

## **General Information**

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area	Classics
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org	Greek & Latin - D0509
College/Academic Group	Humanities
Level/Career	Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog	3203
Course Title	War in Ancient Greek and Roman Literature
Transcript Abbreviation	WarAnctGrkRomLit
Course Description	Study of ancient warfare as a complex political, social, cultural, and economic process through the lens of Greek and Latin literary texts.
Semester Credit Hours/Units	Fixed: 3

## **Offering Information**

Length Of Course	14 Week, 7 Week, 4 Week (May Session), 12 Week (May + Summer)
Flexibly Scheduled Course	Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component?	No
Grading Basis	Letter Grade
Repeatable	No
Course Components	Lecture
Grade Roster Component	Lecture
Credit Available by Exam	No
Admission Condition Course	No
Off Campus	Never
Campus of Offering	Columbus

## **Prerequisites and Exclusions**

Prerequisites/Corequisites  
Exclusions

## **Cross-Listings**

Cross-Listings

## **Subject/CIP Code**

Subject/CIP Code	16.1200
Subsidy Level	Baccalaureate Course
Intended Rank	Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

## **Quarters to Semesters**

Quarters to Semesters	New course
Give a rationale statement explaining the purpose of the new course	Currently, there is no similar course listed in the Greek and Latin department; as a major topic in the ancient world, war should be represented to bring us in line with the offerings of similar-sized schools and classics departments.
Sought concurrence from the following Fiscal Units or College	

## Requirement/Elective Designation

General Education course:

Literature

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

## Course Details

**Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes**

**Content Topic List**

- Greek and Roman warfare
- Greek and Roman literature
- Greek and Roman culture
- Greek and Roman history
- Modern reception of ancient warfare
- Ancient warfare in film
- Modern warfare

## Attachments

- CL3203 History Concurrence.pdf: History Concurrence  
*(Concurrence. Owner: Kallis, Erica Joy)*
- CL 3203 SYLLABUS -War in Ancient Greek and Roman Lit FINAL.doc  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Kallis, Erica Joy)*
- CL 3203 GE Rationale FINAL.docx: GE Rationale  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Kallis, Erica Joy)*

## Comments

- 7/28/11: Feedback from CCI Assessment subcommittee:
  - a. Proposal refers to two GE categories, but has only applied for Lit status. Is this correct? History concurrence is included but not marked.
  - b. Assessment plan does not evaluate the GE learning goals
  - c. Syllabus should use the boilerplate GE language

3/22/11: Feedback from CCI Assessment Subcommittee: Please choose Cultures and Ideas or Literature, one course cannot fulfill both categories. Department should clarify/seek concurrence from History and Military Science. Assessment plan should address the course and GE goals instead of student grades. Assessment plan should cite frequency and how the information will be used. Syllabus should map out how the learning goals are met by the course. Department should evaluate the inclusion of freshman in the intended rank for this 3000 level course. *(by Meyers, Catherine Anne on 07/28/2011 03:05 PM)*

**COURSE REQUEST**  
3203 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Heyssel, Garrett Robert  
11/02/2011

**Workflow Information**

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Kallis, Erica Joy	01/28/2011 08:36 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Graf, Fritz	01/28/2011 09:18 AM	Unit Approval
Revision Requested	Williams, Valarie Lucille	01/28/2011 11:34 AM	College Approval
Submitted	Kallis, Erica Joy	01/31/2011 02:23 PM	Submitted for Approval
Revision Requested	Kallis, Erica Joy	01/31/2011 02:34 PM	Unit Approval
Submitted	Kallis, Erica Joy	02/08/2011 10:54 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Graf, Fritz	02/08/2011 06:31 PM	Unit Approval
Revision Requested	Williams, Valarie Lucille	02/10/2011 02:36 PM	College Approval
Submitted	Kallis, Erica Joy	02/10/2011 02:58 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Graf, Fritz	02/25/2011 08:04 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Williams, Valarie Lucille	03/03/2011 12:42 PM	College Approval
Approved	Nolen, Dawn	03/15/2011 12:03 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Revision Requested	Meyers, Catherine Anne	03/22/2011 04:20 PM	ASC Approval
Submitted	Kallis, Erica Joy	06/09/2011 11:59 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Graf, Fritz	06/09/2011 04:06 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Williams, Valarie Lucille	06/14/2011 02:52 PM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Meyers, Catherine Anne	07/28/2011 03:05 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Kallis, Erica Joy	10/19/2011 02:47 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Kallis, Erica Joy	10/19/2011 02:52 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heyssel, Garrett Robert	11/02/2011 10:04 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Nolen, Dawn Jenkins, Mary Ellen Bigler Meyers, Catherine Anne Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal Hanlin, Deborah Kay	11/02/2011 10:04 PM	ASCCAO Approval

