

## **Instructor**

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## **Meeting Time and Place**

1.00-2.15 T & Th  
Benedict 104

## **Course Description**

An introduction to classical studies and the ancient Mediterranean world that focuses on some pivotal figures. Consideration of the multiple facets of ancient Mediterranean society and culture, including multiculturalism, race, class and gender. Attention to literature, art, religion, philosophy and history. Readings from ancient and modern sources, and films dealing with the world of the ancient Greeks and Romans.

## **Course Policy Statements**

### ***Accessibility***

Hamilton College will make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. If you are eligible to receive such accommodation(s) and would like to make a formal request for this course, please discuss it with your course instructor and allow two weeks notice. All discussions will remain confidential. You will need to provide Allen Harrison, Associate Dean of Students (Elihu Root House; ext. 4021) with appropriate documentation of your disability.

### ***Honor Code***

The Hamilton College Honor Code is the students' charter to shared responsibility for ensuring the highest standards of integrity. This course's policy is that the Honor Code defines academic dishonesty and the measures to be taken in the event of an occurrence of academic dishonesty.

### ***Attendance Policy***

Class attendance is mandatory. Absences and tardiness will be factored into the class participation evaluation. Excessive lateness, non-participation during class (e.g. sleeping or using laptops for reasons not related to class), and disruptive behavior (e.g. cell phones or side-conversations) may be documented as an absence.

## Required Texts

- Roland Barthes. 1972. *Mythologies*. Trans. Annette Lavers. New York: Hill and Wang.
- C.D.C. Reeve, ed. 2002. *The Trial of Socrates: Six Classic Texts*. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing. ISBN 0872205894/9780872205895
- Prudence Jones, ed. 2006. *Cleopatra: A Source Book*. Norman: Oklahoma University Press. ISBN 080613741X/978-0806137414
- James Rives, ed., and Robert Graves, trans. 2007. *Suetonius: The Twelve Caesars*, Rev. Ed. London: Penguin Classics. ISBN 0140455167/9780140455168

## Resources

[Who's Who in the Classical World](#)

*Oxford Classical Dictionary* (Burke Library Reference, Call Number [DE5 .O9 2003](#))

## Assessment

### Grading “Philosophy”

Fulfillment of grading criteria is a “good” performance. Performance above and beyond fulfillment of grading criteria is “superior.” Student work that does not quite satisfy all grading criteria is an “average” performance. Minimum fulfillment of grading criteria is a “below average” performance. Fulfilling no grading criteria results in a “failing” performance. To clarify the difference between “good” and “superior” performance, thinking in descriptive terms, whereas “good” performances are characterized by accuracy, competence, straightforwardness, and facility, “superior” performances are characterized by synthesis, mastery, complexity, and creativity.

This grading philosophy can be represented in terms of the following grading schema:

- “Superior” Performance = A
- “Good” Performance = B
- “Average” Performance = C
- “Below Average” Performance = D
- “Failing” Performance = F

### Categories of Assessment

Quizzes	25%
• Brief assessments of knowledge of daily reading	
• Each quiz will cover reading assignments since last quiz. For example, Quiz 3 will cover readings for 09.22, 09.24, and 09.29.	
4 Microthemes	40%
Final Essay	35%

