

LNW 3320 Roman Elegy and Lyric

Crazy in Love: Roman Erotic Elegy



Time and Location

MWF Period 4 (10:40 AM - 11:30 AM), CSE E221 (Computer Sciences building)

Contact Information

Dr. Flora Iff-Noël

Office hours: M 9:35-10:30 AM; F 1:15-2:20 PM

and by appointment

137 Dauer Hall and on zoom

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Course description

In the name of love, Catullus, Tibullus, Sulpicia, Propertius, and Ovid challenged traditional values and gender stereotypes, and created their own counter-culture in 1st century BCE Rome.

This course will explore the capacity of poetry not only to express human emotions but to deeply transform them: love can be seen as a cultural construct rooted into social customs, morality, and politics. Who is allowed to love whom? How is a lover supposed to behave? Erotic elegy, which is now a revered part of the Western canon, reverses the codes of Rome's misogynist society, featuring male aristocrats who forego their power to become their mistress's slavish lover. These poems' creativity, music, eye-catching images, passionate laments and humorous stories are not only beautiful but highly relevant to our contemporary debates about gender, identity, sexuality, moral values, and political rights.

The core of the class will be the direct reading and translation of selected poems by Catullus and the Elegists (Catullus, Tibullus, and Ovid are key authors of the Western Canon). Through an in-depth study of the texts and occasional analyses of images from the 1st century BCE, we will work to advance your skills in reading, scanning, translating and interpreting, in order to prepare you for further studies in Latin language, literature, and civilization. Your analysis of love and gender will also bring about new perspectives on present-day debates and burning issues.

Primary General Education Designation

Humanities (H)

Humanities courses must afford students the ability to think critically through the mastering of subjects concerned with human culture, especially literature, history, art, music, and philosophy, and must include selections from the Western canon.

Humanities courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and theory or methodologies used within a humanities discipline or the humanities in general. Students will learn to identify and to analyze the key elements, biases and influences that shape thought.

These courses emphasize clear and effective analysis and approach issues and problems from multiple perspectives. A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit. Courses intended to satisfy the general education requirement cannot be taken S-U.

<https://undergrad.aa.ufl.edu/general-education/gen-ed-program/subject-area-objectives/>

Disclaimer

Students are encouraged to employ critical thinking and to rely on data and verifiable sources to interrogate all assigned readings and subject matter in this course as a way of determining whether they agree with their classmates and/or their instructor. No lesson is intended to espouse, promote, inculcate, or compel a particular feeling, perception, viewpoint, or belief.

Course Goals

- ✓ Analyze the key characteristics of Roman elegy (H)
- ✓ Perfect your mastery of Latin language, scansion, and translation (H)
- ✓ Increase your knowledge of Roman culture and politics (H)
- ✓ Increase your knowledge and mastery of literary criticism (H)
- ✓ Increase your public speaking skills through a Power point presentation (experiential learning)
- ✓ Increase your capacity to identify and to analyze the key elements, biases, and influences that shape thought using terminologies and methodologies from translation studies, philology, history, linguistics, and literary criticism (H)

Prerequisites / Credits

Prerequisites: one 2000-level Latin course, advanced placement or equivalent high school study. The course is worth 3 credits. Can be repeated with a change in content up to 6 credits.

Textbooks

- Miller, Paul Allen. *Latin Erotic Elegy: An Anthology and Reader*. London; New York: Routledge, 2002. [optional]
- H. Allen – J. B. Greenough, *New Latin Grammar* (any edition) [optional]
- C. Traupman – *New College Latin & English Dictionary* [optional]

