

College of the Humanities
Carleton University
HUMS 1200B

Humanities and Classical Civilization
A Blended Online Course
Fall 2020

Instructor Info:

Prof. Erik Stephenson

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Skype and FaceTime ID: same as email address

Virtual office hours: Fridays, 9am to 10:30am

Course Description:

This blended online course aims to do two things. Through the study of a wide variety of texts from different periods and of different genres, it will serve as an introduction to the history of ancient Greek civilization and the ideas that animated it. But the course will also teach students how to write a sound, undergraduate-level, exegetical essay. Thus, it is both a 'content' course and a 'skills' course, and these two aims will go hand in hand: students will achieve an understanding of the content of the course by putting what they learn about the theory of good exegesis and exegetical writing into practice, and their understanding of the content will deepen as they perfect their reading and writing abilities.

It is a "blended" online course because course delivery will take place through a combination of live (i.e., synchronous) online instruction/interaction and recorded (i.e., asynchronous) content.

Prerequisites: first-year standing in the Bachelor of Humanities program.

Lectures: lectures for the course will be pre-recorded and uploaded to the course's cuLearn page along with a transcript of each lecture.

- Lectures and transcripts may be accessed at any time, but the weekly online group meetings will track the suggested schedule of lectures and readings included in this syllabus (see below)

Weekly Online Group Meetings: before the beginning of the semester, I will divide the class into two groups. Group 1 will meet online *via Zoom* on

Mondays, from 1:05pm to 2:25pm. Group 2 will meet online via Zoom on Wednesdays, from 1:05pm to 2:25pm.

These weekly group meetings will serve various purposes:

- They will give you the opportunity to ask me questions about, or simply discuss in group, the readings and topics covered in the lectures tied to each week;
- They will allow me to run live, workshop-style exercises to help hone your exegetical and writing skills; and
- They will allow us to cover any housekeeping matters that may arise over the course of the semester.

Please note: **the recording of online group meetings is strictly prohibited.** Your peers (and your instructor) have a right to privacy, and they cannot be considered to have waived that right simply through their participation in the online videoconferencing sessions.

Special Exemptions from the Weekly Group Meetings:

Part of your grade for this course will be based on your attendance and participation in these weekly group meetings. They are thus mandatory. However, I recognize that some students may be unable to participate in these synchronous sessions because they lack access to highspeed internet, and that others may find themselves in a time-zone that would make participation in them extremely inconvenient and unreasonably disruptive.

In such cases, I am prepared to be accommodating and to work out alternate arrangements for satisfactory participation in the course. Students who would like to be considered for such an exemption must submit their request to me by email. If I deem the request justified, I will issue the exemption and we can then work together to determine alternative means of participation in the class.

Virtual Office Hours: I will be holding virtual office hours for this course on Fridays, from 9am to 10:30am.

Here is how they will work:

- A sign-up system will be set up on cuLearn; it will be broken down into 15 -minute timeslots.
- If you wish to speak to me on a given Friday, you will need to sign up for a timeslot in advance.
- At your appointed time, you will contact me via either Skype or FaceTime. Please be punctual, and *if there is someone ahead of you on the schedule, please do not contact me before your appointed time.* (If I am running ahead of schedule, I will contact you to let you know.)

- I am happy to meet with you outside of my designated, virtual office hours by appointment. You just need to email me to set an appointment.

Required Texts: you will need to order the following books, either from an online retailer or from a local bookseller of your choice.

- Aristophanes. *Lysistrata and Other Plays*. Tr. A.H. Sommerstein. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 2002.
- Homer. *The Iliad*. Tr. R. Fagles. Ed. B. Knox. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1990.
- Homer. *The Odyssey*. Tr. R. Fagles. Ed. B. Knox. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1996.
- Lefkowitz, M. & Romm, J. (Eds.) *The Greek Plays: Sixteen Plays by Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides*. New York: Modern Library, 2017.

Online Reading:

- MacIsaac, D. G. *The Humanities Writing Guide*.

This text will be made available to you on cuLearn. **You are advised to read it.** It is an invaluable resource for learning how to analyze a text and write an exegetical essay. I will be referring to it fairly regularly.

Excerpts from other ancient authors we will be looking at will be posted to cuLearn.

Recommended Texts:

- Pomeroy, S. et. al. *A Brief History of Ancient Greece*. Third edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
- Ruvinsky, Maxine. *Practical Grammar: A Canadian Writer's Resource*. Second edition. Don Mills: Oxford University Press Canada, 2009
- Strunk, W. & White E.B. *The Elements of Style*. Fourth edition. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2000.

