

HUMANITIES 1:
THE FOUNDATIONS OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION—ISRAEL & GREECE

UC San Diego, Winter 2019
M/W/F 1-1:50 at Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) 1330

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course offers an opportunity to read and interpret some of the most important works in the Greek and Hebrew literary traditions, including Epic poetry, drama (tragedy and comedy), philosophy, and scripture. Beyond reading and interpreting, we will focus criticizing the moral aspects of the selected works, and exploring the following themes: the origin and nature of the cosmos and of God and the gods, the basis of morality and law, the exhortation to the virtues, knowledge and wisdom, and the justification of authority and domination. Course objectives include: reading in translation and learning to interpret some seminal works in the Western tradition of literature, history, and philosophy; practicing discussing and criticizing the works orally with graduate students who are actively conducting research in one of these fields; learning methods of researching and writing about such works.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All seven requirements must be completed in order to pass the class.

1. Ownership of the following textbooks (available at the UCSD bookstore):

- *Homer: The Odyssey*, translated by E. Wilson. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2017. (“Wilson” in the course schedule.)
- *Hesiod: Theogony, Works and Days, Shield*, translated by A. N. Athanassakis. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1983. (“Athanassakis” in the course schedule.)
- *Greek Tragedies 1: Aeschylus: Agamemnon, Prometheus Bound; Sophocles: Oedipus the King, Antigone; Euripides: Hippolytus* (3rd Edition), edited by M. Griffith, G. W. Most, D. Greene, and R. Lattimore. Translated by D. Greene and E. Wyckoff. University of Chicago Press, 2013. (“Greene” or “Wyckoff” in the course schedule.)
- *Aristophanes: Acharnians, Lysistrata, Clouds*, translated by J. Henderson. Indianapolis and Cambridge, Mass.: Hackett Publishing, 1998. (“Henderson” in the course schedule.)
- *The Dialogues of Plato, Volume 1: Euthyphro, Apology, Crito, Meno, Gorgias, Menexenus*, translated by R. Allen. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1989. (“Allen” in the course schedule.)
- *The Oxford Annotated Bible: New Revised Standard Version with the Apocrypha*, edited by M. Coogan et al. 4th edition, Oxford University Press, 2010. (“NRSV” in the course schedule.)

2. Attendance and participation in discussion sections: 20 points.

3. Essay 1: 10 points. Due 1/28.

4. Exam 1: 10 points. In-class 2/4.

5. Essay 2: 20 points. Due 2/15.

6. Essay 3: 20 points. Due 3/8.

7. Exam 2: 20 points. In-class 3/22/11:30am-2:30pm.

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SCHEDULE OF LECTURES

- 1/7 Introduction. **Acquire all textbooks.**
1/9 Hesiod, *Theogony* (translated by Athanassakis, p.13-38).
1/11 Hesiod, *Works and Days* (translated by Athanassakis, p.67-87).
- 1/14 Homer, *Odyssey*, Books 1-4 (translated by Wilson, p.105-179).
1/16 Homer, *Odyssey*, Books 5-12 (translated by Wilson, p.180-315).
1/18 Homer, *Odyssey*, Books 13-17 (translated by Wilson, p.316-407).
- 1/21 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day—no class.*
1/23 Homer, *Odyssey*, Books 18-24 (translated by Wilson, p.408-525).
1/25 Aeschylus, *Agamemnon* (translated by Lattimore, p.1-63).
- 1/28 Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound* (translated by Greene, p.69-112). **Essay 1 due.**
1/30 Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex* (translated by Greene, p.117-186).
2/1 Sophocles, *Antigone* (translated by Wyckoff, p.187-239).
- 2/4 **Exam 1.**
2/6 Aristophanes, *Lysistrata* (translated by Henderson, p.91-150).
2/8 Aristophanes, *Clouds* (translated by Henderson, p.159-235).
- 2/11 Plato, *Gorgias* 447a-461b (translated by Allen, p.231-246).
2/13 Plato, *Gorgias* 461b-481b (translated by Allen, p.246-268).
2/15 Plato, *Gorgias* 481b-527e (translated by Allen, p.268-316). **Essay 2 due.**
- 2/18 *Washington's Birthday—no class.*
2/20 Plato, *Euthyphro* (translated by Allen, p.41-58).
2/22 Plato, *Apology* (translated by Allen, p.79-104).
- 2/25 Genesis 1-19 (NRSV, p.11-38).
2/27 Genesis 20-50 (NRSV, p.38-80).
3/1 Exodus 1-24 (NRSV, p.83-117).
- 3/4 Judges (NSRV, p.356-392).
3/6 1 Samuel (NSRV, p.399-444).
3/8 Isaiah 1-33 (NSRV, p.968-1012). **Essay 3 due.**
- 3/11 Job (NSRV, p.726-771).
3/13 Proverbs (NSRV, p.897-934).
3/15 Conclusion.
- 3/22 **Exam 2 (11:30am-2:30pm).**

