

Topics in Classics:

Greek and Roman Drama and Theatre

Course Goals

This course is designed for students with some knowledge of Greco-Roman civilizations and literature, but with little or no previous study of Greek and Roman theatre. We will read and examine a number of classical plays in translation, both tragedies and comedies, including the works of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, Menander, Plautus, Terence, and Seneca. The point of this course is not simply to memorize lists of characters or plot twists; rather, we will pay close attention to methodological problems in the study of classical theatre from both historical and literary perspectives, emphasizing details of their performance (staging, music, masks and costumes, theatres and audiences, etc.), literary analysis, dramatic structures, and socio-political contexts.

Grading

Class participation (attendance, preparation, participation)	10%
Presentations	5%
Midterm	10%
Essay proposal (outline and annotated bibliography)	10%
Essay	30%
Final exam (date TBA)	<u>35%</u>
Total	100%

Assignments

Attendance, participation, and assigned readings: It is very important that you attend lectures for this class, since there is no assigned textbook. Thus, the material that you will be tested on will come primarily from lectures, and you will want to be sure to take thorough notes. Slides will be posted on Blackboard prior to class. Readings will be posted on Blackboard and should be completed prior to each class session, so that we can discuss them together. Allot two hours of reading and revision for every one hour of class time.

Presentations: Beginning January 29, you will sign up to present a short passage from the assigned plays to the class. You may do this in a group or by yourself, and you may choose to read or to memorize the passage. Costumes and props are welcome but not required. Your entire presentation should be no more than five minutes. These presentations must be drawn from the assigned play for each week, and will serve as a springboard for class discussion. Further information about the essay will be discussed in class and posted on Blackboard later in the term.

Midterm and final examinations: The midterm will not be held in class, but will be a take-home exam; the question will be released via Blackboard on Tuesday, February 9, at noon, and will be due on Thursday, February 11, at noon. The final exam will be held during the exam period, April 11–25, at a date to be announced. The questions may consist of short answers, multiple choice, map identification, passage

identification and commentary, image identification and commentary, and longer responses. The final will be cumulative.

Research essay: Your research essay assignment is composed of two portions: an initial proposal, worth 10% of your final grade, due Feb. 19 at 11:59 pm, and the final essay, worth 30% of your final grade, due March 11 at 11:59 pm. You may choose to write on a subject of your choice related to classical comedy or tragedy, including texts not read in this class. *You will need to hand in the proposal in order to receive any mark for your essay.* Both the proposal and the final essay will be submitted electronically via Blackboard and Turnitin.com. Further information about the essay will be discussed in class and posted on Blackboard later in the term.

Missed/late assignments and tests: The midterm and the presentation may be excused (but not held at later date) only in cases of medical or personal emergencies, or for religious obligations. The essay proposal and the essay itself, if turned in late, will only be accepted and marked if they are excused under these same circumstances. Unexcused late assignments cannot be accepted. You should contact the instructor to make the request as soon as possible, and no later than one week after the date of the test/due date of the assignment. In all cases, proper documentation (e.g. UT medical certificate) needs to be provided within one week in order for the instructor to excuse absences/lateness. The weight of the missed test or presentation will be added to the weight of another item, as arranged by the instructor. For excused late assignments, the instructor will set a new deadline for your needs. All correspondence should be via email; documentation can be submitted electronically or as a hardcopy.

Textbooks and Resources

Texts: There is no required textbook for this course. In preparation for each class, you will read translations of individual plays and relevant articles or chapters that will be posted on Blackboard.

Websites: You will need to make sure that your UT email account is functional and that you check it regularly for announcements. Please set up an account with Turnitin.com as soon as possible using the course ID and password at the top of the first page of the syllabus. The text/object analysis outline and paper are to be turned in to the Blackboard course site, as well as to Turnitin.com.

Important Information

Course email: You must use your university email address for correspondence in this course; the instructor is unable to respond to emails sent from other addresses. (Please be aware that if your U of T email is forwarded to another account, some messages from the instructor may be filtered out as spam or junk.) Please be sure to include your full name and the course title in your email message. The instructor will aim to reply to emails within forty-eight hours on weekdays, but this may not always be possible.

