

Classical Culture II

Code: 100016
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2502758 Humanities	OB	2	2

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Prerequisites

This course has no prerequisites.

Objectives and Contextualisation

At the end of the course the student should be able to:

- Interpret the classical culture.
- Apply the historical, institutional, cultural and literary knowledge of the Graeco-Roman civilisation to the analysis of texts.
- Comment passages of the main genres of classical literature, and explain their main features.
- Identify the presence of the classical tradition in European culture.

Applying the historical, institutional, cultural and literary knowledge to the commentary of texts.

Competences

- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Identifying the historical processes of contemporary culture.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analysing the recycling of classical motifs in new contexts.
2. Applying the historical, institutional, cultural and literary knowledge to the commentary of texts.
3. Assessing the reception in the West of the thought and history of the classical world.
4. Communicating in a properly, organised, and suitable manner in an oral conversation or presentation.
5. Criticising the film adaptations of the classical mythological legends.
6. Enumerating concepts of classic culture that have survived to the present society.

7. Identifying the Greco-Roman sources that have inspired artists and literary people through history.
8. Identifying the results of the projection of the classical world to the Western culture on various levels and in several eras and territories.
9. Interpreting the material and cultural context of transmission of ancient texts.
10. Relating the contemporary myths with the classical antiquity.
11. Summarising characteristics of a written text according to its communicative purposes.

Content

I. The integration of Greek culture into the Roman world

1. The first century BCE. Transition from Republic to Empire (Mark Antony and Cleopatra). Cinema talk: *Cleòpatra* by Mankiewicz.
2. Augustus. Social and cultural politics. Augustan eclecticism. The circle of Maecenas.

II. Epic poetry in Antiquity: *The Iliad*, *The Odyssey*, *The Aeneid*

1. Origins of the genre. The Homeric epics.
2. Ennius and Roman epic.
3. Virgil. Analysis of *The Aeneid*. Reception of *The Aeneid* in literature, music and plastic arts.
4. Compulsory reading: *The Aeneid* (books I-IV, VI, VIII & XII).

III. Lyric poetry

1. History of the genre. The Greek lyrics poets. Catullus and the Roman elegists.
2. Horace. The Horatian topics and their influence in world literature.
3. Analysis of a selection of poems by Catullus, Propertius and Horace (*Odes and Epodes*).
4. Compulsory reading: selection of poems by Catullus, Propertius and Horace.

IV. A family of madmen: the Julio-Claudians

1. Augustus's successors: Tiberius, Caligula and Claudius.
2. Nero. The Great Fire of Rome.
3. Seneca and the Roman tragedy.

V. The novel in Antiquity

1. History of the genre. From the ancient Greek romantic novel (*Daphnis and Chloe*) to the genre's parody in Latin (Petronius's *Satyricon*).
2. A lovely tale within Apuleius's *Metamorphoses*: *The tale of Cupid and Psyche*.
3. Analysis of the three works.
4. Cinema talk: *Fellini Satyricon*.
5. Optional readings: Longus's *Daphnis and Chloe*, Apuleius's *Tale of Cupid and Psyche* and Petronius's *Satyricon*.

VI. The biggest natural disaster of ancient times

1. The Flavian dynasty.
2. The eruption of Mount Vesuvius.
3. Pompeii and Herculaneum.
4. Cinema talk: *Pompeii: The last day*.

Methodology

This is an on-site course. Students are expected to work throughout its duration. Attendance to the lectures will allow the students to properly contextualise the course readings.

Commentary of the readings and cinema talks are scheduled throughout the course.

Although there will be no attendance monitoring, attending to the lectures is key to successfully complete this subject.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures and tutorials	50	2	1, 2, 5, 6, 4, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 3
Written tests	6	0.24	1, 2, 5, 6, 4, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 3
Type: Supervised			
Group work and oral presentation	70	2.8	1, 2, 5, 6, 4, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 3
Type: Autonomous			
Group work and study	18	0.72	1, 2, 5, 6, 4, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 3

Assessment

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

Weight of assessable activities:

40%: Written test consisting of short answer and essay questions (UNITS 1, 2). 8th week.

40%: Written test consisting of short answer and essay questions (UNITS 3, 4, 5 & 6). 16th week.

20%: Oral presentation on a subject related to UNITS 5 or 6. 14th & 15th weeks.

IMPORTANT REMARKS

1. Taking part in any assessable activity precludes the possibility of being classified as "not assessable".
2. For a positive evaluation of the course, the final mark must be 5 or higher, with a rating of at least 4 in both written tests.
3. In the re-evaluation process, students may retake ONE of the two written tests (if the mark is lower than 4 or if the global average is lower than 5), but they cannot retake both.
4. Any exception to these remarks must count with the explicit approval of the professor.
5. Untaken tests (due to medical emergencies justifiable with a doctor's note) will be taken during the re-evaluation period.
6. In special circumstances, the possibility of improving the final mark during the re-evaluation process may be considered. It will be necessary to talk previously with the professor, since the re-evaluation tests are intended for students who need to retake one of the assessable activities (for a maximum weight of 40%).

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Oral presentation in group on a subject determined by the professor	20%	2	0.08	1, 2, 5, 6, 4, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 3
Written test consisting of short answer and essay questions	40%	2	0.08	1, 2, 5, 6, 4, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 3
Written test consisting of short answer and essay questions	40%	2	0.08	1, 2, 5, 6, 4, 8, 7, 9, 10, 11, 3

Bibliography

CODOÑER, Carmen (ed.), *Géneros literarios latinos*, Salamanca 1997.

CODOÑER, Carmen (ed.), *Historia de la literatura latina*, Madrid, Cátedra, 1997.

VON ALBRECHT, Michael, *Historia de la literatura romana*, 2 vols., Barcelona, Herder, 1997 (The first two books serve as a complement to the classroom lectures on literary genres; the third provides a fuller account on their reception in other literatures).

ZANKER, Paul, *Augusto y el poder de las imágenes*, Madrid, Alianza, 1992.

For the historical contextualization of the literary works:

BEARD, Mary, *SPQR: Una historia de la Antigua Roma*, Barcelona, Crítica, 2016.

GRIMAL, Pierre, *La civilización romana. Vida, costumbres, leyes, artes*, Barcelona, Paidós, 1999.

GRIMAL, Pierre, *Historia de Roma*, Barcelona, Paidós, 2005.

HACQUARD, Georges, et al., *Guía de la Roma Antigua*, Madrid, Atenea, 2000.

JERPHAGNON, Lucien, *Historia de la Roma antigua*, Barcelona, Edhasa, 2007.

JONES, Peter, *Veni, uidi, uici. Hechos, personajes y curiosidades de la antigua Roma*, Barcelona, Crítica, 2013.

For the reception of the classical works in European literature:

WALDE, Christine (ed.), *Brill's New Pauly Supplements I - Volume 5: The Reception of Classical Literature*, Leiden-Boston, Brill, 2012.

CURTIUS, Ernst Robert, *Literatura europea y edad media latina*, 2 vols., Mèxic 1978.

HIGHET, Gilbert, *La tradición clásica*, 2 vols., Mèxic 1954.

JENKINS, Richard (ed.), *El legado de Roma. Una nueva valoración*, Barcelona, Crítica, 1995 (caps. V, VII).

KALLENDORF, Craig W., *A Companion to the Classical Tradition*, MA and Oxford, Wiley-Blackwell, 2007.

WEB RESOURCES

<http://pagines.uab.cat/classichum/>

<http://www.culturaclasica.com>

<http://interclassica.um.es>

<http://www.xtec.cat/~sgiralt/>