CLASSICS CAPSTONE

Course Number: CLA 4931 (EB02)

Prerequisites:

Credit Hours: 3

Classics major with at least 18 credits of CLA and/or CLT courses and at least 8 credits of Latin or Ancient Greek.

Semester/Year: Spring 2025

Class location: Tuesdays in MAEB 0234 and Thursdays CSE E 121

Class meeting time(s): T 5th and 6th periods/ R 6th period

Instructor: Eleni Bozia (bozia@ufl.edu)

Office location/Hours: Tuesday 3-5 pm in Dauer 134 and on Zoom or by appointment

Contact phone: (352) 273-3694

Course Website: https://classics.ufl.edu/directory/eleni-bozia/

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course introduces scholarly literature on a significant topic in classics. Students will write a research paper on a topic of their choice showing proper use of primary and secondary sources on the topic.

Throughout the semester, the students will need to prepare drafts of their research paper, write literature reviews, conduct research at the library and present the results in class.

Additionally, the student will engage with the current state of affairs in classics research through different disciplinary approaches and research perspectives.

By the end of the course, the students will have developed their research as well as writing skills and will be able to eloquently discuss the major current trends in classics research.

TEXTBOOKS

No textbook is required for this course.

All material will be available through CANVAS, open-access publications, and digital content available through UF Libraries.

PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Classics major with at least 18 credits of CLA and/or CLT courses and at least 8 credits of Latin or Ancient Greek.

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to advanced scholarly research in the field of classics while developing their critical research and writing skills. Through the exploration of significant topics in classical studies, students will engage deeply with both primary and secondary sources. Over the semester, students will prepare drafts, conduct literature reviews, and present their findings, fostering rigorous academic inquiry and scholarly communication.

Additionally, the course provides an opportunity to engage with contemporary trends and diverse research perspectives in classics, offering insights into interdisciplinary approaches that shape the current state of the field. By the end of the course, students will have enhanced their ability to conduct independent research, articulate their ideas clearly in writing, and discuss major scholarly debates with confidence and sophistication.

At the end of the course, the students will have written a 5,000-7,000 word research paper.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Introduce students to **scholarly research** on significant topics within classical studies.
- Equip students to **confidently discuss major scholarly debates** and the evolving state of classics research by the end of the semester.
- Guide students in developing an independent **research paper**, demonstrating the effective use of both **primary and secondary sources**.
- Provide opportunities for students to refine their research process by preparing drafts, conducting **literature reviews**, and engaging in **library-based research**.
- Allow students to present their findings in class, fostering skills in **oral communication** and peer discussion.
- Encourage students to engage with **current trends and interdisciplinary perspectives** in classics research, broadening their understanding of the field.
- Develop essential **research and writing skills**, enabling students to produce sophisticated scholarly work.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Daily preparation of the assigned material is required and necessary. This will also help you succeed in your research paper.

TENTATIVE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week	Topic Area	Readings	Assessment
1-	Introduction & Library Engagement	David Foster Wallace: "This is Water." 2005 Commencement Address https://fs.blog/david-foster-wallace-this-is-water/ Brain Test Conformity Waiting Room https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6kWygqR0L8 Visit to the Library	CANVAS Discussion on Research Approaches (Graded for completion)
2 –	a. Individual Research Topics b. Classics Research-Interdisciplinary Approaches-Collaboration with fields such as anthropology, linguistics, and cultural studies to explore new methodologies.	Discussion of research topics of Interest Eleni Bozia, Politics of Language (Introduction) James Clackson, Language and Society in the Greek and Roman Worlds (ch. 4)	Submit three possible topics of interest and give a brief outline (Graded for completion)
4 –	a. Finalization of Research Topic b. Exploration of marginalized groups such as women and non-citizens in Greco-Roman society. Emphasis on diversity, race, and ethnicity within the ancient Mediterranean world.	Dimitra Kasimis, The Perpetual Immigrant and the Limits of Athenian Democracy (ch.1) Edith Hall, Inventing the Barbarian Simon Goldhill, Being Greek Under Rome (ch. 1) Bozia, Mullen, Translingualism in the Ancient World B van Zyl Smit, Medea the Feminist	The students will select one topic and present it in class (Graded for completion)

