

CC 101: The Ancient World

Syllabus

Fall 1998
Tuesday/Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Tsai Center

Core Professors

Professor James Devlin (Philosophy)	Professor Stephanie Nelson (Core)
Professor Stephen Esposito (Classics)	Professor Allen Speight (Philosophy)
Professor Brian Jorgensen (English)	Professor David Roochnik (Philosophy)
Professor Gregory Fried (Core)	Professor Marc Joseph (Core)
Professor Robert Richardson (Modern Languages)	Professor Linda Wells (Humanities)
Professor John Newton (English)	Professor Michael Prince (English)
Professor Murray McClellan (Archaeology)	Professor Mark Pedreira (Core)
Professor Matthew Ostrow (Core)	Professor Mark Kremer (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	Speight	MWF	1:00-2:00P	CAS B06A
CAS CC101	B2	Core Humanities I	Dis	Jorgensen	MWF	11:00-12:00P	CAS B06A
CAS CC101	B3	Core Humanities I	Dis	Devlin	M	3:00-6:00P	CAS 323B
CAS CC101	B4	Core Humanities I	Dis	Nelson	TR	12:30-2:00P	CAS B06A
CAS CC101	B5	Core Humanities I	Dis	Fried	TR	2:00-3:30P	CAS B14
CAS CC101	B6	Core Humanities I	Dis	Ostrow	TR	2:00-3:30P	CAS B25B
CAS CC101	B8	Core Humanities I	Dis	Joseph	MWF	4:00-5:00P	CAS 312
CAS CC101	B9	Core Humanities I	Dis	Esposito	MWF	10:00-11:00A	CAS 233
CAS CC101	C1	Core Humanities I	Dis	Roochnik	MWF	12:00-1:00P	CAS 315
CAS CC101	C2	Core Humanities I	Dis	Newton	TR	11:00-12:30P	CAS 229
CAS CC101	C3	Core Humanities I	Dis	Fried	TR	12:30-2:00P	CAS B06B
CAS CC101	C4	Core Humanities I	Dis	Newton	TR	12:30-2:00P	CAS 402
CAS CC101	C5	Core Humanities I	Dis	Joseph	MWF	2:00-3:00P	CAS 235
CAS CC101	C7	Core Humanities I	Dis	Pedreira	TR	12:30-2:00P	CAS 428
CAS CC101	C8	Core Humanities I	Dis	McClellan	TR	11:00-12:30P	CAS 221
CAS CC101	C9	Core Humanities I	Dis	Nelson	W	3:00-6:00P	CAS 218
CAS CC101	D1	Core Humanities I	Dis	Kremer	TR	2:00-3:30P	CAS 323A
CAS CC101	D2	Core Humanities I	Dis	Prince	MWF	1:00-2:00P	CAS 220
CAS CC101	D4	Core Humanities I	Dis	Richardson	MWF	9:00-10:00A	CAS 325
CAS CC101	D5	Core Humanities I	Dis	Wells	MWF	3:00-4:00P	CAS 204A
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

“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.

Thursday, 9/3/98: (1) *Gilgamesh: Two-thirds god*
Reading: Gilgamesh, tablets 1-6

Lecture: Professor Devlin: Introduction to the Core

Tuesday, 9/8/98: (2) *Gilgamesh: One-third mortal*
Reading: Gilgamesh, tablets 7-11

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: Who Is Gilgamesh?

Thursday, 9/10/98: (3) *Genesis: Creation, Fall, and Flood*
Reading: Genesis, chapters 1-11

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

Tuesday, 9/15/98: (4) *Genesis: The Patriarchs*
Reading: Genesis, chapters 12-35

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: Introduction to the Book of Genesis

Thursday, 9/17/98: (5) *Samuel: The Coming of Kingship*
Reading: 1 Samuel, chapters 1-15

Lecture: Professor Nelson: Exodus and Establishment

Tuesday, 9/22/98: (6) *Samuel: David, Jonathan, Saul*
Reading: 1 Samuel, chapters 16-31

Lecture: Professor Devlin: David and Saul

Thursday, 9/24/98: (7) *Samuel: David the young king*
Reading: 2 Samuel, chapters 1-12

Lecture: Professor Johnson: Coordinating Lecture

Tuesday, 9/29/98: (8) *Samuel: David the old king*
Reading: 2 Samuel, chapters 12-24; 1 Kings, chapters 1-2

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: Prophet and King: Who Shall Rule?

