

ICAGR 291/391: Homeric Poetry Syllabus, Fall 2007

Course Director

Prof. Hal Haskell, Southwestern University

Course Instructors

Owen Cramer, Colorado College

Jim Johnson, Austin College

Rob Kendrick, Colorado College

Elizabeth Manwell, Kalamazoo College

Brian Warren, Rhodes College

Description

This course, making extensive use of resources available via the internet, focuses on the earliest literary documents in the Greek language, the poems attributed to Homer. Readings will come primarily from Homer's *Iliad*. In order to expose students to a wide range of scholarly expertise, a different faculty member will lead the common session each week. These sessions will reflect current trends in scholarship for this period. Students will also meet locally with their home campus mentor to concentrate more closely on issues of language, translation and interpretation of assigned readings. In weekly online discussion (study questions) students will have the opportunity to expand on and synthesize issues that arise in the reading and common session, as well as engage with secondary literature. Students will also complete an online midterm and final examination. This course is specifically designed for advanced students and will include a rigorous study of the cultural and historical context during the Homeric period in the Mediterranean. Because this course addresses both literature and context, students are expected to actively synthesize a wide variety of material.

Objectives

Advanced students of Greek will learn to read the Homeric literary dialect. Students will become familiar with the style, conventions and themes of Homeric Epic.

Students will explore the history, culture and society of the Homeric World as it is reflected in and forms a context for the literature of this period.

Students will become familiar with current trends in scholarly interpretation for Homeric Poetry, culture and society.

Students will interact with faculty and students at other participating institutions.

Course Components

Preparation: Students should read all assigned primary texts for the week by the common session. Students who choose to take this course at the 291 rather than 391 level will be responsible for less reading in Greek but will be expected to complete all of the reading in English.

Common Session: Wednesdays, 6:30-8 PM Eastern. Students at all participating institutions will meet together online for a common session via Multipoint Interactive Videoconferencing (MIV). These

interactive sessions have a different faculty leader each week and typically combine mini-lectures with discussion, questions, and exercises.

Online Discussion: Responses to the online discussion are due Fridays, with additional responses due on Mondays. The online discussion affords students the opportunity to expand on and synthesize issues that arise in the reading and common session, as well as engage with secondary literature. Students may be asked to complete additional reading in English for the online discussion. Questions will be made available online the morning following the common session on Wednesdays. Evaluation of the online discussion will be based both on timely completion and substantive content.

Due Dates and Times for Discussion Questions

Time	Activity
3 PM (EDT) Fridays	First Answers to Study Questions due
12 PM (EDT) Mondays	Responses to other students' answers due

Tutorials: Each student will meet for at least one hour every week with a mentor at her or his home institution. The times and locations of these meetings will be determined on each campus. Students are responsible for contacting their faculty mentors and finalizing the details of their weekly meetings. These sessions will focus more closely on issues of language, translation and interpretation of assigned readings. Home campus mentors will be the final authority for all grades.

Examinations: There will be a collaboratively designed and graded midterm and final exam for this course. Examinations may vary slightly in format, but all will feature 1) the translation and/or reading comprehension of seen and sight passages and 2) essay questions of various types and lengths.

Evaluation

Grades will be based on the following components, which differ for those at the 291 and 391 level:

For students in ICAGR 291, grades will be based on the following components: Class preparation and work in tutorial: 40%

Participation in the on-line discussion (study questions): 30%

Midterm examination: 15%

Final examination: 15%

For students in ICAGR 391, grades will be based on the following components: Class preparation and work in tutorial: 20%

Participation in the on-line discussion (study questions): 40%

Midterm examination: 20%

Final examination: 20%

Readings

Primary Readings

Homer, Iliad You should read all of Homer's Iliad in English, which can be accomplished by reading 2 books of Homer for every week of class. Please be sure that your English reading keeps up with your Greek, e.g., you should have read books 1-15 by October 29 when you begin book 16 in Greek.

Suggested Texts

Selections from Homer's Iliad. Benner, ed. Red River Books, 2001. Available on Amazon.com.
The Iliad of Homer. trans. Richmond Lattimore. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1961.
The Chicago Homer: <http://www.library.northwestern.edu/homer/>

Also Available:

R.J. Cunliffe, A Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect (London, Glasgow, and Bombay, 1924; reprinted, Norman, 1963 etc.)

G. Autenrieth, A Homeric Dictionary for Schools and Colleges (University of Oklahoma Press, 1982)

Course Schedule

Week 1: September 3-9, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 1.1-100 [100]

291: Homer, Iliad 1.1-67 [67]

Common Session, September 5, 2007

Topic: "Homer"

Prof. Nick Dobson, Monmouth College

Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>

Class start time is 6:30 PM EDT / 5:30 PM CDT / 4:30 PM MDT

Come 15 minutes early to make sure everything is working.