| *Instructor:*

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_

Dept. of Greek and Latin, 414 University Hall, 230 N. Oval Mall

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Fridays 1:30pm – 3:00pm; or by appointment

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## **CL 3203: War in Ancient Greek and Roman Literature**

3 cr. hours

*Description:* This course will examine war as a complex political, social, cultural, and economic process through analysis of Greek and Latin literary texts in translation. This will involve examination of how ancient texts depict and discuss war both through literary descriptions of battles as well as martial values such as courage, loyalty, brotherhood, and sacrifice. Other topics will include power and imperialism, the role of gender and religion, representations of enemies, and the experience of homecoming. To supplement the ancient perspective on such issues, a reception component will draw on modern literary and cinematic depictions of ancient warfare to address in what ways contemporary culture engages with the subject of war.

*Objectives/Class Methodology:* Students will become better informed observers and participants in their own cultural practices by seeing how those practices are part of a continuum that connects them to the past as well as distinguishes them from the past. By the end of this course, students will gain an understanding of how the ancient Greeks and Romans viewed war as a social and political phenomenon. Through class discussions and writing assignments, critical thinking skills will be developed. Students will be able to identify what martial qualities (such as courage) the ancients valued and what role those virtues played in society and politics; they will also be able to perceive the different ways in which Greeks and Romans conceptualized ideals such as imperialism, the enemy, and peace, and how those ways differ from modern conceptualizations of such ideals. Finally, students will gain an appreciation for the ways in which war and its aftermath is stylized in both ancient literature and modern media.

GE: This course meets the general principles of the model curriculum for the following GE category:

1) Arts and the Humanities, "Literature" Category

Goals/Rationale for GE Requirement

The General Education Goals and Learning Outcomes for Arts and the Humanities are as follows:

Goals: Students evaluate significant writing and works of art. Such studies develop capacities for aesthetic and historical response and judgment; interpretation and evaluation; critical listening, reading, seeing, thinking, and writing; and experiencing the arts and reflecting on that experience.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Students develop abilities to be informed observers of, or active participants in, the visual, spatial, performing, spoken, or literary arts.
2. Students develop an understanding of the foundations of human beliefs, the nature of reality, and the norms that guide human behavior.
3. Students examine and interpret how the human condition and human values are explored through works of art and humanistic writings.

For Literature the learning outcomes are as follows:

(1) Literature Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Students learn to analyze, appreciate, and interpret significant literary works.
2. Through reading, discussing, and writing about literature, students learn to understand and evaluate the personal and social values of their own and other cultures.

*Grading and Assessment:*      Quizzes – 15%      Paper 1 - 30%  
   Paper 2 – 30%      Final - 25%

Ranges: A 100-90%, B 89-80%, C 79-70%, D 69-60%, E 60% and below.

