

CC 101: The Ancient World

Fall 2013, CORE CURRICULUM

BOSTON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

LECTURES Tuesdays 9:30-11 a.m. in the Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave.

COORDINATOR Stephen Esposito, Dept. of Classics, 745 Comm Ave, Rm 410 espo@bu.edu

SEMINARS					
B1	MWF 10-11	CAS 114B	Patricia Larash	plarash@bu.edu	
B2	MWF 11-12	CAS 114B	Kyna Hamill	kyna@bu.edu	
B3	TR 11-12:30	CAS 430	Abigail Gillman	agillman@bu.edu	
B4	MWF 1-2	CAS 114A	Stephanie Nelson	nelson@bu.edu	
B5	TR 12:30-2	MUG 424	Catherine Klancer	chudak@bu.edu	
B6	MWF 12-1	CAS 201	Robert Richardson	rossia@bu.edu	
B8	TR 11-12:30	CAS 114B	Stephen Esposito	espo@bu.edu	
B9	TR 3:30-5	CAS 227	Anita Patterson	apatters@bu.edu	
C1	TR 12:30-2	PRB 148	Thomas Michael	tmichael@bu.edu	
C2	MWF 3-4	CAS 220	Michael Prince	mprince@bu.edu	
C3	TR 11-12:30	CAS 119	Catherine Klancer	chudak@bu.edu	
C4	TR 2-3:30	CAS 114A	Catherine Klancer	chudak@bu.edu	

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course engages with two foundational components of the Western tradition: the Hebrew Scriptures and the ancient Greeks. We will also study the ancient Near East and its influence on Jewish and Greek culture. We reflect on these traditions through a close and critical 'reading' of some of the world's most influential and haunting works of literature, philosophy, religion, and art.

GRADES

These will be determined by your seminar professor according to Boston University's standard grading system wherein 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%

The final exam will be set by the faculty as a whole; the midterm will be set by individual seminar instructors. Exams will be based on the lectures, seminars, and readings; they will include factual, short essay, and long essay questions.

WRITING

Writing is a crucial 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 CC 102) receive credit for WR 100. Students who successfully complete both semesters of the second-year Core Humanities or the Core Social Sciences (either CC 201/202 together or CC 203/204 together) receive credit for WR 150.

GOALS OF THE WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

- § Demonstrate grammatical proficiency.
- § Show an understanding of using a thesis supported by argument.
- § Offer skills in close reading and critical analysis of books and visual culture.

Your seminar leaders will assign writing assignments to help you meet these goals.

WRITING FELLOWS

The Core Writing Fellows will be available throughout the semester. They have been trained in grammar and compositional skills and know the Core texts. To make an appointment with a Writing Fellow in the Writing Center, stop by the Core office, call 617-353-5404, or use the online reservation form at www.bu.edu/core/academics/tutoring. The Writing Center is located near the Core office, in CAS 129.

CORE WEBSITE

At bu.edu/core students will find faculty office hours, reading lists, supplemental course material, a department activities and academic calendar, syllabi, tutor appointment forms, and writing FAQs, and other resources. Please take advantage of the **Core Blog at blogs.bu.edu/core**, where you can stay up to date on Core events and also participate in an engaging conversation with Core lecturers and faculty about the issues of the course.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

The seven required CC 101 texts are available at the BU Bookstore and on reserve in Mugar Library:

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| 1. Ferry, David | <i>Gilgamesh</i> | 9780374523831 |
| 2. Alter, Robert | <i>The Five Books of Moses</i> | 9780393333930 |
| 3. Homer | <i>The Odyssey</i> (trans. R. Fitzgerald) | 9780374525743 |
| 4. Esposito, Stephen | <i>Odysseus at Troy</i> | 9781585103966 |
| 5. Woodford, Susan | <i>The Parthenon</i> | 9780521226295 |
| 6. Plato | <i>The Republic</i> (trans. C. Reeve) | 9780872207363 |
| 7. Strunk and White | <i>The Elements of Style</i> (4 th edition) | 9780205309023 |

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

All members of the 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 questions about plagiarism and how it differs from the appropriate use of other people's work, please consult the *Academic Conduct Code* on the CAS website at bu.edu/academics/cas/policies/academic-conduct or speak with your instructor.

LECTURE SCHEDULE

CC 101, Fall 2013

WEEK 1 *Gilgamesh*

Sept. 3 Brian Jorgensen (Core *emeritus*)

Sept. 4 **EVENT:** Welcome to Campus Reception: 5 PM, CAS 119, all Core students & alums

Sept. 8 **EVENT:** The Annual Core Natural Sciences Fruit Drop, and All-Core BBQ

WEEK 2 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible

Sept. 10 Michael Zank (Religion)

WEEK 3 The Book of Genesis

Sept. 17 Rabbi Ariel Burger (Combined Jewish Philanthropies)

Sept. 20 **EVENT:** Boat Cruise on the Charles, and Museum of Science Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit

WEEK 4 The Book of Exodus

Sept. 24 Jonathan Klawans (Religion)

WEEK 5 Introduction to Greek culture and Homer's *Odyssey* Books 1-8

Oct. 1 Stephanie Nelson (Director of Core; Classical Studies)

Oct. 4-7 **EVENT:** Core Scavenger Hunt (sign-up on Friday, turn-in on Monday)

WEEK 6 Penelope in *The Odyssey*

Oct. 8 Steve Esposito (Classical Studies)

WEEK 7 No lecture

Oct. 15 On this Tuesday, classes follow a Monday schedule

- WEEK 8** The Political World of Fifth-Century Athens
 Oct. 22 Jay Samons (Classical Studies)
 Oct. 24-5 **MIDTERM EXAM** (in seminar sections)
- WEEK 9** Art and Politics on the Periclean Acropolis
 Oct. 29 Fred Kleiner (History of Art & Architecture)
- WEEK 10** Sophocles' *Ajax*
 Nov. 5 Steve Esposito (Classical Studies)
- WEEK 11** Euripides' *Hecuba*
 Nov. 12 Kyna Hamill (Core)
- WEEK 12** Introduction to Plato's *Republic*
 Nov. 19 David Roochnik (Philosophy)
- WEEK 13** The Beautiful City (*Kallipolis*) and its purpose in *Republic* Bks 2-5
 Nov. 26 Greg Fried (Suffolk University, Philosophy)
- WEEK 14** Plato's Divided Line and Cave Allegory in *Republic* Bks 6-7
 Dec. 3 David Roochnik (Philosophy)
- WEEK 15** A Debate on Democracy
 Dec. 10 Jay Samons, Brendan McConville (History), David Roochnik, and Steve Esposito

DATE OF FINAL EXAM

To be confirmed before the end of September. At that time, the date, room location, and start time will be announced in lecture, as well as posted to the course webpage.