Weekly course schedule of topics and assignments

Week 1	Jan. 13, 15, 17	Introduction: what is Roman erotic elegy?
Week 2	Jan. 22 voc, 24, 28	Catullus and the <i>neoteroi</i> as proto-elegists (Western Canon)
Week 3	Jan. 27, 29 , 31	Tibullus: make love not war; Quiz 1 ; (Western Canon)
Week 4	Feb. 3 voc, 5, 7	Tibullus: a love revolution: write elegy, not epic
Week 5	Feb. 10, 12, 14	Sulpicia: a female poet's perspective; Quiz 2
Week 6	Feb. 17 voc, 19, 21	The empowered mistress: Sulpicia and Propertius
Week 7	Feb. 24, 26, 28	A feminist revolution?
Week 8	March 3 voc, 5 , 7	Ovid: feminist or misogynistic elegy?; Review; Midterm
Week 9	March 10, 12, 14	Ovid: gender violence and stereotypes (Western Canon)
Week 10	March 24 voc, 26, 28	Ovid and the polymorphism of elegy; Quiz 3
Week 11	March 31, April 2, 4	The role of fiction: metapoetics & myth (Western Canon)
Week 12	March 15-22	No class: SPRING BREAK
Week 13	April 7, 9 , 11	Quiz 4 ; Loveless elegy: nature, cities and friends
Week 14	April 14 voc, 16, 18	Final reflections on elegy; Review
Week 15	April 21, 23	Review; Final exam

No class on: Jan. 20: MLK day; March 15-22: Spring break

Critical dates for quizzes and exams

- January 29: Quiz 1
- February 14: Quiz 2
- March 5: Midterm exam
- March 28: Quiz 3
- April 9: Quiz 4
- April 23: Final exam

Course requirements and grades

Students will be expected to participate actively in class, and especially to translate and discuss texts voluntarily, as well as join in partner or group activities. In this regard, it is necessary to read and translate the assigned texts before coming to class. You will also need to review Latin grammar and learn new vocabulary regularly. In order to foster good participation, cell phone use is prohibited during class, and eating or drinking should be kept at a minimum.

Your grades will be based, first of all, on two exams (midterm and final). In addition, 4 quizzes will be administered (the lowest quiz grade will be dropped). The quizzes and exams will include vocabulary, grammar, translation, and commentary. Every other Monday (on even weeks: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14), there will be a 5-minute vocabulary test. Finally, there will be one oral presentation (during 15 minutes, you will present a short translation and commentary of an elegy).

- Midterm exam (March 5) = 14 %
- 4 quizzes, each = 12 % (except the lowest grade which will be dropped)
- Oral presentation = 14 %
- Attendance, homework and participation = 11%
- Vocabulary tests = 11%
- Final exam (April 23) = 14 %

Class attendance and make-up works

Students are expected to attend class regularly. Make-up examinations are rarely given and only for extraordinary circumstances beyond your control, such as a grave illness. If possible, please notify me in advance of a missed exam in order to arrange a makeup. I must have written documentation for any medical or other emergencies which result in a missed test.

Regular attendance and active participation are mandatory.

More than one absence will cause your final grade to be penalized by five points for each subsequent unexcused absence. Arriving late or leaving early will count as 1/3 of an absence.

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>

Students are expected to complete all assigned work by the due dates. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog and require appropriate documentation, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Covid-19 safety measures

In response to COVID-19, the following recommendations are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- You are highly recommended to wear a mask if you are sick (over the nose and the chin).
- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus.

ADA requirements

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center (Contact 352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Grading scale

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
E	below 60

See <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

For more information, see: <http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

Course evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals (<https://evaluations.ufl.edu>).

Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>.

Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via

<https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Honesty policy

University of Florida students are bound by the Honor Pledge. On all work submitted for credit by a student, the following pledge is required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Student Honor Code and Conduct Code (Regulation 4.040) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code, as well as the process for reported allegations and sanctions that may be implemented. All potential violations of the code will be reported to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. If a student is found responsible for an Honor Code violation in this course, the instructor will enter a Grade Adjustment sanction which may be up to or including failure of the course. The Honor Pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Student 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." If you have any questions or concerns, please ask.

See <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/resources-by-audience/faculty-and-staff/honor-code-syllabi/>

Certain assignments in this course will permit or even encourage the use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) tools such as ChatGPT. **The default is that such use is forbidden unless otherwise stated. Any such use must be appropriately acknowledged and cited.** It is each student's responsibility to assess the validity and applicability of any GAI output that is submitted; you bear the final responsibility. Violations of this policy will be considered a violation of the Honor Code. I draw your

attention to the fact that different classes at UF could implement different AI policies, and it is the student's responsibility to conform to expectations for each course.

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit www.counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: call 392-1161 or visit www.shcc.ufl.edu/ for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need.

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;

www.ufhealth.org/emergencyroom-trauma-center

University Police Department: 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to helpdesk@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>. They can help e.g. with Canvas.

Career Connections Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints On-Campus: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

On-Line Students Complaints: <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>