## Course Calendar

Date	Topics & Assignments All assignments and readings are due on the date given (by 9.00 AM for Blackboard assignments), unless otherwise indicated.
08.27.09	Course Introduction
09.01.09	<p>Read “classics” Entry at <a href="http://www.wikipedia.org">www.wikipedia.org</a>.</p> <p>Read Seth L. Schein. 2008. “Our Debt to Greece and Rome’: Canon, Class and Ideology.” In <i>A Companion to Classical Receptions</i>, edited by L. Hardwick and C. Stray, 75–85. Malden and Oxford: Blackwell Publishing (<a href="#">Course Reserves</a>).</p> <p>Read Edith Hall. 2008. “Putting the Class into Classical Reception.” In <i>A Companion to Classical Receptions</i>, edited by L. Hardwick and C. Stray, 386–397. Malden and Oxford: Blackwell Publishing (<a href="#">Course Reserves</a>).</p>
09.03.09	<p>Read: “feminism” Entry at <a href="http://www.wikipedia.org">www.wikipedia.org</a>.</p> <p>Read: Genevieve Liveley. 2006. “Surfing the Third Wave? Postfeminism and the Hermeneutics of Reception.” In <i>Classics and the Uses of Reception</i>, edited by C. Martindale and R.F. Thomas, 55–66. Malden and Oxford: Blackwell Publishing (<a href="#">Course Reserves</a>).</p> <p>Read: Shelley Haley. 1993. “Black Feminist Thought and Classics: Remembering, Re-claiming, Re-empowering.” In <i>Feminist Theory and the Classics</i>, edited by N.S. Rabinowitz and A. Richlin, 23–43. New York: Routledge (<a href="#">Course Reserves</a>).</p>
09.08.09	<p>Read: “semiotics” Entry at <a href="http://www.wikipedia.org">www.wikipedia.org</a>.</p> <p>Read: Michel Foucault. 1973. <i>The Birth of the Clinic: An Archaeology of Medical Perception</i>. Trans. A. M. Sheridan Smith. New York: Vintage Books. Pp. ix–xix (<a href="#">Course Reserves</a>).</p> <p>Read: Ferdinand de Saussure. 1983. <i>Course in General Linguistics</i>. Eds. Charles Bally and Albert Sechehaye, with Albert Riedlinger. Trans. Roy Harris. Chicago and La Salle: Open Court. Pp. 1–17 (Chapters 1–3) (<a href="#">Course Reserves</a>)</p> <p>Quiz 1</p>
09.10.09	Read: Barthes pp. 15–28, 34–35, 39–40, 53–64, 81–87, 100–102, 109–121.
09.15.09	Read: Barthes pp. 121–159.
09.17.09	<p>Read: <i>The Trials of Socrates</i>, pp. vii–x &amp; 1–25</p> <p>Quiz 2</p>
09.22.09	<p>Read: <i>The Trials of Socrates</i>, pp. 84–124</p> <p>Microtheme 1 Due</p>
09.24.09	Read: <i>The Trials of Socrates</i> , pp. 124–176
09.29.09	<p>Read: <i>The Trials of Socrates</i>, pp. 26–61 &amp; 177–184</p> <p>Quiz 3</p>
10.01.09	Read: <i>The Trials of Socrates</i> , pp. 62–83

Date	Topics & Assignments All assignments and readings are due on the date given (by 9.00 AM for Blackboard assignments), unless otherwise indicated.
10.06.09	Read: Jones pp. xiii-xv & 3-30 Microtheme 2 Due
10.08.09	Read: Jones pp. 31-63 Quiz 4
10.13.09	Read: Jones pp. 63-93
<b>Fall Recess 10.15.08 - 10.18.08</b>	
10.20.09	Read: Jones pp. 94-128
10.22.09	Read: Jones pp. 129-165 Quiz 5
10.27.09	Read: Jones pp. 165-204
10.29.09	Read: Jones, pp. 207-246
11.03.09	Read: Jones, pp. 246-278 Quiz 6
11.05.09	Read: Suetonius pp. 1-42 Microtheme 3 Due
11.10.09	Read: Suetonius pp. 43-103
11.12.09	Read: Suetonius pp. 104-144 Quiz 7
11.17.09	Read: Suetonius pp. 145-177
11.19.09	Read: Suetonius pp. 178-206 Quiz 8
<b>Thanksgiving Recess 11.21.08 - 11.29.08</b>	
12.01.09	Read: Suetonius pp. 207-241
12.03.09	Read: Suetonius pp. 242-273 Microtheme 4 Due
12.08.09	Read: Suetonius pp. 274-310 Quiz 9
12.10.09	Read: Chela Sandoval. 2000. <i>Methodology of the Oppressed</i> . Minneapolis and London: University of Minnesota Press. Chapter 4 "Semiotics and Languages of Emancipation" pp. 81-114 ( <a href="#">Course Reserves</a> ).
<b>Final Examination: Tuesday December 15 9.00 AM - 12.00 PM</b> <b>Final Essay Due</b>	