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Spring 2-1-2004

# GRK 212.01: Intermediate Ancient Greek - Epic Poetry - Homer

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Spring 2004  
MWF 2:10-3:00  
LA 334  
CRN 33797

**GREEK 212: INTERMEDIATE ANCIENT GREEK**  
**Epic Poetry: Homer**

**\*\*This course is applicable to the Classical Languages and  
Classical Civilization majors and minors and the minor in Greek.\*\***

**Required texts:**

- Harrison, J.A. & Jordan, R.H. *Homer: Iliad I*. Bristol Classical Press 1983. (Reprinted 1993).
- ¿ Muir, J.V. *Homer: Odyssey IX*. Bristol Classical Press 1980.

**Recommended texts:**

- Pharr, Clyde. *Homeric Greek: A Book for Beginners*. University of Oklahoma Press, 1985 (Revision by John Wright).
- ¿ Owen, W.B. and Goodspeed, E.J. *Homeric Vocabularies*. G.K. Hall & Co. 1960.
- ¿ Autenrieth, Georg. *A Homeric Dictionary*. University of Oklahoma Press, 1958 (Translation by R.P. Keep and I. Flagg).

**Evaluative components:**

Daily preparation & participation:	30%
Quizzes (6):	50%
Final Exam:	20%

**Course Objectives:** To engage you in reading Greek poetry, particularly Homeric epic, and to enhance your appreciation and understanding of it. Simultaneously to review complex grammatical constructs, to heighten your awareness of syntax, to expand your vocabulary, and to provide you with the skills and confidence needed to read Greek with ease and enjoyment.

**General Syllabus:** We shall read two complete books of Homer's poetry: Book One of the *Iliad* and Book Nine of the *Odyssey*. These are both interesting narratives which will allow you to become familiar with Homer's style, vocabulary, syntax, and metre. We shall begin our readings with shorter assignments (about 20 lines per class meeting) and build up to a maximum of about 35 lines per session during course of the semester. If we find that we can proceed more quickly, we shall do so; in that event, we shall depart from the syllabus, and, with any "free" classes at the end of the semester, will select as a group some episodes for additional reading.

**Preparation & participation:** As with the acquisition of any foreign language, participation is crucial. Please prepare your assignments by reading some portion of them *daily*. Expect to be called on in class to read and translate. Since inadequate preparation will impede the progress of both individuals and the class as a whole, I expect you to behave responsibly in that regard. Whenever we complete our assignment and have time remaining in the class, we shall forge ahead, reading "at sight." Finally, since it is important for you to be exposed to Greek *every* day, I request that you spend at least some time reviewing vocabulary and reading and re-reading the assignments on those days when class does not meet.

**Quizzes:** I have scheduled six quizzes, one approximately every two weeks. You may expect quizzes to be brief; they will normally focus on a short passage to translate and questions on

grammar, morphology or vocabulary covered during the preceding class meetings. I do NOT correct quizzes; I circle your errors and return them to you. You then have the opportunity to resubmit them to me with corrections (corrections are always due the class meeting after they are handed back). I will restore to you partial credit for those corrections that are right. In lieu of a quiz, I may decide to assign a “take home” translation exercise, on which I will ask you to carefully and eloquently render a selected passage into English. At the end of the semester, I will drop the lowest quiz score of the six before calculating your course grade.

**Exams:** Given the regularity of the quizzes, there will be no midterm, but there will be a final. This exam will concentrate on material from *Odyssey IX*, but will not exclude the *Iliad*. On the exam you will translate, parse, and compose a brief essay on an issue of significance to the texts.

**Grading Options:** I expect students taking this course to be committed to their studies and to take the course for a traditional letter grade. I do not normally allow the P/NP grading option, but am willing to discuss it in exceptional circumstances.