Thursday, 10/1/98: (9) *Job*
10:00 a.m. Reading: Job, chapters 1-28

Lecture: Professor Wiesel on the Book of Job

Tuesday, 10/6/98: (11) *Job*
Reading: Job, chapters 28-42

Lecture: Professors Devlin and Jorgensen on the Book of Job

Thursday, 10/8/98: (12) *Homer, The Odyssey: Telemakhos and the Heroes*
Reading: Odyssey, books 1-4

Lecture: Professor Scully on the Greek Gods

Tuesday, 10/13/98: (13) *Homer, The Odyssey: Odysseus and the journey home*
Reading: Odyssey, books 5-12

Lecture: Professor Roochnik on The Education of Telemakhos

Thursday, 10/15/98: (14) *Homer, The Odyssey: Odysseus, on Ithaka*
Reading: Odyssey, books 13-16

Lecture: Professor Nelson on The Odyssey

Tuesday, 10/20/98: (15) *Homer, The Odyssey: Odysseus, Penelope, and
the death of the suitors*
Reading: Odyssey, books 17-24

Lecture: Professor Scully on The Odyssey

Thursday, 10/22/98: (16) *Homer, The Odyssey*:
Reading: Odyssey, books 1-24

Lecture: Professor McClellan on Greek Art

Tuesday, 10/27/98: MIDTERM

Thursday, 10/29/98: (17) *Aeschylus, The Oresteia*
Reading: Aeschylus, Agamemnon

Lecture: Professor Speight on the Emergence of Tragedy

Tuesday, 11/3/98: (18) *Aeschylus, The Oresteia*
Reading: Aeschylus, The Libation Bearers

Lecture: Professor Esposito: On the Agamemnon

Thursday, 11/5/98: (19) *Aeschylus, The Oresteia*
Reading: Aeschylus, The Eumenides

Lecture: Professor Nelson on The Oresteia

Tuesday, 11/10/98: (20) *Aeschylus, The Oresteia*
Reading: Aeschylus, The Oresteia

Lecture: Professor Scully on the Greek Polis

Thursday, 11/12/98: (21) *Plato, The Republic: What is Justice?*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Book 1

Lecture: Professor Devlin on Book 1 of The Republic

Tuesday, 11/17/98: (22) *Plato, The Republic: A City in Speech*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 2-3

Lecture: Professor Roochnik: The Republic, Book 2: Philosophy vs. Sophistry

Thursday, 11/19/98: (24) *Plato, The Republic: Perfecting the City*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 6-7

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

Tuesday, 11/24/98: (23) *Plato, The Republic: The Line and the Cave*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 4-5

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

Thursday, 11/26/98: NO CLASS. THANKSGIVING VACATION

Tuesday, 12/1/98: (25) *Plato, The Republic: Beyond Being*
Reading: Plato, Republic, Books 6-7

Lecture: Professor Devlin on Plato's Divided Line

Thursday 12/3/98: (26) *Plato, The Republic: The Five Regimes*
Reading: The Republic, Books 8-9

Lecture: Professor Speight on Plato's Regimes

Tuesday 12/8/98: (27) *Plato, The Republic: O Fair Democracy*
Reading: The Republic, Books 8-9

Lecture: Professor Jorgensen: Coordinating Lecture: On Justice

Thursday, 12/10/98: (28) *Plato, The Republic: Saving the Myth*
Reading: The Republic, Book 10

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

Thursday, 12/17/98: FINAL EXAM, 12:30 p.m.

CC 101 Core Humanities I Reading List

Fall 1998

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: Random House, Vintage Classics, 1989)
ISBN: 0-679-72813-9

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