

CC 101: The Ancient World

Syllabus

Fall 2000
Tuesday/Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Tsai Center

Core Professors

Professor James Devlin (Philosophy)	Professor Stephanie Nelson (Classics)
Professor Christopher Lehigh (Core)	Professor Allen Speight (Philosophy)
Professor Brian Jorgensen (English)	Professor Kenneth Lapatin (Art History)
Professor Gregory Fried (Core)	Professor David Green (English)
Professor Robert Richardson (Modern Languages)	Professor John Carlevale (Classics)
Professor John Newton (English)	Professor Abigail Gillman (Modern Languages)
Professor Kathleen Fisher (Core)	Professor Mark Kremer (Core)
Professor Katherine O'Connor (Modern Languages)	

Course Description: The Humanities Core is a four-semester sequence of courses, each organized around a close study of some of the best and most influential works of literature, philosophy, religion, and the arts. The sequence develops chronologically, allowing students both to understand a text from the perspective of its author and original audience, and to discover the qualities that make it a timeless and enduring classic.

The first semester of the Humanities Core will acquaint students with two seminal strands of the Western tradition: the Hebrew Scriptures and the world of the ancient Greeks. We shall also consider the Egyptians, Babylonians, Assyrians, and other peoples to whom the Hebrews and Greeks are indebted. Among the topics to which we shall be attending: the nature of the hero, and the relationship between heroes and the ordinary; God or the gods; ancient cities; the erotic; the meaning of justice. The themes of the course include: human experience of the divine; war--that is, 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--meaning science, technology, and the ability to create alternative experience.

Books: The books you should purchase and read are available at the Boston University Bookstore. The last page of this syllabus provides a list of these books.

Grading: Final grades will be determined by your seminar professor and will follow the University curve (A = 4.0, A- = 3.7, etc.). The grade will be based on a combination of written work, examinations, and participation valued in approximately the following proportions:

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

Exams will cover materials in the lectures, seminars, and readings. They will include objective, short essay, and long essay questions. Choices will be offered. Paper topics will be assigned, and papers graded by, seminar instructors.

Core Humanities 1st Semester, CC 101

CAS CC101	A1	Lec	Devlin	TR	9:30-11:00A	TSAI
CAS CC101	A2	Lec	Devlin	TR	9:30-11:00A	TSAI
CAS CC101	A3	Lec	Devlin	TR	9:30-11:00A	TSAI
CAS CC101	B1	Dis	O'Connor	MWF	9:00-10:00P	CAS B25A
CAS CC101	B2	Dis	Richardson	MWF	11:00-12:00P	PSY B35
CAS CC101	B3	Dis	Devlin	M	3:00-6:00P	CAS B18B
CAS CC101	B4	Dis	Speight	TR	12:30-2:00P	MET B2B
CAS CC101	B5	Dis	Gillman	TR	3:30-5:00P	CAS B25A
CAS CC101	B6	Dis	Fried	TR	2:00-3:30P	SOC B65
CAS CC101	B7	Dis	Green	MWF	1:00-2:00P	CAS B27
CAS CC101	B8	Dis	Kremer	MWF	4:00-5:00P	CAS 220
CAS CC101	B9	Dis	Carlevale	MWF	10:00-11:00A	CAS 432
CAS CC101	C1	Dis	Kremer	MWF	12:00-1:00P	CAS 322
CAS CC101	C2	Dis	Lapatin	TR	11:00-12:30P	CAS B36
CAS CC101	C3	Dis	McClellan	TR	12:30-2:00P	SOC B59
CAS CC101	C4	Dis	Lehrich	TR	12:30-2:00P	STH B22
CAS CC101	C5	Dis	Jorgensen	MWF	2:00-3:00P	CAS 315
CAS CC101	C7	Dis	Fried	TR	12:30-2:00P	SOC B36
CAS CC101	C8	Dis	Newton	TR	11:00-12:30P	PSY B39
CAS CC101	D1	Dis	Fisher	TR	12:30-2:00P	PSY B33
CAS CC101	D2	Dis	Fisher	MWF	1:00-2:00P	CAS 223
CAS CC101	D4	Dis	Carlevale	MWF	9:00-10:00A	CAS 322
CAS CC101	D5	Dis	Fisher	MWF	3:00-4:00P	SED 205
CAS CC101	HP	Lec	Devlin	TR	9:30-11:00P	TSAI
CAS CC101	HS	Dis	Devlin	F	3:00-5:00P	CAS 228

“Life is a series of surprises. We do not guess today the mood, the pleasure, the power of tomorrow, when we are building up our being. Of lower states, of acts of routine and sense, we can tell somewhat, but the total growths and universal movements of the soul are incalculable. I can know that truth is divine and helpful; but how it shall help me I can have no guess, for *so to be* is the sole inlet of *so to know*.” --Ralph Waldo Emerson

We shall not cease from exploration
 And the end of all our exploring
 Will be to arrive where we started
 And know the place for the first time. --T. S. Eliot, "Little Gidding"

Lecture and Exam Schedule

CC 101: The Ancient World
Tsai Center, TR 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, 9/5/00: (1) Gilgamesh: *Two-thirds god*
Reading: Gilgamesh, tablets 1-6

Lecture: Professor Devlin: Introduction to the Core

Thursday, 9/7/00: (2) Gilgamesh: *One-third mortal*
Reading: Gilgamesh, tablets 7-11

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: Who Is Gilgamesh?