Meetings: Everyone is welcome to meet with the instructor during office hours or contact her through email to discuss any questions or concerns. If you are encountering difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the instructor for assistance. The instructor is unable to give private tutorials to individuals.

Accessibility Services: Information on accommodations for disabilities or accessibility concerns is available from the AccessAbility Resource Centre at <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/accessability/>.

Enhancing your Academic Performance and the Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre

Reading, studying and participation are the key elements to a superior academic performance. These are just a few suggestions that you should keep in mind:

- Always make an effort to attend class
- Always read the required readings for the next class
- Collect, organize and study all the course material available
- There really is no such thing as a “silly” question! Do not hesitate to ask the instructor if you need clarification or feel unsure about an issue, even if one of your colleagues might have asked the question before
- In terms of time management, calculate two hours of reading, preparation, and revision for one class meeting.
- Study with your peers and meet in “study groups”.
- All UTM students are eligible to use the resources of the Academic Skills Centre. For information regarding, e.g., individual appointments, and writing workshops, see <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/asc/>.

Academic Integrity and Turnitin.com

Any academic community thrives, and can only survive, on the notion of academic integrity: All academics own a highly valued intellectual property in the form of their ideas, thoughts and publications. Anyone infringing on that intellectual property – be it knowingly or unknowingly – commits a grave academic offence (presumably the worst of academic offenses), also known as plagiarism. It is important that you familiarise yourself with the University of Toronto’s definition of plagiarism in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters:

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf>, and <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/academic-integrity/>.

You are expected to know these rules.

Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

- Copying material word-for-word from a source and not placing the words within quotation marks.
- Lengthy and close paraphrasing of another person’s work (i.e. extensive copying interspersed with a few phrases or sentences of your own).
- Submitting written work produced by someone else as if it were your own work (e.g. another student’s term paper, a paper purchased from a term paper “factory”, materials or term papers downloaded from the internet).
- Handing in your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Working in groups on assignments that are supposed to be individual work.
- Falsifying institutional documents required by the University, such as a doctor’s note.

There are also several links that provide you with a detailed discussion of plagiarism and how to avoid it: check U of T’s own websites, such as: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

The University of Toronto treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedure followed in the Code. The

consequences for academic misconduct can be severe, including failure in the course and a notation on your transcript. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact the instructor. Similarly, if you have any questions about appropriate research and citation methods, seek out additional information from the instructor, or from other available resources like the U of T Writing Website (<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/>).

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. In contrast to the previous year, you will have to submit your material again via the Turnitin.com website. If a student does not wish to submit his or her work to Turnitin.com, he/she can arrange an alternative with the instructor. Typically, this involves the submission of written work two weeks prior to the normal deadline as well as the submission of all research notes, however, details will have to be discussed individually.

Equity Statement and Academic Rights

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at edo.utm@utoronto.ca or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at vpequity@utmsu.ca.

Academic Rights

You, as a student at UTM, have the right to:

- Receive a syllabus by the first day of class.
- Rely upon a syllabus once a course is started. An instructor may only change marks' assignments by following the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy provision 1.3.
- Refuse to use turnitin.com (you must be offered an alternative form of submission).
- Have access to your instructor for consultation during a course or follow up with the department chair if the instructor is unavailable.
- Ask the person who marked your term work for a re-evaluation if you feel it was not fairly graded. You have up to one month from the date of return of the item to inquire about the mark. If you are not satisfied with a re-evaluation, you may appeal to the instructor in charge of the course if the instructor did not mark the work. If your work is remarked, you must accept the resulting mark. You may only appeal a mark beyond the instructor if the term work was worth at least 20% of the course mark.
- Receive at least one significant mark (15% for H courses, 25% for Y courses) before the last day you can drop a course for H courses, and the last day of classes in the first week of January for Y courses taught in the Fall/Winter terms.
- Submit handwritten essays so long as they are neatly written.
- Have no assignment worth 100% of your final grade.
- Not have a term test worth 25% or more in the last two weeks of class.

- Retain intellectual property rights to your research.
- Receive all your assignments once graded.
- View your final exams. To see a final exam, you must submit an online Exam Reproduction Request within 6 months of the exam. There is a small non-refundable fee.
- Privacy of your final grades.
- Arrange for representation from Downtown Legal Services (DLS), a representative from the UTM Students' Union (UTMSU), and/or other forms of support if you are charged with an academic offence.

