

Fall 2014, MW 8:10-9:25, PR 2

**Instructor:** Christopher Chinn ([christopher.chinn@pomona.edu](mailto:christopher.chinn@pomona.edu); 7-2926)

**Office:** PR 7

**Office Hours:** MR 2-2:50 or by appointment. I have an open-door policy, but it's always best to let me know ahead of time if you intend to drop in.

**Course Objective:** The purpose of this course threefold: (1) to improve the student's facility at reading Latin generally; (2) to provide the student with the philological skills and contextual information necessary to understand Latin poetry; and (3) to introduce students to modern scholarship on Roman poetry.

**Course Plan:** We will read Books 1 and 2 of Lucan's *Bellum Civile*. There will be two take-home exams focusing on grammar, translation, and meter (these exams will be cumulative; there will be no midterm or final exam). You will also be asked to write a stylistic analysis and a short (3-4 page) research paper.

**Academic Responsibility:** I take the issues of cheating and plagiarism seriously. Please familiarize yourself with Pomona's policies and procedures regarding appropriate and inappropriate academic behavior by consulting the following webpage:

[http://catalog.pomona.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#Academic\\_Standards](http://catalog.pomona.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#Academic_Standards)

It is your responsibility to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct, plagiarism, and other violations of academic honesty.

**Academic Accommodations:** Pomona College is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations may be made by contacting the Dean of Students Office. It is up to the student to contact the professor to fulfill the accommodations. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

**Course Expectations:** I expect you to be prepared everyday. This means you should be ready to translate and discuss the assigned material. Below I have outlined my specific expectations of you.

**I. Class Preparation:** The goal here is to get you *reading* the Latin rather than simply translating it. Toward this end I would like to see you relying less on your written translation of the assignment and more on your grammatical skill and vocabulary. We will build up to this ideal. You should attend class everyday, *even if you haven't completed the assignment* (but see below on attendance and participation). You should be prepared to translate passages I call upon you to translate, and be able to answer grammatical questions about the Latin. Attendance counts, so come everyday.

**II. Exams:** Exams will include sections on translation, grammar, and meter. In the translation sections you will be asked to translate both passages you've seen as well as sight passages. The grammar component will focus on the seen passages, and ask you to analyze the morphology and syntax of particular words and constructions. The meter component will ask you to scan the various meters of Catullus and Horace. Exams will be take-home.

**III. Stylistic Analysis:** You will be expected to write a *ca.* 500-700 word stylistic analysis of a passage in a Latin poem. You may choose either from the works we have (or will have) read, or any other poet you like. You will need to focus on the structure of the passage and its figures of speech, and explain how these features of style influence content.

**IV. Research Paper:** You will be expected to write a short (1200 word) paper on a previously noted interpretive problem in one or more of the works we will have read. You will be expected to use commentaries, reference works, monographs, and/or articles as secondary sources. The point here is for you to actively engage with the scholarly conversation on the text we are considering.

**Grading:** The following table gives a breakdown of grades in the class. For my views on grading, participation, and classroom etiquette, please consult the following:

<http://pages.pomona.edu/~cmc24747/policies.htm>.

Grade Breakdown for this class

Translation and grammar exams (2): 30%

Short research paper: 25%

Stylistic analysis: 20%

Participation and attendance: 25%\*

\*The participation component is based on my impression of your preparedness. If I feel you are not prepared on more than one occasion, you will lose 2 percentage points for each subsequent instance of unpreparedness. Attendance is mandatory. Your overall grade will be reduced by one-third of a letter grade for each unexcused absence. For an absence to be excused you must provide me with appropriate documentation within one day.

**Required Texts:** Please obtain the following texts. Do not substitute other books since the Latin text can vary according to the editor. Please also obtain the editions indicated.

Getty, R. J. 1940 [Reprint 2001]. *Lucan De Bello Civili I*. London: Bristol. [ISBN: 978-1853993572]

Fantham, Elaine. 1992. *Lucan De Bello Civili Book II*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [ISBN: 978-0521422413]

Braund, Susan H. *Lucan: Civil War*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. [ISBN: 978-0199540686]

Please also obtain a good intermediate sized Latin dictionary like Chambers-Murray [ISBN: 978-0550190031] or Lewis [ISBN: 978-0199102051].

**Course Schedule:** We will try to follow the course of readings below. This schedule is subject to change, depending upon the pace of our discussions. Please have the assignments prepared BEFORE the date indicated.

**Week 1**

W Sept 3: Introduction

**Week 2**

M Sept 8: *BC* 1.1-97

W Sept 10: Read *BC* 1 in translation

**Week 3**

M Sept 15: *BC* 1.98-203

W Sept 17: Read *BC* 2 in translation

**Week 4**

M Sept 22: *BC* 1.204-295

W Sept 24: Read *BC* 3 in translation

**Week 5**

M Sept 29: *BC* 1.296-391

W Oct 1: Read *BC* 4 in translation

**Week 6**

M Oct 6: *BC* 1.392-493

W Oct 8: Read *BC* 5 in translation

**Week 7**

M Oct 13: *BC* 1.493-595

W Oct 15: Read *BC* 6 in translation

F Oct 17: STYLISTIC ANALYSIS DUE

**Week 8**

M Oct 20: NO CLASS

W Oct 22: *BC* 1.596-695

F Oct 24: EXAM 1 DUE

**Week 9**

M Oct 27: *BC* 2.1-102

W Oct 29: Read *BC* 7 in translation

**Week 10**

M Nov 3: *BC* 2.102-211

W Nov 5: Read *BC* 8 in translation

**Week 11**

M Nov 10: *BC* 2.212-316

W Nov 12: Read *BC* 9 in translation

**Week 12:**

M Nov 17: *BC* 2.317-420

W Nov 19: Read *BC* 10 in translation

**Week 13:**

M Nov 24: *BC* 2.421-525

W Nov 26:

**Week 14:**

M Dec 1: *BC* 2.526-627

W Dec 3:

**Week 15:**

M Dec 8: *BC* 2.628-735

W Dec 10:

**Finals Week:**

EXAM 2 and RESEARCH PAPER DUE

**Bibliography**

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