Each paper will be 4 pages minimum, written on a topic selected from an instructor-provided set of questions. Paper 1 will be due halfway through the semester, and will focus on identifying and interpreting ancient attitudes towards war and its social repercussions as expressed through Greco-Roman literature and its themes; questions will

encourage developing an appreciation and understanding of ancient beliefs and values regarding war. A sample question might be as follows:

Compare and contrast the figure of Julius Caesar in his *Civil Wars* and in Lucan's *Civil War (Pharsalia)*. Issues for consideration: how does Caesar defend himself against accusations of treason? Do his justifications contradict or support Lucan's portrait of him as the villain of the civil wars? Are the brutality and savagery evident in Lucan's poem also displayed in Caesar's? How does each author depict the effects of civil war on the state and populace? What insights do these two works give us into Roman ideas of what civil war is, what it is for, and its long-term effects on society and the state?

Paper 2 will be due at the same time as the final exam. The questions will focus on interpretive and comparative critical analysis of themes drawn from the ancient and modern sources studied in class. A sample question might be as follows:

The identification of a person, nation, or group of people as an enemy is a complex process. How did ancient and modern cultures approach this process? What criteria did they use in categorizing someone as an enemy? How are enemies depicted in ancient and modern literature, and modern media? Some of the authors examined were assimilated members of enemy peoples, e.g. the Jews and Native Americans. How does this complicate their literary portrayals of both conquered and conquerors?

Quizzes will be held the first meeting each week and will consist of short-answer questions on the material set for that day, to both check comprehension and completion of the readings/viewings. The final exam will consist of a matching term identification section and two essays drawn from four question choices listed on the exam.

*Academic Misconduct:* It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct ([http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info\\_for\\_students/csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp)).

*Disability Statement:* Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Ave., tel. 292-3307, [www.ods.ohio-state.edu](http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu)

*Textbooks:* Students will be required to purchase three core texts: Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, and Virgil's *Aeneid*. Other sources will be provided in a course sourcebook packet available for purchase.

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***Reading and Lecture Schedule:***

**War, Martial Values, and the Divine**

Week 1: Monday Quiz. Homer, *The Iliad*

Week 2: Monday Quiz. Homer, *The Iliad*; *Troy*, directed by Wolfgang Petersen

Week 3: Monday Quiz. Virgil, *The Aeneid*, Books 8-12

Week 4: Monday Quiz. Virgil, *The Aeneid*, Books 8-12; Jonathan Shay, *Achilles in Vietnam*

**Civil Wars: Crossroads of Identity**

Week 5: Monday Quiz. Caesar, *Civil Wars*; General Sherman, *Memoirs*

Week 6: Monday Quiz. Lucan, *The Civil War*; HBO's *Rome*

Week 7: **Paper 1 Due.** Monday Quiz. Lucan, *The Civil War*; Michael Shaara, *The Killer Angels*

**Enemies**

Week 8: Monday Quiz. Herodotus, 7.210-32 (Thermopylae); Frank Miller, *300*

Week 9: Monday Quiz. Flavius Josephus, *The War against the Jews*; *Letters from Iwo Jima*, directed by Clint Eastwood

**Imperialism and Nationalism**

Week 10: Monday Quiz. Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War*; World War I poetry

Week 11: Monday Quiz. Livy's *History of Rome* on the Punic Wars; Polybius; American Indian Wars and 'Manifest Destiny'; Black Elk Speaks; Charles Eastman; Sarah Winnemucca

**Homecomings**

Week 12: Monday Quiz. Virgil, *The Aeneid*, Books 4, 6-7

Week 13: Monday Quiz. Homer, *The Odyssey*; Jonathan Shay, *Odysseus in America*; Andrew Carroll, *Operation Homecoming*;

Week 14: Monday Quiz. Homer, *The Odyssey*; Doonesbury; Tim O'Brien, *In the Lake of the Woods*

