

CC 101: The Ancient World

Syllabus

Fall 1996
Tuesday/Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Tsai Center

Core Professors

Professor James Devlin (Philosophy)	Professor Stephanie Nelson (Core)
Professor James Johnson (History)	Professor Stephen Scully (Classics)
Professor Brian Jorgensen (English)	Professor David Roochnik (Philosophy)
Professor Gregory Fried (Core)	Professor Marc Joseph (Core)
Professor Robert Richardson (Modern Languages)	Professor Lisbeth Haakonssen (Philosophy)
Professor Mary Ann McGrail (University Profs)	Professor Kenneth Haynes (Core)
Professor Kevin Stoehr (Philosophy)	Professor Abigail Gillman (Modern Languages)
Professor Alice Behnegar (Core)	Professor Brian Saunders (Core)
Professor John Newton (Core)	

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	Core Humanities I	Lec	Devlin	TR	9:30-11:00A	TSAI
CAS CC101	A2	Core Humanities I	Lec	Devlin	TR	9:30-11:00A	TSAI
CAS CC101	B1	Core Humanities I	Dis	Saunders	MWF	1:00-2:00P	GCB 206
CAS CC101	B2	Core Humanities I	Dis	Johnson	MWF	11:00-12:00P	CAS 416
CAS CC101	B3	Core Humanities I	Dis	Devlin	M	3:00-6:00P	CAS 218
CAS CC101	B4	Core Humanities I	Dis	Haynes	TR	12:30-2:00P	CAS 414
CAS CC101	B5	Core Humanities I	Dis	Haakonssen	TR	2:00-3:30P	CAS 416
CAS CC101	B6	Core Humanities I	Dis	Nelson	TR	2:00-3:30P	BRB 121
CAS CC101	B7	Core Humanities I	Dis	Joseph	MWF	3:00-4:00P	CAS 415
CAS CC101	B8	Core Humanities I	Dis	Jorgensen	MWF	10:00-11:00A	SMG B20
CAS CC101	B9	Core Humanities I	Dis	Richardson	MWF	9:00-10:00A	CAS 212
CAS CC101	C1	Core Humanities I	Dis	Scully	MWF	12:00-1:00P	GCB 203
CAS CC101	C2	Core Humanities I	Dis	Haakonssen	TR	11:00-12:30P	CAS 208
CAS CC101	C3	Core Humanities I	Dis	Fried	TR	12:30-2:00P	CAS 411
CAS CC101	C4	Core Humanities I	Dis	Newton	TR	12:30-2:00P	STH B22
CAS CC101	C5	Core Humanities I	Dis	McGrail	MWF	2:00-3:00P	SMG B20
CAS CC101	C6	Core Humanities I	Dis	Joseph	MWF	4:00-5:00P	CAS 414
CAS CC101	C7	Core Humanities I	Dis	Stoehr	TR	12:30-2:00P	CAS 220
CAS CC101	C9	Core Humanities I	Dis	Nelson W		3:00-6:00P	GCB 203
CAS CC101	D2	Core Humanities I	Dis	Roochnik	MWF	12:00-1:00P	SMG B20
CAS CC101	D4	Core Humanities I	Dis	Behnegar	MWF	9:00-10:00A	CAS 315
CAS CC101	D5	Core Humanities I	Dis	Gillman	MWF	12:00-1:00P	SOC B67
CAS CC101	D6	Core Humanities I	Dis	Saunders	MWF	2:00-3:00P	PSY B47
CAS CC101	HP	Core Humanities I	Dis	Devlin	TR	9:30-11:00P	TSAI
CAS CC101	HS	Core Humanities I	Dis	Devlin	F	3:00-5:00P	CAS 522

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“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

Lecture and Exam Schedule

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

Tuesday, 9/3/96: (1) *Gilgamesh: Two-thirds god*
Reading: Gilgamesh, tablets 1-6

Lecture: Professor Devlin: Introduction to the Core

Thursday, 9/5/96: (2) *Gilgamesh: One-third mortal*
Reading: Gilgamesh, tablets 7-11

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: On Gilgamesh

Tuesday, 9/10/96: (3) *Genesis: Creation, Fall, and Flood*
Reading: Genesis, chapters 1-11

