some of the world's finest and most influential works of literature, philosophy, religion, and the arts. The courses follow a chronological sequence that allows students to look at texts from the perspectives of their authors and original audiences and also to discover the qualities that make them timeless and enduring classics.

The First Semester introduces students to two fundamental components of the Western tradition: the world of the Hebrew Scriptures and the culture of the ancient Greeks. The course also considers the Babylonians and other peoples to whom the Hebrews and Greeks are indebted. Among the top.cs for the semester are: the character of a hero, the relationship between heroes and ordinary human beings, God or the gods, ancient cities, friendship and love, the meaning of justice. Key issues include: human experience of the divine, war (or man's struggle with human and natural forces whose essence is strife), the development of logos (human reason or cognition) as a response to the divine and to the forces of nature, and the development of art.

Grades will be determined by your seminar professor according to the university's regular grading system (A = 4.0, A- = 3.7, and so forth). Final grades will be based on a combination of written work, examinations, and class participation, in the following proportions:

Midterm exam 10%          Seminar papers 50%
Final exam  25%            Seminar attendance and participation 15%

Midterm and Final Examinations will be set by the faculty as a whole and given on the dates listed below. Examinations will be based on the lectures, seminars, and readings. They will include factual, short essay, and long essay questions.

Writing is an essential component of the Core Curriculum and is coordinated closely with the Boston University Writing Program. Students who successfully complete both semesters of the first-year Core Humanities (CC 101 and 102) receive credit for WR 100. Students who successfully complete both semesters of the second-year Core Humanities (CC 201 and 202) receive credit for WR 150.

Each seminar will require approximately 20 pages of writing over the course of the semester. Three assignments will be common to all seminars: a summary and commentary paper (2 pages), a paper involving the imitation and analysis of the style of a particular author (3 pages), and a thesis-driven paper with an argument analyzing a single work (5 pages). The remainder of the writing assignments will be developed by individual seminar leaders.

The Core Writing Center is available for help throughout the semester. Writing Tutors are graduate and undergraduate students who have been trained in grammar and compositional skills and are familiar with the works read in the Core. To make an appointment with a tutor, stop by the Core Office (CAS 119) or call 353-5404. The tutors' office is found in the Core Office.

Academic Conduct: All members of Boston University are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. We have the same expectations of each other in this course. Seminar leaders take the issue of plagiarism seriously and expect all the work you do in this course to be your own.
If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism and how it differs from the appropriate use of other people's work, consult the Academic Conduct Code or your instructor.

Required Texts are available at the Boston University Bookstore:

- *The Harper Collins Study Bible* (New Revised Standard Version)

Schedule of Lectures and Examinations

Week 1 (September 6) Introduction

Week 2 (September 13) Gilgamesh
   Lecturer: Professor Jorgensen

Week 3 (September 20) Genesis
   Lecturer: Professor Gillman

Week 4 (September 27) Exodus
   Lecturer: Professor Wiesel

Week 5 (October 4) Job
   Lecturer: Professor Hawkins

**Monday, October 10, Columbus Day Holiday**

Week 6 (October 11) The Odyssey
   Lecturer: Professor Scully

Week 7 (October 18) The Odyssey
   Lecturer: Professor Navot

Week 8 (October 25) Mid-Term Examination

Week 9 (November 1) The Oresteia
   Lecturer: Professor Nelson

Week 10 (November 8) Thucydides
   Lecturer: Professor Samons

Week 11 (November 15) The Republic I
   Lecturer: Professor Roochnik

Week 12 (November 22) The Republic II
   Lecturer: Professor Roochnik

**Thursday, November 24, Thanksgiving Day**

Week 13 (November 29) The Republic III
   Lecturer: TBA

Tuesday (December 6) Conclusion
   Lecturers: The Professors of CC 101

Final Examination: Thursday, December 15, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Tsai Auditorium