

# CLASSICAL CIVILIZATION (CLCV)

**\* CLCV 0531a / HIST 0724a, The Age of Cleopatra** Joseph Manning

This course introduces students to historical method using a pivotal and fascinating period in Mediterranean history. This course goes far beyond the typical framework, mainly from Roman sources, to examine Egypt in the age of Cleopatra, 50-30 BCE and the much wider world. We examine the reception of Cleopatra through the lens of women's history. Enrollment is limited to first-year students. WR, HU

**\* CLCV 1381b / HUMS 434b / NELC 1300b, Mesopotamia's Literary Legacy** Kathryn Slanski

This seminar explores myth, epic, love poetry, and wisdom literature from the ancient Near East, ca. 3000–323 BCE, within its own cultural context and in dialogue with literature from ancient Greece and the Hebrew Bible, conduits by which the literary legacy of the ancient Near East has left its mark on the Western tradition. HU

**CLCV 1701a / ARCG 2143a / HSAR 3243a, Greek Art and Architecture** Staff

Monuments of Greek art and architecture from the late Geometric period (c. 760 B.C.) to Alexander the Great (c. 323 B.C.). Emphasis on social and historical contexts. HU  
o Course cr

**CLCV 1901a / PHIL 1125a, Introduction to Ancient Philosophy** Staff

An introduction to ancient philosophy, beginning with the earliest pre-Socratics, concentrating on Plato and Aristotle, and including a brief foray into Hellenistic philosophy. Intended to be taken in conjunction with PHIL 126. WR, HU o Course cr

**\* CLCV 2391a / NELC 1690a, Visible Language: The Origins of Writing in Mesopotamia and Ancient Egypt** Klaus Wagensohner

Exploration of writing in the ancient Near East and the profound effects this new method of communication had on human society. Focus on Egypt and Mesopotamia, where advanced writing systems first developed and were used for millennia, with consideration of Chinese, Mayan, and Indus Valley writing systems as well. Previously NELC 168. HU

**CLCV 2501a / HIST 1217a / HUMS 2501a, The Roman Republic** Staff

The origins, development, and expansion of Rome from the earliest times to the deaths of Caesar and Cicero. Cultural identity and interaction; slavery, class, and the family; politics, rhetoric, and propaganda; religion; imperialism; monumentality and memory; and the perception and writing of history. Application of literary and archaeological evidence. HU o Course cr

**CLCV 2502b / HIST 1218b, The Roman Empire** Andrew Johnston

The history of the Roman Empire from its establishment by Augustus to the reign of Justinian. Attention to social, intellectual, and religious changes, as well as to the framework of historical events within which these changes took place, and to the processes by which the Roman Empire was replaced by the institutions of the Western Middle Ages and the Byzantine Empire. HU o Course cr

**CLCV 2685a / HIST 1212a, The Ancient Economy** Staff

A survey of the economies of the ancient Mediterranean world, with emphasis on economic institutions, the development of the economies over time, ancient economic

thought, and the interrelationships between institutions and economic growth. Material evidence for studying the economies of the ancient world, including coinage, documentary material, and archaeology. HU o Course cr

**CLCV 2691a / GBL 1204a / HIST 1702a, Global Leadership, 600 BCE–600 CE** Staff

This course provides students with an accessible and engaging introduction to both the classical world and the problems of political organization and leadership through time and across societies. Students learn to think comparatively between individuals, societies, and systems and to analyze different ideals of leadership. This means considering not only traditional masculine and military conceptions of rule but also the leadership roles and styles of women, slaves, and rebels. We hope to bring into view, in other words, the intersectional challenges to power faced by non-traditional leaders in a world dominated by gender, class, and cultural prejudices, and to show how non-traditional leaders confronted and overcame these. Students draw upon this experience to access the premodern world as an alternative but related historical reality which can productively inform their engagement with the present. HU o Course cr

**\* CLCV 3340a / HUMS 1770a / PLSC 306a / PLSC 3369a, Tragedy and Politics**

Daniel Schillinger

The canonical Greek tragedians – Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides – dramatize fundamental and discomfiting questions that are often sidelined by the philosophical tradition. In this seminar, we read plays about death, war, revenge, madness, impossible choices, calamitous errors, and the destruction of whole peoples. Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides were also piercing observers of political life. No less than Plato and Aristotle, the Attic tragedians write to elicit reflection on the basic patterns of politics: democracy and tyranny, war and peace, the family and the city, the rule of law and violence. Finally, we also approach Greek tragedy through its reception. Aristophanes, Plato, Aristotle, and Nietzsche: all these thinkers responded to tragedy. Texts include Aeschylus, *Oresteia*; Aristophanes, *Frogs* and *Lysistrata*; Euripides, *Bacchae*, *Heracles*, and *Trojan Women*; Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy*; Plato, *Symposium*; and Sophocles, *Antigone*, *Philoctetes*, and *Oedipus Tyrannus*. Previous work in political theory, classics, or philosophy is recommended. HU

**CLCV 3350b, Food and Wine in the Ancient Greek World** Egbert Bakker

Food is more than carbohydrates and proteins. It is about culture and identity, both collective and individual, and it has symbolic value. In this course we study the political, symbolic, and poetic importance of food and wine in Ancient Greece. We see how food defines humans with respect to the gods, Greeks with respect to non-Greeks, and how food is a central component of the meaning of entire epic poems, such as the *Odyssey*. But we also look at the reality of food consumption and production and how food and drink was studied by the physicians and scientists of the ancient world. Readings in translation. HU

**\* CLCV 4435a, Greek Social History (600-250 BCE): New Approaches** Jessica

Lamont

This advanced seminar introduces students to new ways of researching ancient Greek social history, with a focus on communities across the ancient Greek world between c.600-250 BCE, from Sicily to Thasos to the northern Black Sea. Newly published inscriptions and epigraphic corpora drive and structure the course. Major topics of study include: ancient Greek oracles (Delphi, Dodona, dice oracles), divination, women, religious cults and ritual practice, sacred laws, “magical” rites (spells, curses,

and incantations), Greek colonization, north Aegean Thasos, and more. This advanced seminar is geared toward Classics and Classical Civilization senior majors, BA/MA students, and graduate students in the Depts of Classics and History. HU

\* **CLCV 4771a / HSAR 4351a, Ancient Art at the Edge of Empire** Alexander Ekserdjian

This seminar treats the art made in imperial contact zones, the ‘edges of empire.’ Focusing on two regions, Roman-period Syria—home of multiple linguistic and religious traditions and the point of convergence between the Parthian and Roman empires—and pre-Roman southern Italy, where Greek, Etruscan, Roman, and Indigenous Italian cultural elements co-existed, the course first explores the theories concerning art and empire formed for modern historical periods before turning to antiquity. The two main contexts under discussion allow us to investigate one ‘edge’ shared between two empires (Roman Syria) and in the other a world of many overlapping ‘edges’ (southern Italy ca. 400-100 BCE). The Yale University Art Gallery collections from the city of Dura-Europos in Roman Syria are used extensively. HU

\* **CLCV 4998a and CLCV 4999b, Senior Tutorial in Classical Civilization** Jessica Lamont

Tutorial for seniors in Classical Civilization. As a culminating experience in the major, the student completes under the supervision of a faculty member an original research project, intensive language and literature study, or a creative endeavor. To register, the student must submit a written plan of study for approval by the director of undergraduate studies and the faculty instructor. Fulfills the senior requirement for the B.A. degree. Enrollment limited to senior students majoring in Classical Civilization.