

LATIN 502

READINGS IN LATIN POETRY: OVID

SPRING 2010

Meeting time: Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30 – 4:45 pm

Meeting place: Curtin 804

Instructor: Elisabetta Cova

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Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:00-1:00 pm. and by appointment

TEXTS

Required:

- ❖ *The Student's Ovid. Selections from the Metamorphoses*, with introduction and commentary by M.W. Musgrove (Norman, 2000) [available at the UWM bookstore]

- ❖ An English translation of the *Metamorphoses*. Suggested editions include:
 - Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, trans. by R. Humphries (Bloomington, 1955)
 - Ovid, *Metamorphoses: A New Verse Translation*, (Trans. by D. Raeburn) (London and New York, 2004)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This semester we will read selections taken from Ovid's masterpiece, the *Metamorphoses*. This will give you the opportunity to read Latin poetry in one of its most popular meters, the dactylic hexameter, and to be introduced to the style and language of Ovid. We will not only read (in meter) and translate the text, but also discuss its content and language. Moreover, in order to overcome the loss of context which characterizes this (as any) anthology, we will also read all 15 books of the *Metamorphoses* in their English translation. This will help you understand better the narrative style and thematic sequence of Ovid's work.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance, Preparation and Participation

Students are required not only to come to class but also be prepared and actively participate in every class meeting. Attendance will be taken and only a **maximum of four absences will be allowed**. Each absence in addition to this will result in a **.5 % reduction** in the 'attendance, preparation and participation' grade.

Synopses

Beginning Tuesday, February 2 and every Tuesday following, students will be asked to submit a **one-page synopsis of a book of the Metamorphoses**. By the end of the semester students will have read all 15 books. Please note that on February 2 students should hand in the synopsis for books 1 and 2.

Research Paper

Students will be asked to complete a **research paper on a topic of their choice** after consultation with the instructor. The research paper will require the students not only to apply what they have learned in class, but also think more critically about broader themes or topics and thus consult outside readings. A separate handout with more specific guidelines and selected bibliography will be handed out by week three. Once the topics are chosen, students are expected to meet individually with the instructor to discuss progress. The research topic must be chosen **by March 18** and a draft should be submitted **by April 29**. On **May 11**,

students will offer an **informal presentation** of their research project followed by discussion before handing in the paper on May 13, the last day of class.

Exams

There will be **two midterm exams and a final exam**. The midterm exams will be held on **March 2** and **April 8** respectively, while the final exam will be at the time indicated in the UWM Spring 2010 Final Examination Schedule, **Friday, May 21, 12:30-2:30 pm**, in the usual classroom (see below 'Important Dates').

Grading

Attendance, Preparation and Participation: 20%

Synopses: 10%

Research paper (and presentation): 25%

Exams: 45%

Exams will be graded on a scale of 100 points.

These will be the corresponding letter grades:

100-93	A
92-90	A-
89-87	B+
86-83	B
82-80	B-
79-77	C+
76-73	C

72-70	C-
69-67	D+
66-63	D
62-60	D-
Below 60	F

Make-up Policy

Exams missed cannot be made up except under exceptional circumstances supported by documentation. If a special circumstance does exist, you must make prior arrangements.

Deadlines Policy

The paper must be submitted by May 13, 2010. If extreme circumstances prevent you from completing the paper, you are required not only to discuss this with the instructor in advance, but also provide the appropriate documentation.

University Policies

For university policies on students with disabilities, religious observances, students called to active military duty, incompletes, discriminatory conduct (such as sexual harassment), academic misconduct, complaint procedure, grade appeal procedure and other please see the following link to the Secretary of the University website: <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/SyllabusLinks.pdf>

IMPORTANT DATES

WEEK 2 (Feb 2-4)	Synopses of books 1 and 2 due in class
WEEK 6 (March 2-4)	Midterm exam I: March 2
WEEK 8 (March 16-18)	March 18: deadline for choosing paper topic
SPRING BREAK (March 23-25)	NO CLASSES
WEEK 10 (April 6-8)	Midterm exam II: April 8
WEEK 13 (April 27-29)	April 29: paper draft due
WEEK 15 (May 11-13)	May 11: in class presentation of research paper May 13: research paper due
Final Exam: Friday, May 21, 12:30-2:30 pm	