

CC 101: The Ancient World

Fall 2004

Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Tsai Performance Center

Faculty

Clifford Backman (History)

Ellen Birnbaum (Core)

David Eckel (Religion)

David Green (Writing/Core)

Brad Herling (Core)

Andrew Kingston (Core)

Brian Jorgensen (English/Core)

George Kalogeris (Core)

Katherine O'Connor (Modern Languages)

Richard Oxenberg (Core)

Bernard Prusak (Core)

Robert Richardson (Modern Languages)

Christopher Roosevelt (Archaeology)

Stephen Scully (Classics)

Sassan Tabatabai (Core)

Core Humanities is a four-semester sequence of courses that study some of the finest and most influential works of literature, philosophy, religion, and the arts. The courses follow a chronological progression that allows students to look at texts from the perspective of their authors and original audiences and also to discover the qualities that make these texts 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 topics 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.

Attendance at all lectures and in every seminar discussion is required and essential for success on papers and exams in the course.

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 objective, short essay, and long essay questions.

Writing is an essential component of the Core Curriculum and is coordinated 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 analysis 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 rest 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 617-353-5404. 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.

The Boston University *Academic Conduct Code* describes plagiarism as including each of the following: “copying the answers of another student on an examination, copying or substantially restating the work of another person or persons in any oral or written work without citing the appropriate source, and collaboration with someone else in an academic endeavor without acknowledging his or her contribution” (pp. 1-2). A more detailed discussion with examples appears on pp. 10-14 of the *Code*. It is your responsibility to read these pages carefully and know exactly what constitutes plagiarism.

Required Texts are available at the Boston University Bookstore:

Gilgamesh, trans. David Ferry (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1992)
The Harper Collins Study Bible (New Revised Standard Version)
Homer, *The Odyssey*, trans. Robert Fitzgerald (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998)
Aeschylus, *The Oresteia*, trans. Robert Fagles (New York: Penguin, 1975)
Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, trans. Rex Warner (New York: Penguin, 1972)
Plato, *The Republic*, trans. Allan Bloom (New York: Basic Books, 1968)
Aaron, *The Little, Brown Essential Handbook for Writers* (New York: Little Brown, 1995)

Schedule of Lectures and Examinations

Week 1 (September 7) - *Gilgamesh*

Reading: *Gilgamesh*

Lecturer: Professor Brian Jorgensen (Dept. of English, Core)

Week 2 (September 14) - *Genesis*

Reading: *Genesis*, Chapters 1-50

Lecturer: Professor Abigail Gillman (Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures)

Week 3 (September 21) - *Exodus*

Reading: *Exodus*, Chapters 1-24

Lecturer: Professor David Eckel (Dept. of Religion)

Week 4 (September 28) - *Job*

Reading: *Job*, Chapters 1-42

Lecturer: Professor Brad Herling (Core)

Week 5 (October 5) - Homer's *Odyssey*
Reading: *The Odyssey*, Books 1-12
Lecturer: Professor Stephen Scully (Dept. of Classical Studies)

Week 6 (October 12) - *The Odyssey*
Reading: *The Odyssey*, Books 13-24
Lecturer: Professor Stephen Esposito (Dept. of Classical Studies)

Week 7 (October 19) Mid-Term Examination

Week 8 (October 26) Performance of Aeschylus, *The Oresteia*
Reading: *The Oresteia*

Week 9 (November 2) - Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War*
Reading: *The Peloponnesian War*, pp. 35-49, 72-87, 143-64, 212-23, 236-45, 400-8
Lecturer: Dean Jay Samons (Dept. of Classical Studies)

Tuesday, November 9, NO LECTURE - Thursday's Class Schedule

Week 10 (November 16) - Plato, *The Republic*
Reading: *The Republic*, Books 1-2
Lecturer: Professor David Roochnik (Dept. of Philosophy)

Week 11 (November 23) - Plato, *The Republic*
Reading: *The Republic*, Books 3-5
Lecturer: Professor Charles Griswold (Dept. of Philosophy)

Thursday, November 25, Thanksgiving Day

Week 12 (November 30) - Plato, *The Republic*
Reading: *The Republic*, Books 6-8
Lecturer: Professor Richard Oxenberg (Core)

Week 13 (December 7) - Plato, *The Republic*
Reading: *The Republic*, Books 9-10
Lecturer: Professor David Roochnik (Dept. of Philosophy)

Final Examination: December 16, 12:30-2:30

Course Copyright

Please Note - The syllabus, course descriptions, and handouts associated with CC 101, as well as all class lectures, are copyrighted by Boston University and the Core Curriculum. Except with respect to enrolled students as set forth below, the materials and lectures may not be reproduced in any form or otherwise copied, displayed or distributed, nor should works derived from them be reproduced, copied, displayed or distributed without the written permission of the Core. Infringement of the copyright in these materials, including any sale or commercial use of notes, summaries, outlines or other reproductions of lectures, constitutes a violation of the copyright laws and is prohibited. Students enrolled in the course are allowed to share with other enrolled students course materials, notes, and other writings based on the course materials and lectures, but may not do so on a commercial basis or otherwise for payment of any kind. Please note in particular that selling or buying class notes, lecture notes or summaries, or similar materials both violates copyright and interferes with the academic mission of the College, and is therefore prohibited in this class and will be considered a violation of the Student Code of Responsibility that is subject to academic sanctions.