

Fall 2003, Bunche 3143, 2:00-3:15 TTh

Instructor: Christopher M. Chinn

Office: Dodd 240B

Office Hours: MT 11:00-12:00, or by appointment

Contact: If you would like to make an appointment or would like help with the class, feel free to get in touch with me by any of the following methods. I will also post most course materials on my web site, listed below. If you are missing any documents handed out in class, please consult the web site.

- E-mail: chinn@humnet.ucla.edu
- My office phone number: (310) 825-1867
- My mail box: Dodd 100
- Web site: <http://www.bol.ucla.edu/~cchinnhr>

Do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you need extra help with homework, study tips, and the like.

Course Objective: The principal goal of this class is to enhance students' facility at reading and interpreting Latin literature. In particular we will be examining the correspondence of Cicero and Pliny. By reading the letters of these writers we will gain a critical appreciation of their literary form as well as insight into the social and historical contexts in which they were produced. Ultimately this will lead to a better understanding of the Roman epistolary tradition.

Course Plan: In this class we will devote most of our time to reading selections from the correspondence of Cicero and Pliny. Time permitting, we will also explore some of the many fascinating aspects of Roman literature, history, and society. Each session we will read and discuss 1-4 letters (depending upon their length). In addition there will be periodic exams and homework assignments (see below). Students are expected to complete all assignments on time and to participate actively in class. As in any language course it is extremely important to maintain a disciplined regimen of daily study.

Texts: We will be using two principal texts in this class, listed below. You should also have access to a good Latin dictionary and grammar (see the list on the next page for examples).

- Shackelton Bailey, D.R., editor. *Cicero: select letters*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1980.
- Sherwin-White, A.N., editor. *Fifty letters of Pliny*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1967.

Course Requirements: As in any language course you will need to engage in intensive daily study in order to be successful. Ultimately your grade will be based upon my evaluation of your progress toward meeting the course objective, as seen in your work.

- **Exam 1 (25%):** Our first exam will take place once we've finished the Cicero readings (see schedule below). The exam will include passages from in-class readings, as well as a sight passage. Students will be graded on their translations and on their answers to specific grammatical and syntactical questions.
- **Exam 2 (25%):** We'll have a second exam after we've finished the Pliny readings in the second half of the course. The exam will take place during the regularly scheduled final exam period (Friday, December 12, 11:30-2:30), and will be slightly more comprehensive than the first exam. The format will be similar to the first exam.
- **Participation and homework (25%):** Your participation in class is of the utmost importance to fulfilling the course objective. Therefore I will evaluate your in-class translations and participation in discussion. Each student will also be required to give a brief presentation on some aspect of ancient epistolography, e.g. one of the other letter writers, one of the so-called "types" of letter, an ideological or rhetorical context of a letter, etc.
- **Paper (25%):** Each student is required to write a paper (5-7 pages) on some aspect of ancient epistolography. You can use your presentation as a starting point if you like, or you can explore a new area of interest to you. In any case, the paper should make a cogent argument, based upon whatever letters or other ancient documents you are considering.

No late homework will be accepted and all exams and quizzes must be taken on the date scheduled.

Schedule: The following table indicates the dates on which we will translate the discuss the readings. Please have the readings prepared before these dates. C = Shackelton Bailey, *Cicero: select letters*; P = Sherwin-White, *Fifty letters of Pliny*.

Week 1	Sept 25	General introduction; Introduction to Cicero
Week 2	Sept 30 Oct 2	C 1, C 3 C 6
Week 3	Oct 7 Oct 9	C 10, C 11 C13
Week 4	Oct 14 Oct 16	C 15 C 20, C 26
Week 5	Oct 21 Oct 23	C 33, C 41, C 52 C 56, C 61, C 78
Week 6	Oct 28 Oct 30	Exam 1 Introduction to Pliny
Week 7	Nov 4 Nov 6	P 1, P 2, P 6 P 9, P 12, P 15
Week 8	Nov 11 (Holiday) Nov 13	NO CLASS P 17, P 19
Week 9	Nov 18 Nov 20	P 24, P 26 P 29, P 35
Week 10	Nov 25 Nov 27 (Holiday)	P 38, P 40 NO CLASS
Week 11	Dec 2 Dec 4 Dec 12	P 41, P 42, P 43, P 44 P 47, P 48, Papers due Exam 2, 11:30-2:30

Reference Works:

- Glare, P.G.W., editor. *Oxford Latin Dictionary*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1982.
- Greenough, J.B., G.L. Kittredge, A.A. Howard, Benjamin L. D'Ooge, editors. *Allen and Greenough's New Latin Grammar*. 1931. Reprint, New York: Caratzas, 1992.
- Hornblower, Simon and Anthony Spawforth, editors. *The Oxford Classical Dictionary*, 3rd edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996.
- Lewis, Charlton T. and Charles Short. *A Latin Dictionary*. 1879. Reprint, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Woodcock, E.C. *A New Latin Syntax*. London: Methuen, 1959; London: Bristol, 1996.

Works on Roman epistolography:

- Malherbe, Abraham. *Ancient epistolary theorists*. Atlanta, 1988.
- Roberts, William. *A history of letter writing from the earliest period to the 5th century*. London, 1843.
- Shackelton Bailey, D.R., editor. *Cicero's letters to Atticus*. 7 volumes. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1965-1970.
- -----, editor. *Cicero: epistulae ad familiares*. 2 volumes. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1977
- -----, editor. *Cicero: epistulae ad Quintum fratrem et M. Brutum*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1980.
- Sherwin-White, A.N., editor. *The letters of Pliny: a historical and social commentary*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1966.
- Stowers, Stanley K. *Letter writing in Greco-Roman antiquity*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1986.