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, September 7

Second Responses Due Monday, September 10

Week 2: September 10-16, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 1.101-222 [122]

291: Homer, Iliad 1.106-187 [82]

Common Session, September 12, 2007

Topic: "Homeric Values"

Prof. Jennifer Kosak, Bowdoin College

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, September 14, 3 PM eastern

Second Responses Due Monday, September 17, noon eastern

Week 3: September 17-23, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 1.223-356 [134]

291: Homer, Iliad 1.223-303 [81]

Common Session, September 19, 2007

Topic: Performance and Oral Poetics

Prof. Owen Cramer, Colorado College

Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>

Class start time is 6:30 PM EDT / 5:30 PM CDT / 4:30 PM MDT

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, September 21, 3 PM eastern

Second Responses Due Monday, September 24, noon eastern

Week 4: September 24-30, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 1.357-492 [136]

291: Homer, Iliad 1.364-456 [93]

Common Session, September 26, 2007

Topic: Myth, Religion, Gods, Near Eastern and Mycenaean Background (Resonance of Epic)

Prof. Marsha McCoy, Austin College

Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>

Class start time is 6:30 PM EDT / 5:30 PM CDT / 4:30 PM MDT

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, September 28, 3 pm eastern

Second Responses Due Monday, October 1, noon eastern

Week 5: October 1-7, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 1.493-611; 4.473-489; 5.274-352 [215]

291: Homer, Iliad 1.493-611, 5.297-317 [140]

Common Session, October 3, 2007

Topic: Homo Necans: the Happy Heroic Hunter

Prof. Hal Haskell, Southwestern University

Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>

Class start time is 6:30 PM EDT / 5:30 PM CDT / 4:30 PM MDT

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, October 5, 3 pm eastern

Second Responses Due Monday, October 8, noon eastern

Week 6: October 8-14, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 6. 297-311, 369-529 [176]

291: Homer, Iliad 6.390-529 [139]

Common Session, October 10, 2007

Topic: Troy and Trojans; gender, family life, peacetime, east-west

Prof. Elizabeth Manwell, Kalamazoo College

Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>
Class start time is 6:30 PM EDT / 5:30 PM CDT / 4:30 PM MDT

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, October 12, 3 pm eastern
Second Responses Due Monday, October 15, noon eastern

Week 7: October 15-21, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 9.182-221, 307-431 [163]
291: Homer, Iliad 9.307-431 [125]

Common Session, October 17, 2007

Topic: The Language of Achilles
Prof. Brian Warren, Rhodes College
Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>
Class start time is 6:30 PM EDT / 5:30 PM CDT / 4:30 PM MDT

Midterm Examination

The midterm stands in lieu of this week's study questions.

The exam will be available by Friday 9 am eastern, and due by Monday noon eastern.

When you are ready to take the exam, click on the link "Midterm Examination" below. You will be able to download the examination. The exam is in .pdf format. You will have two hours to complete this examination. Please complete the examination in one sitting.

When you have completed the examination, please send it immediately via email to haskell@southwestern.edu

You may send either as an attachment (Word .doc) or as an email text. Due to font issues, you will not be expected to type Greek in your answers (although you may do so, and/or transliterate).

If you have any technical problems or other questions, please contact Prof. Haskell at haskell@southwestern.edu

Week 8: October 22-28, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 9.432-605) [174]
291: Homer, Iliad 9.432-448, 479-605 [144]

Common Session, October 24, 2007

Topic: Meleager story, allusion, patterns of narrative, narrative structure, e.g., ring composition, repetition, old men
Prof. Sonia Sabnis, Reed College
Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>
Class start time is 6:30 PM EDT / 5:30 PM CDT / 4:30 PM MDT

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, October 26, 3 pm eastern

Second Responses Due Monday, October 29, noon, eastern.

Moodle service will be unavailable October 26, 11 PM – 6 AM EDT for maintenance. This maintenance will include a change in server that may cause some users problems in accessing moodle.nitle.org over the weekend as the change works its way through the Internet. If you have trouble accessing your class, please wait and try again.

Week 9: October 29-November 4, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 9.606-713; 12.310-28; 16.1-100 [227]

291: Homer, Iliad 9.606-713; 16.48-100 [161]

Common Session, October 31, 2007

Topic: Friendship, Emotion, Love

Prof. Scott Rubarth, Rollins College

Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>

Class start time is 6:30 PM EDT / 5:30 PM CDT / 4:30 PM MDT

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, 3 pm eastern

Second Responses Due Monday, noon, eastern.

Week 10: November 5-11, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 16.663-867 [205]

291: Homer, Iliad 16.663-725, 777-867 [154]

Common Session, November 7, 2007

Topic: Dying Like a Hero: Similes and the Rhetoric of Mortality in Homer

Prof. Barbara Weiden Boyd, Bowdoin College

Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>

Class start time is 6:30 PM EST / 5:30 PM CST / 4:30 PM MST

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, November 9, 3 pm eastern.

Second Responses Due Monday, November 12, noon eastern.

Week 11: November 12-18, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 22.186-404 [219]

291: Homer, Iliad 22.186-223, 250-360 [149]

Common Session, November 14, 2007

Topic: Homer's Afterlife, or, What You Will

Prof. Rob Kendrick, Colorado College

Class will meet in the NITLE MIV Auditorium: <http://meet.nitle.org/launch.jsp?sid=46>

Class start time is 6:30 PM EST / 5:30 PM CST / 4:30 PM MST

Online Discussion

First Responses Due Friday, November 16, 3 pm eastern.

Second Responses Due Monday, November 26, noon eastern.

Week 12: November 19-25: Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 13: November 26-December 2, 2007

Reading

391: Homer, Iliad 24.472-691 [220]

291: Homer, Iliad 24.486-551, 596-676 [147]

Common Session, November 28, 2007

Topic: "The Resolution of Menis"

Prof. Jim Johnson, Austin College

Online Discussion

No online discussion this week.

Final Exam

The exam will be available by Saturday, December 1. Your on-campus instructor will provide the date and time by which the exam must be completed and submitted. Please submit your exam to your instructor, as an email or email attachment.

When you are ready to take the exam, click on the link "Final Examination" below. You will be able to download the examination. The exam is in .pdf format. You will have two hours to complete this examination. Please complete the examination in one sitting.

Due to font issues, you will not be expected to type Greek in your answers (although you may do so, and/or transliterate).

If you have any technical problems or other questions, please contact Prof. Haskell at haskell@southwestern.edu