Course Schedule

Class	Date	Lecture topic	Assigned readings (to be completed before class)
1	1/8	No class	Sophocles, <i>Oedipus Tyrannus</i> Film: <i>Oedipus Rex</i> (Stratford production), online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZUCgq8LfhY
2	1/15	The origins of Greek theatre Staging, actors, masks Guest lecture: theatre architecture	Aeschylus, <i>Agamemnon</i> Scullion, S. (2008) "Tragedy and Religion: the Problem of Origins," in J. Gregory (ed.), <i>A Companion to Greek Tragedy</i> , 23ff. Oxford.
3	1/22	Theatre and Athenian society Choruses and music	Aeschylus, <i>Eumenides</i> Mitchell-Boyask, R. (2009) "The Theatre of Aeschylus," in <i>Aeschylus: Eumenides. Companions to Greek and Roman Tragedies</i> . London.
4	1/29	Law, justice, and the <i>polis</i> in tragedy Aristotle on tragedy	Sophocles, <i>Antigone</i> Aristotle, <i>Poetics</i> (selections)
5	2/5	Catharsis and pity Women on the Greek stage	Euripides, <i>Medea</i> Segal, C. (1996) "Catharsis, Audience, and Closure in Greek Tragedy," in M.S. Silk (ed.), <i>Tragedy and the Tragic: Greek Theatre and Beyond</i> , Oxford, 149–172.
	2/9– 2/11		Take home midterm assigned on Tuesday, February 9, at noon, due Thursday, February 11, at noon.
6	2/12	Old Comedy, politics, and literature	Aristophanes, <i>The Clouds</i> Sommerstein, A. (2014) "The Politics of Greek Comedy," in M. Revermann (ed.), <i>The Cambridge Companion to Greek Comedy</i> , 291–305. Cambridge.
Reading Week 2/16–2/19; Proposals due Friday, February 19, at 11:59 pm.			
7	2/26	New Comedy Working with fragmentary texts	Menander, <i>Dyskolos</i> Hunter, R. (2014) "Attic Comedy in the Rhetorical and Moralising Traditions," in M. Revermann (ed.), <i>The Cambridge Companion to Greek Comedy</i> , 373–386. Cambridge.
8	3/4	The origins of Roman theatre	Plautus, <i>Casina</i> Manuwald, G. (2011) "Evolution of Roman Drama," in

		Reception of Greek comedy <i>Ludi scaenici</i> and <i>fabula palliata</i> Performance: costumes, masks, music, staging	<i>Roman Republican Theatre</i> , 15–40. Cambridge.
	3/6	Last day to drop S courses without penalty	
9	3/11	Spectacles and the Roman triumph Plays within plays?	Plautus, <i>Persa</i> Hardy, C.S. (2005) “The Parasite’s Daughter: Metatheatrical Costuming in Plautus’ ‘Persa.’” <i>CW</i> 99.1, 25–33. Essay due at 11:59 pm.
10	3/18	Roman comedy and Roman society The audiences of Roman comedy <i>Fabula togata</i> and <i>praetexta</i>	Terence, <i>Adelphoe</i> Fragments of Roman plays Franko, G.F. (2013) “Terence and the Traditions of Roman New Comedy”. In <i>A Companion to Terence</i> , ed. A. Augoustakis and A. Traill, 33–51. Oxford.
	3/25	No Class: Good Friday	
11	4/1	Reception of Greek tragedy Women in Roman tragedy	Seneca, <i>Medea</i> Benton, C. (2003) “Bringing the Other to Center State: Seneca’s ‘Medea’ and the Anxieties of Imperialism.” <i>Arethusa</i> 36.3, 271–284.
12	4/4	Roman theatre and politics Reception of classical drama	Pseudo-Seneca, <i>Octavia</i> Ginsberg, L.D. (2015) “Tragic Rome? Roman Historical Drama and the Genre of Tragedy”, in G.W.M. Harrison (ed.), <i>Brill’s Companion to Roman Tragedy</i> , 216ff. Leiden.
	4/11– 4/25	Exam Period (date of final exam TBA)	