

LNW 6933: Special Topics - Lucretius

Spring 2021 University of Florida

Instructor: Dr. Velvet L. Yates

Office hours: 9:00 - 10:00 p.m. Tuesdays (let me know at end of class) and by appointment, in AC classroom

Please use Canvas mail to contact me about class matters, especially grades, since UF recommends it as a more secure option to UF Outlook email.

Class time: Tuesdays 7:00-9:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, in AdobeConnect

Classroom URL: <http://uf-classics-dl.adobeconnect.com/lucretius2021/>

Use your name to log in (that's the name you'll have in class) about 15 minutes before class starts; no password is required.

Canvas site: once you log into E-learning (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu>), you should see LNW 6933 Special Topics - Lucretius listed under your courses (after you've registered for the class).

Technology: a headset microphone is required for this class. Students using their device's built-in microphone may cause feedback and distortion for others in the class.

Technical difficulties: Firefox seems to work well as a browser for AC; also make sure you have a good internet connection (and your at-home 'co-workers' aren't overloading the broadband!). For in-class problems with sound, running the 'Audio Setup Wizard' in AC usually works. For issues with Canvas, see the E-Learning help page (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>) or contact the UF Help Desk (helpdesk@ufl.edu). Contact the Help Desk for general computer problems too.

Required textbooks:

- *Lucretius: De Rerum Natura I*, by P.M. Brown. Reprinted 2001, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 978-0-86292-076-0.
- *Lucretius: De Rerum Natura III*, 2nd ed., by E.J. Kenney. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9780521173896.

Recommended resources:

- *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern*, by Stephen Greenblatt, 2011 (available in various formats).
- International Encyclopedia of Philosophy (<http://www.iep.utm.edu>)
- Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (<https://plato.stanford.edu>)
- UF Library Classics Guides (Megan Daly, UF Librarian) (<https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/c.php?g=147312&p=967004>)

- UF Library (<https://uflib.ufl.edu/using-the-libraries/off-campus-access/>) - which gives you searchable access to the Loeb Classical Library (quick and dirty lookup of Latin or Greek passages/translations) and *L'Annee Philologique* (to find scholarly books/articles on any Classics topic)

Course content:

This course will feature both translations from the original Latin text, and secondary readings. The weekly homework will feature a translation assignment, and sometimes a reading assignment. The weekly homework document (translation + questions/comments on reading assignment) is due on the SUNDAY before the class in which it will be discussed. Students will be asked to translate in class, and participate in discussions about the readings or associated topics.

Students will also acquaint themselves with contemporary research on Lucretius through a book or article report, in preparation for their final project, a short research paper on a Lucretius-related topic of their choice.

Homework posting procedure and deadline:

- Post the homework for each Tuesday's class in the appropriate Canvas assignment by **Sunday midnight (EST)**. Upload your work in a Word document.
- Be prepared to discuss your translation and the secondary readings in class on Tuesday. You may refer to your notes in class.

Course grade will be based on the following:

- Class attendance: 20% (Please notify me in advance if you have a conflict.)
- Class homework and participation: 35%
 - To maximize your points for class participation each week, you can do the following: volunteer for translating; ask questions and offer responses about the Latin text and the secondary readings; offer helpful comments and suggestions during the class, using either the microphone/webcam or the chat board.
- Article/book review: 20%
 - 'claim' an item for review: 5% (due in Canvas by midnight, **March 9**)
 - review and class presentation: 15% (due in class **March 30**)
 - The review should be between 600 and 900 words. Follow the guidelines in the Style sheet for book reviews in the *Classical Journal* (included in the Canvas Modules for March 9 and March 30).
- Short paper: 25%

- rough draft (minimum: thesis statement, outline, starting bibliography): 5% (due by midnight, **April 13**). This will form the basis for your individual writing meeting on the last day of classes, **April 20**.
- finished paper: 20% (5-7 pages, 1.5 spacing, 12 point Times New Roman font, exclusive of bibliography, title page, and abstract. Use APA format: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html). Due by midnight, **April 27**.

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%
F	59% or below

Tentative Class Schedule:

Jan. 5 - Class 1: introductions and syllabus review

HW (due midnight **Sun. Jan. 10**): Read Brown introduction (all the Roman numeral pages); scan lines 1-10; translate lines 1 - 101.

Jan. 12 - Class 2:

HW (due midnight **Sun. Jan. 17**): Read Fowler article (pdf provided). Scan lines 102-112; translate lines 102-207.

Jan. 19 - Class 3:

HW (due midnight **Sun. Jan. 24**): Read Eckerman article (pdf provided). Scan lines 208-218; translate lines 208-310.

Jan. 26 - Class 4:

HW (due midnight **Sun. Jan. 31**): Read *The Swerve* excerpt (pdf provided). Scan lines 311-321; translate lines 311-417.

Feb. 2 - Class 5:

HW (due midnight **Sun. Feb. 7**): Read *The Swerve* excerpt (pdf provided). Scan lines 418-428; translate lines 418-539.

Feb. 9 - Class 6:

HW (due midnight **Sun. Feb. 14**): Read *The Swerve* excerpt (pdf provided). Scan lines 540-550; translate lines 540-634.

Feb. 16 - Class 7:

HW (due midnight **Sun. Feb. 21**): Read Kenney introductions. Scan Book III, lines 1-10; translate lines 1-93.

Feb. 23 - Class 8:

HW (due midnight **Sun. Feb. 28**): Read *The Swerve* excerpt (pdf provided). Scan lines 94-104; translate lines 94-202.

March 2 - Class 9:

HW (due midnight **Sun. March 7**): Read *The Swerve* excerpt (pdf provided). Scan lines 203-213; translate lines 203-313.

March 9 - Class 10:

'claim' an item for review: 5% (due in Canvas by midnight, **March 9**)

HW (due midnight **Sun. March 14**): Read *The Swerve* excerpt (pdf provided). Scan lines 314-324; translate lines 314-416.

March 16 - Class 11:

HW (due midnight **Sun. April 4**): Read *The Swerve* excerpt (pdf provided). Scan lines 417-427; translate lines 417-520.

March 23 - Recharge Day - no class

March 30 - Class 12:

Article Review Reports

April 6 - Class 13:

HW (due midnight **Sun. April 11**): Read *The Swerve* excerpt (pdf provided). Scan lines 521-531; translate lines 521-623.

April 13 - Class 14

rough draft due by midnight, **April 13**

April 20 - Class 15:

Individual Writing Meetings

Final paper due by midnight, April 27