

Greek 370 (Spring 2005): Speeches in Classical Greek Literature

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Course Goals

In this course, we read some of the most famous speeches of Greek literature. By seeking common threads among works of poetry (tragedy, comedy, epic) and prose (history, philosophy, political oratory), we will try to appreciate the central role of formal speaking in Greek culture. Many of our texts were written in 5th c. Athens during the period of the Peloponnesian War and the “Sophistic Revolution”; others of them refer back to this period or bear the marks of its influence.

The length and variety of the readings in the original (which are the essence of this course) give students many opportunities to sharpen and deepen their understanding of the ancient Greek language.

Schedule of Readings

Tu. 2/8	Introduction	
Th. 2/10	Plato, <i>Protagoras</i> 320c2-323a4	(beginning in English = up to p. 148)
Tu. 2/15	323a5-325e1	
Th. 2/17	325e1-328d6	
Tu. 2/22	Aristophanes, <i>Clouds</i> 961-1033	(beginning in English = up to p. 97)
Th. 2/24	1034-1104	(remainder in English)
Tu. 3/1	Euripides, <i>Medea</i> 446-515	(beginning in English = up to p. 15)
Th. 3/3	516-587	
Tu. 3/8	588-651	(remainder in English)
Th. 3/10	652-662, 1021-1080	
Tu. 3/15	Thucydides III.36-38	(Introduction, Chs. 1-2 in English)
Th. 3/17	39-42	(Chs. 3-4b in English)
<i>Spring Break</i>		
Tu. 3/29	43-48	(Chs. 4d-7c in English)
Th. 3/31	49-51	(Chs. 7d-8 in English)
Tu. 4/5	Midterm exam	
Th. 4/7	Plato, <i>Gorgias</i> 482c4-484b5	(481c5-482c3 in English, pp. 289-290)
Tu. 4/12	484b6-486d1	(remainder in English, pp. 294-340)
Th. 4/14	Lycurgus, <i>Against Leocrates</i> . 98-101	(overview handout, §§83-97 in English)
Tu. 4/19	Demosthenes, <i>On the Crown</i> 188-198	(overview handout)
Th. 4/21	199-210	
Tu. 4/26	Presentations	
Th. 4/28	<i>Iliad</i> 21.17-63	
Tu. 5/3	21.64-135	(Book 9 in English)
Th. 5/5	22.331-394	(21.136-22.330 in English, esp. 22.248-288)
Tu. 5/10	22.395-459	(start reading to end of <i>Iliad</i> in English)
Th. 5/12	22.460-515	(to end of <i>Iliad</i> in English)

Grading

Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	30%
Presentation	20%
Classwork (daily preparation, pop quizzes)	30%

Required Books

Thucydides, <i>On Justice, Power, and Human Nature</i> (Hackett)	0872201686
<i>The Dialogues of Plato</i> (Bantam)	0553213717
Euripides, <i>Medea</i> (Dover)	0486275485

Bound course readers:

- Texts
- Commentaries
- *On the Crown*, trans. Yunis

Photocopy packets:

- Vocabulary for *Medea*
- Homeric grammar outline

Recommended Books

Cunliffe, <i>A Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect</i> (Oklahoma)	0806114304
<i>Four Plays by Aristophanes</i> (Meridian)	0452007178