Lecture: Professor Zimansky: City and Countryside in Ancient Mesopotamia

Thursday, 9/12/96: (4) *Genesis: The Patriarchs*
Reading: Genesis, chapters 12-35

Lecture: Professor Zank : On the Book of Genesis

Tuesday, 9/17/96: (5) *Samuel: The Coming of Kingship*
Reading: 1 Samuel, chapters 1-15

Lecture: Professor Purvis: The Emergence of Monarchy in Israel

Thursday, 9/19/96: (6) *Samuel: David, Jonathan, Saul*
Reading: 1 Samuel, chapters 15-31

Lecture: Professor Johnson: Coordinating Lecture

Tuesday, 9/24/96: (7) *Samuel: David the young king*
Reading: 2 Samuel, chapters 1-12

Lecture: Professor Devlin: David and Saul

Thursday, 9/26/96: (8) *Samuel: David the old king*
Reading: 2 Samuel, chapters 12-24; 1 Kings, chapters 1-2

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: Kingship and Prophecy

Monday, 9/30/96: (9) *Job*
Reading: Job, chapters 1-42

Lecture: Professor Wiesel: On the Book of Job

Thursday, 10/3/96: (10) *Job*
Reading: Job, chapters 1-42

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

Tuesday, 10/8/96: (11) *Homer, The Odyssey: Odysseus and the journey home*

Reading: Odyssey, books 1-12

Lecture: Professor Scully on the Greek Gods

Thursday, 10/10/96: (12) *Homer, The Odyssey: Odysseus, Penelope, and the death of the suitors*

Reading: Odyssey, books 13-24

Lecture: Professor McGrail on The Odyssey

Tuesday, 10/15/96: **No lecture. Monday schedule.**

Thursday, 10/17/96: MIDTERM EXAM

Tuesday, 10/22/96: (13) *Aeschylus, The Oresteia*
Reading: Aeschylus, Agamemnon

Lecture: Professor Scully on the Greek Polis

Thursday, 10/24/96: (14) Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Reading: Aeschylus, The Libation Bearers

Lecture: Professor Johnson on the emergence of tragedy

Tuesday, 10/29/96: (15) Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Reading: Aeschylus, The Eumenides

Lecture: Professor Nelson on The Oresteia

Thursday, 10/31/96
Law Auditorium: (16) Aeschylus, The Oresteia
Reading: Aeschylus, The Oresteia

Lecture: Professor Johnson: Coordinating Lecture

Tuesday, 11/5/96: (17) Aristophanes, The Clouds
Reading: Aristophanes, The Clouds

Lecture: Professor Henderson on Aristophanes

Thursday, 11/7/96: (18) Aristophanes, The Clouds
Reading: Aristophanes, The Clouds

Lecture: Professor McClellan on the Athenian Acropolis

Tuesday, 11/12/96: (19) Plato, The Republic: What is Justice?
Reading: Plato, Republic, Book 1

Lecture: Professor Devlin on Book 1 of The Republic

Thursday, 11/14/96: (20) Plato, The Republic: A City in Speech
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 2-3

Lecture: Professor Rochnik: Plato, the Poets, and the Sophists

Tuesday, 11/19/96: (21) Plato, The Republic: Perfecting the City
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 4-5

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

Thursday, 11/21/96: (22) Plato, The Republic: *The Line and the Cave*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 6-7

Lecture: Professor Devlin on Plato's Divided Line

Tuesday, 11/26/96: (23) Plato, The Republic: *O Fair Democracy*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 6-7

Professors Roochnik, Patt, Mohr, and Wildman: Integrating Forum

Thursday, 11/28/96: NO CLASS. THANKSGIVING VACATION

Tuesday, 12/3/96: (24) Plato: The Republic: *O Fair Democracy*
Reading: The Republic, Books 8-9

Lecture: Professor Swanson on Plato's Regimes

Thursday 12/5/96: (25) Plato: The Republic:
Reading: The Republic, Books 8-9

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: On Justice

Tuesday 12/10/96: (26) Plato: The Republic: *Saving the Myth*
Reading: The Republic, Book 10

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

Thursday, 12/12/96: NO CLASS. STUDY PERIOD.

Tuesday, 12/17/96: FINAL EXAM, 9:00 a.m.