5 –	a. Literature Review (ancient sources) b. Classics Research: Reexamining Underrepresented Voices	Edward Said, Culture and Imperialism (introduction)	The students will work on the ancient sources necessary for their paper. (Graded for completion)
6 –	a. Literature Review (modern sources) b. Classics Research: Postcolonial Studies We will critically examine the impact of colonialism on interpretations of the ancient world.	Simon Swain, Hellenism and Empire Silvia Mattiacci, Apuleius and Africitas Ngũgĩ Wa Thiong'o, Decolonizing the Mind (selections) Barbara Goff, Decolonizing Classics in Africa: the work of Alexander Kwapong	The students will work on the modern sources necessary for their paper. (Graded for completion)
7 –	Literature Review Final	No additional readings	The students will need to finalize as a workable draft the entire literature review for their paper. (Graded Work)
8 –	a. Paper Draft	No additional readings	First Draft Submission (at least 1,500 words) (Graded for Completion)
9- a. Paper b. Reception Studies	Reception Studies- Students will investigate how classical texts, myths, and histories have been interpreted and adapted across time, particularly in modern art, literature, and media.	Anastasia Pantazopoulou, Euripides' Medea and Alvaro's Mojada	Students will continue to work on their paper and present a second draft. (Graded for Completion)
10 –	a. Paper b. Material Culture Increased emphasis on archaeological evidence, inscriptions, and physical artifacts to	Alfredo González-Ruibal, Archaeology and the Study of Material Culture: Synergies with Cultural Psychology	Students will continue to work on their paper and present a new draft every week in review mode. (Graded for completion)

	complement literary sources.		
11 –	a. Paper b. Material Culture Use of advanced technologies such as 3D modeling, imaging, and GIS (Geographic Information Systems). CANVAS Discussion	Digital Preservation The Digital Epigraphy and Archaeology project 3D digitization at the Harn	Students will continue to work on their paper and present a new draft every week in review mode. (Graded for completion)
12 –	a. Paper b. Digital Humanities	Digital Humanities readings	Students need to submit a complete draft. (Graded for Completion)
13 – a. Paper b. Digital Humani ties	Classics and AI Use of NLP (Natural Language Processing) to analyze trends in ancient literature.	Bozia, E., Stein, A., Bowman, W., Gjineci, A., Villela, G., Hracho, Z., Prasad, R., Owji, N., Saririan, N., Burrowes, A., Jain, A., Stevens, N. 2024. "Using AI to trace the history of identity and belonging in Greco-Roman literature." *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*. doi: https://doi.org/10.1093/llc/fqae048	Students need to submit a revised complete draft. (Graded Work)
14.	Paper and Presentation	Students will have individual meetings to discuss their papers and make a conference-type presentation of their paper in class.	Students need to submit their final paper for comments (Graded Work)
15.	Paper and Presentation	Students will have individual meetings to discuss their papers and make a conference-type presentation of their paper in class.	(Graded work—both the paper and the presentation)

GRADES

Assignments	Total Points
Attendance	5%
In-class CANVAS Discussions	5%
Work graded for completion	10%
Ancient Sources Literature Review	5 %
Modern Sources Literature Review	5 %
Complete Literature Review Draft	5%
Second Draft of Paper	5%
Revised Complete Draft	5%
Paper	50%
Presentation	5%

GRADING SCALE

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	94 – 100%	4.0
A-	90 – 93%	3.67
B+	87 – 89%	3.33
B	84 – 86%	3.00
B-	80 – 83%	2.67
C+	77 – 79%	2.33
C	74 – 76%	2.00
C-	70 – 73%	1.67
D+	67 – 69%	1.33
D	64 – 66%	1.00
D-	60 – 63%	.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF		0.00

More information on grades and grading policies is here:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

COURSE POLICIES

ATTENDANCE / PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions and projects and complete peer reviews of projects throughout the semester. Students can have up to 3 unexcused absences throughout the semester. Beyond that, they will be deducted 0.5 point for every unexcused absence from class.

MAKE-UP POLICY

There will be no make-up work except in extraordinary and documented cases.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

Students can communicate directly with the Instructor regarding the course material through the course management system (CANVAS), via e-mail, or during office hours.

UF POLICIES

UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge that states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

CLASS DEMEANOR

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please, avoid the use of cell phones.

STUDENTS REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATIONS

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact

umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a

concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website

or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis

services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the

care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

University Police Department: Visit UF Police Department website or

call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.](#)