These works are not required reading. However, they are each in their own way extremely useful. The last two in particular will remain of use to you throughout your studies (and beyond). I therefore especially recommend that you purchase them, either through your friendly neighbourhood bookseller or through a vendor online.

Grades: Grades will be based solely on individual, academic merit as judged against absolute standards. Grades will not be adjusted to achieve a supposedly normal distribution or manipulated in any other way.

Grades for the course will be based on the following:

Attendance in online group meetings (unless a formal exemption has been granted)	10%
Participation in the course	5%
First exegetical assignment	10%
Second exegetical assignment	15%
Third exegetical assignment	25%
Take-home examination (exegetical essay)	35%
Total	100%

- I will distribute handouts describing the nature of, and my expectations for, each of the components of your final grade listed above.
- At the end of the course, you will be assigned a letter grade corresponding to your final percentage, according to the standard Carleton University grading scale (which can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar online here:
<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulation/softheuniversity/acadregsuniv2/>).

Learning Outcomes:

With respect to the assimilation of course content:

- Students should come away from this course with a solid understanding of each of the individual texts studied in it in terms of their narrative structures, overarching arguments, themes and core ideas, intended audiences, literary devices, and so on.
- They should also have a grasp of some of the lines of development and influence that can be traced between them, as well as some of the differences in genre, treatment of themes, and conceptualization of core ideas, that can be discerned between them.
- Furthermore, through our study of these representative texts, students should leave the course with a general sense of the major events, ideas, and artistic, social, cultural, institutional, and economic developments, that characterize the different periods in Ancient Greek history.

With respect to the acquisition of skills:

- Students should come away from the course able:
 - (1) to analyze a literary work of whatever genre and length into its parts, and thus identify its conclusion(s) and antecedent plot developments or supporting premises;
 - (2) to understand how the text's various sections or premises work together to entail or bring about a certain conclusion;

- (3) to represent this analysis and understanding visually in the form of a text-outline;
- (4) to explicate this analysis and understanding clearly and concisely by way of a short, written exegetical assignment based on a detailed plan; and
- (5) to argue in writing, on the basis of a detailed plan, in support of a particular thesis using exegesis to buttress their claims.

Course Requirements at a Glance:

- To pass this course, students will have to:
 - Regularly attend, and do the readings assigned for, the online group meetings (unless the attendance requirement has been formally waived);
 - Complete and submit all of the course assignments; and
 - Submit a completed take-home examination
- Failure to complete and submit *all* of the course assignments and/or the take-home examination and/or attend the online group meetings regularly (without a formal exemption having been granted) will result in the grade 'F'.

Attendance:

- *Attendance and participation are critical components of all courses in the liberal arts. Thus, a pattern of non-attendance will in and of itself constitute sufficient grounds for my awarding a final course grade of 'F'.*
- This means that you must attend the online group meetings regularly or you will fail the course automatically (unless you are granted a formal exemption from this requirement). If you find yourself having to miss more than two or three sessions, you will have to justify your absences, and the onus will be on you to do so (I will not chase after you). You will not be penalized if there are legitimate reasons for your repeated absences.
- Furthermore, it is your responsibility to stay on top of any materials covered, to find out about and obtain any materials distributed electronically, and to enquire about any announcements made during the group meeting that you must miss for whatever reason.

Submission Guidelines:

- All written assignments for this course are to be uploaded to a file folder prepared for that purpose in cuLearn

- All uploaded documents must be in MS Word (i.e., .doc or .docx) format. Documents in any other file format will not be considered submitted, and late penalties will accrue, until the MS Word document is submitted.
- Do not upload your document a second time in order to fix a minor issue since the second submission date and time will replace the original one. If you need to re-submit, do so by emailing the document to me directly at erik.stephenson@carleton.ca

Late Assignments:

- Assignments will be docked 3% (or one third of a letter grade) for each calendar day after their due date.
 - If your assignment is late because a physical or psychological condition, or some other unforeseen circumstances, rendered you unable to work, I will waive the portion of the late penalty that corresponds to the number of days of incapacitation.
 - Thus, for example, if you were incapacitated for 3 days and your assignment was only 3 days late, no points will be deducted for lateness from your assignment mark.
 - *Please note that a heavy workload does not constitute a legitimate reason for lateness.* Late penalties are an incentive to manage your time effectively, but they are also a consequence of failing to do so.
- Late assignments will very quickly sink to a grade of 'F'. Hand in your assignments on time.
- Even an assignment that is so late it will merit a grade of 0%(F) must be completed or you will fail the course.

