ANCIENT GREEK (GREK)

GREK 110a, Beginning Greek: The Elements of Greek Grammar  Erynn Kim
Introduction to ancient Greek. Emphasis on morphology and syntax within a structured program of readings and exercises. Prepares for GREK 120. No prior knowledge of Greek assumed.  L1  RP  1½ Course cr

GREK 120b, Beginning Greek: Review of Grammar and Selected Readings  Staff
Continuation of GREK 110. Emphasis on consolidating grammar and on readings from Greek authors. The sequence GREK 110, 120 prepares for 131 or 141. Prerequisite: GREK 110 or equivalent.  L2  RP  1½ Course cr

* GREK 125b, Intensive Beginning Greek  Timothy Robinson
An introduction to classical Greek for students with no prior knowledge of the language. Readings from Greek authors supplement intensive instruction in grammar and vocabulary. The course is intended to be of use to students with diverse academic backgrounds and interests. Prepares for GREK 131. Not open to students who have taken GREK 110, 120.  L1, L2  RP  2 Course cr

GREK 131a, Greek Prose: An Introduction  Nazim Can Serbest
Close reading of selections from classical Greek prose with review of grammar. Counts as L4 if taken after GREK 141 or equivalent.  L3

GREK 141b, Homer: An Introduction  Staff
A first approach to reading Homeric poetry in Greek. Selected books of the Iliad or the Odyssey. Counts as L4 if taken after GREK 131 or equivalent.  L3

* GREK 421b, Apollonius’ Argonautica  Staff
Apollonius of Rhodes’ Argonautica is the only extant large-scale narrative epic surviving from the centuries between the Homeric epics and Virgil’s Aeneid. One of the seminal works from the Hellenistic period, the Argonautica tells the famous myth of Jason’s quest for the Golden Fleece. In this course, we read Book 3, which depicts the hero’s ill-fated meeting with the Colchian princess Medea and his trial with the Colchian king’s fire-breathing oxen. Alongside the Argonautica, we read excerpts from Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey, Euripides’ Medea, and Pindar’s Pythian 4, all of which were important influences for Apollonius, a learned Alexandrian scholar. With particular attention to language and characterization, we look at how Apollonius’ Argonautica draws on these earlier works and interacts with them in ways that reflect the scholarly atmosphere and poetic aesthetic of the Hellenistic period. By exploring Apollonius’ creative interaction with his predecessors and his emotional deep dive into the psychology of Medea, we trace some of the continuities in epic storytelling from the Homeric heritage to Apollonius’ influence on subsequent writers as we ponder the questions of what makes an epic great and what makes a story last. Prerequisite: L4 Greek or equivalent, or permission of the DUS or instructor.  L5, HU

* GREK 430b, Aristophanes  Emily Greenwood Milne
Intensive reading and study of Aristophanes’ plays in their historical, social, and intellectual context.  L5, HU

* GREK 443a, Homer’s Iliad  Egbert Bakker
Reading of selected books of the Iliad, with attention to Homeric language and style, the Homeric view of heroes and gods, and the reception of Homer in antiquity.  L5, HU

* GREK 478a, Athenian Oratory: Law & Litigation  Jessica Lamont
This course expands and deepens students’ grasp of ancient Greek grammar and syntax, while honing abilities to translate prose texts of the fifth and fourth centuries BCE. As a “bridge” course, this seminar also introduces students to Athenian law and the workings of the courts within a robust ancient democracy. The course is primarily focused on the work of three Attic speech-writers of the later fifth and fourth centuries BCE, Antiphon, Lysias, and Demosthenes; students also read a handful of contemporary Greek texts, inscribed on lead and meant to give litigants an edge over their opponents at trial (making use of the collections in the Beinecke). A goal of this course is to help transition students from translating ancient Greek accurately, into the realm of (1) asking critical and interpretive questions of primary texts bound by a common genre or theme, (2) considering strategies of translation, (3) analyzing the narrative styles of three Greek prose writers, and (4) thinking about speech-writing within its historical context. This course thus familiarizes students with the form, circumstances, and evolution of Attic oratory as a performative, rhetorical, and historical genre, while paying close attention to grammar and syntax in all reading and translation exercises. Prerequisite: Ancient Greek L1, L2.  L4, HU

GREK 730b, Aristophanes’ Acharnians and Birds  Emily Greenwood Milne
Intensive reading and study of Aristophanes’ plays in their historical, social, and intellectual context.

GREK 743a, Homer’s Iliad  Egbert Bakker
Reading of selected books of the Iliad, with attention to Homeric language and style, the Homeric view of heroes and gods, and the reception of Homer in antiquity.