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OFFICE HOURS

Monte Johnson will hold office hours from 1:50-2:50pm on Wednesdays (immediately after class) outside the classroom; and in his office (HSS 8009) from 3-4pm. Any student is welcome to drop by for advisement about the course during these times. It is also possible to schedule an appointment by email.

TEXTBOOK ACQUISITION POLICY

Ownership of textbooks in hardcopy is required, and so is bringing the relevant book to class and discussion sections. Alternative translations may and should be consulted, but exam questions and writing prompts may presuppose the required editions and translations.

OPEN BOOK EXAM POLICY

Any and all hardcopy books and notes are permitted on the exams, including not only the assigned books, but also alternative translations, personal notes, research materials, etc. But no computers or telephones may be used during exams.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) which is located in University Center 202 behind Center Hall. Students are required to present their AFA letters to Faculty (please contact your teaching assistant privately) and to the OSD Liaison in the department in advance so that accommodations may be arranged. The OSD may be reached at 858.534.4382; osd@ucsd.edu; disabilities.ucsd.edu.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Any suspected violations of academic integrity will be turned over to the Dean of Judicial Affairs. Details regarding what counts as cheating can be found here: academicintegrity.ucsd.edu. Consult the site or an instructor if you have any doubts or questions regarding what counts as cheating. Student caught cheating often do not realize that what they were doing even counts as cheating and so it is imperative that you review the guidelines. All research papers will be run through the Turnitin service in order to determine whether the author has plagiarized from other papers or from Internet sources.

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METHOD OF CITATION

In order to provide context for your quotation, it is crucial to identify who is speaking in the quotation, e.g. what character in a dialogue. When citing authors in oral discussions, give a reference that makes it easy to find for your interlocutors (e.g. “*Odyssey*, Book six, around lines...”). In writing, include the following information.

Epic Poetry. Cite Homer and Hesiod by work (set in *Italics* or underlined), book number, approximate line number(s), and translator, as follows.

Zeus complains: “This is absurd, that mortals blame the gods!” (Homer, *Odyssey* 1.31-32, tr. Wilson).

Tragedy and Comedy. Cite Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes by work (set in *Italics* or underlined), approximate line number(s), and translator, as follows.

The god Prometheus laments: “In helping mortals, I brought pain on myself” (Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound* 267, tr. Greene).

Aristophanes portrays Socrates as concerned with frivolous speculations and makes him say: “I’m going to throw you clever bits of cosmological lore; you snap them up” (Aristophanes, *Clouds* 489-490, tr. Henderson).

Plato. Cite Plato by work (set in *Italics* or underlined) and Stephanus page numbers, column letter(s), and translator, as follows.

Plato portrays Socrates as totally unconcerned about death: “Death, if I may be rather blunt, was of no concern whatever to me; to do nothing unjust or unholy—that was my concern” (Plato, *Gorgias* 322d, tr. Allen).

The Hebrew Bible. Cite the bible by book name (set in plain type), chapter and verse number, and indicate the edition of the bible used (e.g. NSRV), as follows.

The author of Genesis describes God reviewing and approving his creation: “God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good” (Genesis 2.31, NSRV).

At the end of each essay, include a list of **WORKS CITED**. Since you are not generally encouraged to consult outside sources in writing essays, this will normally include only one (or more) of the textbooks assigned in the class, and so you can simply copy over the information from the list of textbooks above. But if you do for any reason consult outside sources, be sure to provide complete citation information for each work consulted, including: author, title of work, place and date of publication. For web resources indicate web URL and date accessed. Failure to provide complete citation information may be a violation of academic integrity.