Plagiarism:

- Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. A professor who suspects a student has plagiarized an assignment is required to turn the matter over to the Dean. Students found guilty of plagiarism can receive a 0% for the assignment or a grade of 'F' for the whole course. In extreme cases, they can even be suspended or expelled from the university.
- If you use ideas or language from secondary sources in your assignments without citing those sources properly, you will have committed plagiarism, and I will have no choice but to hand over your work to the Dean for investigation.
- Submitting the same work as another student also constitutes plagiarism. Therefore, although I encourage you to help each other, if you hand in an assignment that is substantially the same as another student's, I will have to turn both of them in to the Dean to be investigated for plagiarism.
- Please read the full Departmental policy on plagiarism, which can be found on the final page of this course syllabus.

Schedule for Group Meetings, Lectures, and Readings:

If a pre-recorded lecture is listed within a particular week, that means you must make sure you have listened to that lecture *before* your online group meeting for that week. The same goes for the suggested readings; you should ensure that you have done them *before* that week's meeting.

Week 1:

- September 9th: plenary session
 - Introduction to the class; housekeeping matters

Week 2: Group 1: September 14; Group 2: September 16h

- Lectures and reading: Homer, *The Iliad*, Books 1-5, 7-9

Week 3: Group 1: September 21st; Group 2: September 23rd

- Lectures and readings: Homer, *The Iliad*, Books 11, 14-20

Week 4: Group 1: September 28th; Group 2: September 30th

- Lectures and readings: Homer, *The Iliad*, Books 21-22, 24
- **October 1st: first assignment due**

Week 5: Group 1: October 5th; Group 2: October 7th

- Lectures and readings: Homer, *The Odyssey*, Books 1-10
 - Additional lecture: "Introduction to *The Odyssey*"

Week 6: Group 1: October 12th; Group 2: October 14th

- Lectures and readings: Homer, *The Odyssey*, Books 11-20

Week 7: Group 1: October 19th; Group 2: October 21st

- Lectures and readings: Homer, *The Odyssey*, Books 21-24
- **October 26th: second assignment due**

Week 8: Fall Reading Week - No Classes**Week 9: Group 1: November 2nd; Group 2: November 4th**

- Readings (all available on cuLearn):
 - For lecture (1): selected poems by Alcaeus, Theognis, Archilochus, and Solon; short excerpts from Hesiod's *Works and Days*
 - For lecture (2): excerpts from the poetry of Tyrtaeus
 - For lecture (3): excerpts from Herodotus' *Histories*
- Lectures:
 - (1) "The Rise of the Polis"
 - (2) "On Sparta"

- (3) “The Persian Wars”

Week 10: Group 1: November 9th; Group 2: November 11th

- Lectures and readings: Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound*; Sophocles, *Antigone*

Week 11: Group 1: November 16th; Group 2: November 18th

- Reading: Euripides, *The Bacchae*
- Lectures:
 - (1) “Euripides’ *Bacchae*”
 - (2) “The Presocratic Cosmologists”
 - (4) “Heraclitus and Parmenides”
 - (5) “The Atomists”

Week 12: Group 1: November 23rd; Group 2: November 25th

- Reading: Aristophanes, *The Clouds*; excerpts from Thucydides’ *Peloponnesian War* (available on cuLearn)
- Lectures:
 - (1) “The Peloponnesian War”
 - (2) “The Sophists”
 - (3) “Aristophanes’ *Clouds*”
- **November 23rd: third assignment due**

Week 13: Group 1: November 30th; Group 2: December 2nd

- Lecture and reading (available on cuLearn): Plato, *Apology*

Week 14: Group 1: December 7th; Group 2: December 9th

- Essay plan workshop (**essay plan due: December 11th**)

Take-Home Exam Due: December 23rd



Humanities

University Regulations for All College of the Humanities Courses

Academic Dates and Deadlines

This schedule contains the dates prescribed by the University Senate for academic activities. Dates relating to fee payment, cancellation of course selections, late charges, and other fees or charges will be published in the Important Dates and Deadlines section of the Registration Website.

Copies of Written Work Submitted

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

Academic Integrity at Carleton

The University Senate defines **plagiarism** as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course

[Academic Integrity Policy](#)

[Academic Integrity Process](#)

Academic Accommodation Policy

Academic Accommodation

Carleton University is committed to providing access to the educational experience in order to promote academic accessibility for all individuals.

Parental Leave: The Student Parental Leave Policy is intended to recognize the need for leave at the time of a pregnancy, birth or adoption and to permit a pause in studies in order to provide full-time care in the first year of parenting a child or for health-related parental responsibilities.