### **TIPS FOR THE TRANSLATOR OR TRANSLATRIX** (please re- read frequently!)

I strongly urge you to observe the following guidelines in your preparations for this course:

1. Read through the assignment slowly, in Greek, preferably aloud. *DO NOT LOOK UP WORDS*. DO look to see the general shape and the structures of the sentences. NOTE moods and tenses of verbs to alert yourself to conditions, indirect statements or questions and the like. NOTE relative clauses and other phrases (notice how phrases fall together; a passage is NOT a conglomeration of separate words), NOTE word order. *THIS STEP IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT* in: 1) getting you accustomed to reading Greek as a language and not as a series of dictionary entries, and 2) making you familiar with the actual poetry in front of you. You will get an overview and a notion of which words (all of them?? impossible!!) you need to look up, and which words you can understand via context. *THIS COMPLETE STEP MAY BE PROFITABLY REPEATED!*
2. Now read through the selection sentence by sentence, working on grammar and translation, looking up words *as necessary*. Learn to make informed guesses, but not as a short cut. Keep a word list religiously and review it; use Owen and Goodspeed as a helpful review mechanism. Write a translation, but *only if you need to*, carefully and neatly, double-spaced to help you add revisions. (Written in pencil, a translation may be easily corrected.) *DO NOT WRITE TRANSLATIONS IN YOUR BOOK*; what you gain in lack of nervousness about translating in class you will lose in confidence in your memory. Note difficult spots in the assignment, either to ask about in class or during office hours. *Always* ask about any translation or construction which you do not fully understand.
3. After you have completed the assignment, slowly RE-READ the selection, re-reading with particular care the problem spots. **This is the most important step.** Many people (to their grief!) skip steps 1 & 3 and snowplow through step 2 only, grateful to finish the piece. Doing this will only make vocabulary acquisition more difficult, and will further extend the period during which you feel like you are merely groping through Greek.

4. Your assignment will be most profitably completed if you observe the following:
  - a. Spending frequent and not overly long periods on your assignment will help you. A couple of good hours spent several times during the week will be much more advantageous than a couple of marathons. Do some work or review DAILY.
  - b. Divide the assignment into 4 or 5 manageable pieces and review each piece when complete. **Reserve an hour before class to re-read the entire selection.**
  - c. Read the auxiliary notes for the selection before, and frequently during, your assignment. Use your grammar reference book as a matter of habit.
  - d. Keep vocabulary lists, and take notes on new (or newly-remembered) constructions.
  
5. Class time is for translating and asking questions. Come prepared to translate and with your questions ready! Class time is NOT for writing down translations as this distracts you from READING and comprehending the Greek and also provides a crutch. You will be reading Greek in this course, not reading your written translations.

**Greek 212 Syllabus**

**Spring semester 2004**

		<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	
week 1:	M	26 Jan:	Introduction; scansion (dactylic hexameter)	
	W	28 Jan:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.1-21	
	F	30 Jan:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.22-42	
week 2:	M	2 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.43-67	
	W	4 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.68-91	
	F	6 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.92-120	
week 3:	M	9 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.121-136	<b>Quiz 1</b>
	W	11 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.137-171	
	F	13 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.172-205	
week 4:	M	16 Feb:	<i>President's Day Holiday</i> – no class meeting	
	W	18 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.206-244	
	F	20 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.245-284	
week 5:	M	23 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.285-303	<b>Quiz 2</b>
	W	25 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.304-333	
	F	27 Feb:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.334-363	
week 6:	M	1 Mar:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.364-395	
	W	3 Mar:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.396-427	
	F	5 Mar:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.428-456	
week 7:	M	8 Mar:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.457-474	<b>Quiz 3</b>
	W	10 Mar:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.475-510	
	F	12 Mar:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.511-543	
week 8:	M	15 Mar:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.544-572	
	W	17 Mar:	<i>Iliad</i> 1.573-610	
	F	19 Mar:	<b>Quiz 4</b>	
week 9:	M	22 Mar:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .1-28	
	W	24 Mar:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .29-61	
	F	26 Mar:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .62-99	

**Spring Break: 29 March - 2 April**

week 10:	M	5 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .100-130	
	W	7 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .131-169	
	F	9 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .170-215	
week 11:	M	12 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .216-230	<b>Quiz 5</b>
	W	14 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .231-262	
	F	16 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX</i> .263-295	

week 12:	M	19 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX.296-324</i>
	W	21 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX.325-352</i>
	F	23 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX.353-381</i>

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**Spring semester 2004**

		<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	
week 13:	M	26 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX.382-400</i>	<b>Quiz 6</b>
	W	28 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX.401-436</i>	
	F	30 Apr:	<i>Odyssey IX.437-470</i>	
week 14:	M	3 May:	<i>Odyssey IX.471-499</i>	
	W	5 May:	<i>Odyssey IX.500-535</i>	
	F	7 May:	<i>Odyssey IX.536-566</i>	

**Thursday, 13 May: Final Exam, 3:20 - 5:20pm**