

CLAG 306 Advanced Ancient Greek II: Attic Poetry

Course Instructor: Demetrios Kritsotakis

Required Text

A comedy by Aristophanes (a copy of the original text will be provided in class)

Recommended Text

Liddell H. G. & Scott R., *An Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon*
Smyth H.W., *Greek Grammar*, Oxford 2010

Course Description and Activities

The course is intended to introduce the student to the work of the greatest comic poet of ancient Greece, Aristophanes. We will focus on improving your reading skills and at the same time expanding your knowledge of the grammar and syntax of the language. Exams in writing, exercises on the board, sight-reading and meter exercises are important components of the course. We will also examine the author's language and style in comparison to that of contemporary authors.

Aspects pertaining to the place of the text in its historical context will be addressed: how does the work relate to the events of the period during which it was written, what was its purpose, does it reflect the values of the society and its people, what values are those, what are the author's views with regard to contemporary politics, and so on. For that reason, discussion of modern scholarship will be a basic component of the course.

You will also be given the opportunity to be a part of the play itself in the following way: each one of you will be assigned a role, and you will present the play (or part of it) in front of the entire CYA community!

Learning Objectives

It is the overall purpose of the course not only to improve your reading skills but also to make you "feel" the spirit of the play, the ethics of its characters, and its role in the history of Greece and the literature produced there. Having learned the basics of Ancient Greek at your home institutions, you will improve, with my assistance, your reading skills by translating as much Greek as possible.

Try to allow about 2-2.30 hours per night for homework. The more study time put in early on, the less pain and suffering later on. You are encouraged to consult with the instructor on all matters pertaining to the course: difficulties in mastering the language, grammar, and meter of the text, as well as complications in proceeding through the materials of the course.

Course Requirements and Exams

Class Attendance: Ancient Greek is a difficult language to master and CYA regards attendance in class as essential. Therefore, it is highly important that you attend class. You are expected to report for classes promptly. Absences are recorded and have consequences. Illness or other such compelling reasons, which result in absences should be reported immediately in the Student Affairs Office.

Participation: Your participation is vitally important to your success in this course. Participation is expected and graded. You are expected to have all assignments completed (translation, review of modern scholarship, and so on) before you come to class. Do not be afraid to ask questions, volunteer to translate or answer questions.

Exams: There will be six quizzes, a midterm and the final or presentation of the play. Each quiz will cover the previous reading assignment translated in class. It will consist of translation (one passage, ca. 15 lines long), grammar and syntax questions. The lowest quiz will be dropped. The midterm exam will consist of the translation of 3 out of 4 passages already discussed in class, 15 lines long each, the sight translation of a short passage, for which some vocabulary will be given, grammar and syntax questions. This exam will have an additional short essay section where students will answer questions on Aristophanes and his world. If you opt for the final exam, this exam will have the same format as that of the midterm and will cover the material studied after the midterm (it will not be cumulative).

N.B. MAKEUPS WILL BE GIVEN ONLY FOR VALID EXCUSES.

Grading and Evaluation

Your grade for this course will be based on the following distribution:

30% Final/presentation of the play
30% Midterm
25% Quiz
15% Participation-Attendance

Grading Scale:

A+ 100-98	B+ 89-87	C+ 79-77	D+ 69-67	F 59-
A 97-93	B 86-83	C 76-73	D 66-63	
A- 92-90	B- 82-80	C- 72-70	D- 62-60	

Please note: in the name of fairness to all students, there will be no extra points awarded, even if you are very close to a higher letter grade.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a registered (with your home institution) student with a disability and you are entitled to learning accommodation, please inform the Director of Academic Affairs and make sure that your school forwards the necessary documentation.

Class Schedule

Class Week	Day/Date	Assignment	Other Events
1	Jan 30-Febr 5		
2	Febr 6-12		Optional Trip: Venice, Ravenna (Febr 10-12)
3	Febr 13-19	Quiz 1 (Feb 13)	Optional Trip: Barcelona (Febr 17-19)
4	Febr 20-26		
5	Feb 27-Mar 5	Quiz 2 (Mar 1)	Clean Monday: Holiday (Feb 27)
6	Mar 6-12		Field Trip: Peloponnese (Mar 7-11)
7	Mar 13-19	Quiz 3 (Mar 15)	Field Trip: Delphi (Mar 17-18)
8	Mar 20-26	Midterm (Mar 22)	
9	Mar 27-Apr 2		Field Trip: Northern Greece-Thessaloniki (Mar 28-Apr 1)
10	Apr 3-9	Quiz 4 (Apr 5)	
11	Apr 10-16	NO CLASS	Spring Recess (Apr 10-17)
12	Apr 17-23		Optional Trip: Crete (Apr 21-23)
13	Apr 24-30	Quiz 5 (Apr 26)	
14	May 1-7		May Day: Holiday (May 1); CYA Student Conference (May 4-5)
15	May 8-14	Quiz 6 (May 10)	

Final Exam: Time TBA

NB: Course schedule, in terms of subjects and readings, may be subject to change to benefit student learning and in keeping up to date with current research