Religious obligation: Carleton University accommodates students who, by reason of religious obligation, must miss an examination, test, assignment deadline, laboratory or other compulsory academic event.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Academic accommodation of students with disabilities is available through the [Paul Menton Centre](#) by evaluations that are carried out on an individual basis, in accordance with human rights legislation and University policy, and with the support of relevant, professional/medical documentation.

Survivors of Sexual Violence

Individuals who disclose that they have experienced sexual violence will be provided support services and will be treated with dignity and respect at all times by the University and its representatives. A person affected by sexual violence is not required to report an incident of or make a complaint about sexual violence under the formal complaint process of the Sexual Violence Policy in order to obtain support and services, or in order to receive appropriate accommodation for their needs.

[Supports and services available at the University to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support.](#)

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. [More information.](#)

Grading System at Carleton University

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean."

The [system of grades](#) used, with corresponding grade points and the percentage conversion, is listed below. Grade points indicated are for courses with 1.0 credit value.

Course Sharing Websites and Copyright

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

[More information](#)

Student Rights and Responsibilities at Carleton

Carleton University strives to provide a safe environment conducive to personal and intellectual growth, free of injustice and characterized by understanding respect, peace, trust, and fairness.

The [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#) governs the non-academic behaviour of students. Carleton University is committed to building a campus that promotes personal growth through the establishment and promotion of transparent and fair academic and non-academic responsibilities.

[7 Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)

Deferred Term Work

In some situations, students are unable to complete term work because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control, which forces them to delay submission of the work.

1. Students who claim illness, injury or other extraordinary circumstances beyond their control as a reason for missed term work are held responsible for immediately informing the instructor concerned and for making alternate arrangements with the instructor and in all cases this must occur no later than three (3.0) working days after the term work was due. The alternate arrangement must be made before the last day of classes in the term as published in the academic schedule. Normally, any deferred term work will be completed by the last day of term. In all cases, formative evaluations providing feedback to the student should be replaced with formative evaluations. In the event the altered due date must extend beyond the last day of classes in the term, the instructor will assign a grade of zero for the work not submitted and submit the student's earned grade accordingly; the instructor may submit a change of grade at a later date. Term work cannot be deferred by the Registrar.

2. In cases where a student is not able to complete term work due to illness or injury for a significant period of time/or long term, the instructor and/or student may elect to consult with the Registrar's Office (undergraduate courses) or Graduate Registrar (graduate courses) to determine appropriate action.

[More information of deferred Term Work](#)

Deferred Final Exams

Students who are unable to write a final examination because of a serious illness/emergency or other circumstances beyond their control may apply for accommodation. Normally, the accommodation for a missed final examination will be granting the student the opportunity to write a deferred examination. In specific cases when it is not possible to offer a deferred examination, and with the approval of the Dean, an alternate accommodation may be made.

The application for a deferral must:

1. be made in writing to the Registrar's Office no later than three working days after the original final examination or the due date of the take-home examination; and,
2. be fully supported by appropriate documentation and, in cases of illness, by a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination, or by appropriate documents in other cases. Medical documents must specify the date of the onset of the illness, the (expected) date of recovery, and the extent to which the student was/is incapacitated during the time of the examination. The University's preferred medical form can be found at the Registrar's Office [here](#).

[More information on Final Exam Deferrals](#)

[Financial vs. Academic Withdrawal](#)

Withdrawn. No academic credit, no impact on the CGPA. WDN is a permanent notation that appears on the official transcript for students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term (noted in the Academic Year section of the Calendar each term). Students may withdraw on or before the last day of classes.

Important dates can be found [here](#). Make sure that you are aware of the separate deadlines for Financial and Academic withdrawal!

Making registration decisions in Carleton Central involves making a financial and academic commitment for the courses you choose, regardless of attendance. If you do not attend – you must withdraw in Carleton Central within the published deadlines to cancel your registration. You can do this via the [MyCarleton Portal](#). A fee adjustment is dependent on registration being canceled within the published [fee deadlines](#) and dependent on your course load.

Department Contact Information

Bachelor of the Humanities 300 Paterson Hall
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca

Greek and Roman Studies 300 Paterson Hall
GreekAndRomanStudies@cunet.carleton.ca

Religion 2A39 Paterson Hall
Religion@cunet.carleton.ca

Digital Humanities (Graduate) 2A39 Paterson Hall
digitalhumanities@carleton.ca

Digital Humanities (Undergraduate Minor) 300 Paterson Hall
digitalhumanities@carleton.ca

MEMS (Undergraduate Minor) 300 Paterson Hall
CollegeOfHumanities@cunet.carleton.ca