**Final Exam; Paper 2 Due**



## **CL 3203: War in Ancient Greek and Roman Literature**

### **Rationale for GE Status**

*Rationale:* Currently, there is no similar course listed in the Greek and Latin department. As a phenomenon of major significance in the ancient world, informing everything from political organization to constructions of gender, as well as a topic with huge impact on today's world, war should be represented to bring us in line with the offerings of similar-sized schools and classics departments. This course will contribute to the development of necessary critical thinking skills in encouraging a better understanding of war, its effects, and its consequences on both ancient and modern cultures. Moreover, as an issue which has impacted or continues to impact our students, veterans and non-veterans alike, interest in the course will be high. The focus of the course will thus be on war as an idea, as a socio-cultural force and literary theme in Greece, Rome, and contemporary cultures. Accordingly, it will distinct from its counterpart in the ancient history program, 504 War in the Ancient Mediterranean World, which in contrast emphasizes military history, tactics, equipment, etc., and covers the entire Mediterranean. In contrast, Classics offers a both narrower and broader scope in limiting itself to the ancient Greek and Roman worlds, and by including the modern world. CL 3203 could therefore serve as a literary--focused complement to the ancient history program's offering.

The course addresses the learning outcomes of two categories within the General Education: Arts and Humanities: Literature.

The course readings and assignments address the learning outcomes of Literature in the following ways:

Students will read some of the most significant works of Greco-Roman literature, including Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey* and Virgil's *Aeneid*, and will learn to appreciate them as major works of literature, including being able to identify and interpret major cultural themes and values, as well as analyze their styles and techniques, thereby fulfilling Literature Outcome 1). Students will compare such narratives to modern works

of literature addressing war and its effects, including Tim O'Brien's *In the Lake of the Woods*, as well as modern interpretations of ancient works, such as Frank Miller's *300*; through analysis of these modern texts, students will be able to trace the evolution of martial values and views of war across cultures, fulfilling Literature Outcome 2).

The course will be assessed in the following ways:

Given the different focus of each paper, the writing component as a whole will test the students' depth of comprehension of not only what aspects of Greco-Roman views of war were unique to those cultures, but also how those views have evolved into their contemporary forms in modern culture. The papers will also evaluate students' abilities to identify and critically assess shared values and themes between ancient and modern cultures, as well as their abilities to appreciate, interpret, and reflect upon their own personal perceptions of and responses to war as a socio-cultural phenomenon. These abilities necessarily rest upon skills in approaching and analyzing ancient and modern texts as works of literature and art, which will also be assessed through this writing component.

Weekly quizzes will check for completion and comprehension of the material read/viewed for that day's meeting, and will be comprised of short-answer questions directed at these two concerns. A sample quiz question might be: What does the hero Aeneas take with him after the fall of Troy? What do these items/people imply about his personal character and values?

The final exam will also address comprehension of material, but will also assess interpretive and analytical skills through both short-answer and long-answer questions, which may include comparison of different texts and values. A sample question might be: The World War I poet Wilfred Owen quoted the ancient Roman poet Horace by saying *dulce et decorum est, pro patria mori* (it is sweet and proper to die for one's country). Owen's poem is in protest of this sentiment, while Horace is all too sincere. Why does each poet possess his particular opinion, and how do they express these opinions? What role does nationalism play in the creation of that line by Horace, and Owen's reception of it? Include discussion of the historical/cultural context surrounding each poem.

Through each of these assessment methods, focus is placed on developing students' awareness of, and ability to analyze, literary and artistic productions from

ancient and modern cultures; students will also develop and critically assess their own views and the production of norms at both the cultural and individual levels.

**From:** Jane Hathaway [mailto:kostebek24@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, May 21, 2011 2:14 PM

**To:** graf.65@osu.edu

**Cc:** Peter Hahn

**Subject:** History concurrence for CL3203

Dear Fritz,

The History Department is prepared to grant concurrence for CL 3203, "War in Ancient Greek and Roman Literature." Members of the Undergraduate Teaching Committee noted that this course focuses mainly on literature and thus does not overlap in any significant way with History 2212, "War in the Ancient Mediterranean World." Professor Nathan Rosenstein, who usually teaches History 2212 (currently History 504.01), also reviewed the CL 3203 draft syllabus and came to the same conclusion.

Best wishes,  
Jane

Jane Hathaway  
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