Tuesday, 9/12/00: (3) *Genesis: Creation, Fall, and Flood*
Reading: Genesis, chapters 1-11

Lecture: Professor Zimansky: The Life and Death of Cities in Ancient Mesopotamia

Thursday, 9/14/00: (4) *Genesis: The Patriarchs*
Reading: Genesis, chapters 12-35

Lecture: Professor Gillman: Introduction to the Book of Genesis

Tuesday, 9/19/00: (5) *Samuel: The Coming of Kingship*
Reading: 1 Samuel, chapters 1-15

Lecture: Professor Nelson: Exodus and Establishment

Thursday, 9/21/00: (6) *Samuel: David, Jonathan, Saul*
Reading: 1 Samuel, chapters 16-31

Lecture: Professors Devlin and Jorgensen: David Young and Old

CORE PAPER #1 due this week.

Tuesday, 9/26/00: (7) *Samuel: David the young king*
Reading: 2 Samuel, chapters 1-24; 1 Kings, chapters 1-2

Lecture: Professor Johnson: Coordinating Lecture

Thursday, 9/28/00: (8) *Job*
Reading: Job, chapters 1-28

Lecture: Professors Devlin and Jorgensen: On the Book of Job

Tuesday, 10/3/00
10:30 a.m.: (9) *Job*
Reading: Job, chapters 28-42

Lecture: Professor Wiesel on the Book of Job

Thursday, 10/5/00: (10) *Homer, The Odyssey: Telemakhos and the Heroes*
Reading: Odyssey, books 1-4

Lecture: Professor Speight on the Greek Gods

Tuesday, 10/10/00: NO CLASS. MONDAY SCHEDULE.

Thursday, 10/12/99: (11) *Homer, The Odyssey: Odysseus and the journey home*
Reading: Odyssey, books 5-12

Lecture: Professor Roochnik: Telemakhos and the Protean World of the Odyssey

Tuesday, 10/17/00: (12) *Homer, The Odyssey: Odysseus on Ithaka*
Reading: Odyssey, books 13-16

Lecture: Professor Nelson on The Odyssey

Thursday, 10/19/00: (13) *Homer, The Odyssey: Odysseus, Penelope, and
the death of the suitors*
Reading: Odyssey, books 17-24

Lecture: Professor Esposito: The Odyssey of Penelope

Tuesday, 10/24/00: (14) Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Reading: Aeschylus, Agamemnon
Lecture: Professor Speight on the Emergence of Tragedy

Thursday, 10/26/00: (15) Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Reading: Aeschylus, Agamemnon
Lecture: Professor Lapatin on Greek Art

Tuesday, 10/31/00: MIDTERM EXAM.

Thursday, 11/2/00: (16) Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Reading: Aeschylus, The Libation Bearers
Lecture: Professor Esposito: On The Libation Bearers

CORE PAPER #2 due this week.

Tuesday, 11/7/00: (17) Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Reading: Aeschylus, The Eumenides
Lecture: Professor Nelson on The Oresteia

Thursday, 11/9/00: (18) Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Reading: Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Lecture: Professor Samons on the History of Greece and Athens

Tuesday, 11/14/00: (19) Plato, The Republic: What is Justice?
Reading: Plato, Republic, Book 1
Lecture: Professor Devlin on Book 1 of The Republic

Thursday, 11/16/00: (20) Plato, The Republic: A City in Speech
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 2-3
Lecture: Professor Roochnik: The Republic, Books 2-3: Socrates vs. Homer

Tuesday, 11/21/00: (21) Plato, *The Republic: Perfecting the City*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 4-5

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: Plato on Love, Sex, and Desire

Thursday, 11/23/00: NO CLASS. THANKSGIVING VACATION

Tuesday, 11/28/00: (22) Plato, *The Republic: The Line and the Cave*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 6-7

Professors Jorgensen, Marscher, Mohr, and Wildman: Integrating Forum

Thursday 11/30/00: (23) Plato, *The Republic: Beyond Being*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 6-7

Lecture: Professor Devlin on Plato's Divided Line

Tuesday 12/5/00: (24) Plato, *The Republic: The Five Regimes*
Reading: The Republic, Book 8

Lecture: Professor Roochnik: Socrates' Critique of the Protean Democracy

Thursday, 12/7/00: (25) Plato, *The Republic: Philosophic Justice*
Reading: The Republic, Books 1-9

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: Coordinating Lecture: On Justice

CORE PAPER #3 due this week.

Tuesday, 12/12/00: (26) Plato, *The Republic: Saving the Myth*
Reading: The Republic, Book 10

Lecture: Professor Devlin: Platonic Virtue and the Myth of Er

Thursday, 12/14/00: Study Period

Friday, 12/15/00: FINAL EXAM, 12:30 p.m.

CC 101 Core Humanities I Reading List

Fall 2000

Gilgamesh, tr. David Ferry
(New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1992)
ISBN: 0-374-16227-1

The Bible, Revised Standard Version
(New York: New American Library, 1962)
ISBN: 0-452-00647-3
Genesis, chapters 1-35
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings, chapters 1-2
Job

Homer, The Odyssey, tr. Robert Fitzgerald
(New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 1998)
ISBN 0-374-52574-9

Aeschylus, The Oresteia, tr. Robert Fagles
(New York: Penguin, 1975)
ISBN: 0-14-04333-9

Plato, The Republic, tr. Allan Bloom
(New York: Basic Books (HarperCollins), 1968)
ISBN: 0-465-06934-7