

The Honors College Humanities Sequence: The Ancient World

EPIC DESTINIES, INDIVIDUAL JOURNEYS

Fall 2017
MWF 11-11:50

L = Lecture in Jessie Wrench Auditorium
D = Discussion in your Section Room

Dr. Rachel Harper, Coordinator
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1 Homer / Greek Art I

- M Aug 21 No class: Solar Eclipse!
- W Aug 23 L Introduction to Ancient Greece & Homer (Mike Barnes, Ancient Mediterranean Studies)
- F Aug 25 D *The Iliad*
- M Aug 28 L Greek Art & Architecture I (Sue Langdon, Ancient Mediterranean Studies)
- W Aug 30 D Art / *The Iliad*
- F Sept 1 D *The Iliad*
- M Sept 4 LABOR DAY

The four courses of the Humanities Sequence offer students the challenging opportunity to read and discuss primary texts—verbal, visual, and musical—from the pre-classical period to the present, chiefly in Western traditions. This interdisciplinary sequence invites students and faculty into a critical conversation with works that inform the rich diversity of our global cultures. The sequence encourages creative thinking and intellectual engagement through contemporary technologies and modes of learning.

In the Ancient World segment of the course, we encounter artists and thinkers whose fundamental questions—about the nature of the world, the problem of evil, the puzzle of human nature, the challenge of right action, the quest for justice, the mystery of love, our ethical and social responsibilities, and the continual search for a voice and an art adequate to our experience—resonate throughout Western culture. Indeed, our modern world owes a great debt to the classical era. But as Richard Tarnas has observed, “Every age must remember its history anew.” And so we find ourselves asking not simply what the Ancients believed, or under what circumstances and in what social and historical contexts works like *The Iliad*, *Oedipus*, the Book of Job, Plato’s *Republic*, Horace’s poetry, or Virgil’s *Aeneid* were composed or performed, but also how these works shape and influence our modern world.

2 Greek Drama / Greek Art II

- W Sept 6 L Greek Drama (Ted Tarkow, Ancient Mediterranean Studies)
- F Sept 8 D Sophocles, *Antigone*
- M Sept 11 D Euripides, *Medea*
- W Sept 13 L Greek Art & Architecture II (Sue Langdon)
- F Sept 15 D Greek Art I & II
- M Sept 18 D Aristophanes, *Lysistrata*

3 Job

- W Sept 20 L The Book of Job (Carrie Duncan, Religious Studies)
- F Sept 22 D Job

4 Plato

- M Sept 25 L Plato (Mark Smith, History)
- W Sept 27 D Plato (selections)
- F Sept 29 D Plato

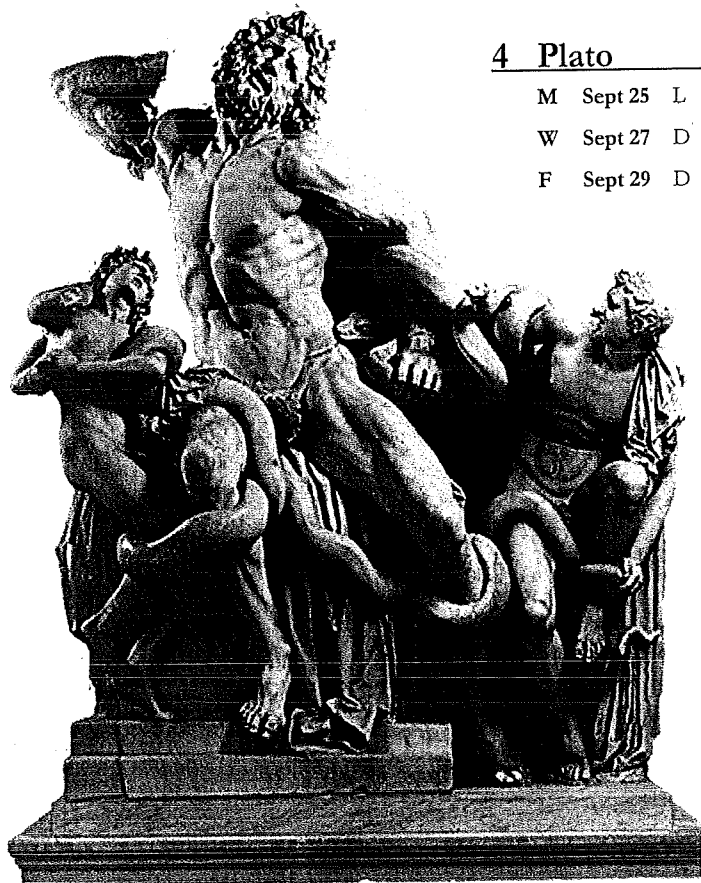
5 Aristotle

- M Oct 2 L Aristotle (Mark Smith)
- W Oct 4 D Aristotle (selections)
- F Oct 6 D Aristotle

TAKE-HOME MIDTERM

6 Virgil / Roman Art I

- M Oct 9 L Virgil (Mike Barnes)
- W Oct 11 D *The Aeneid*
- F Oct 13 D *The Aeneid*
- M Oct 16 L Roman Art & Architecture I (Marcus Rautman, Ancient Mediterranean Studies)
- W Oct 18 D *The Aeneid*
- F Oct 20 D *The Aeneid*



7 Horace

- M Oct 23 L Horace (Mariapia Pietropaolo, Ancient Mediterranean Studies)
- W Oct 25 D Horace's Odes
- F Oct 27 D Horace's Odes

9 Gospels of Matthew & Luke

- W Nov 8 L The Gospels of Matthew & Luke (Carrie Duncan)
- F Nov 10 D Gospels

8 Ovid

- M Oct 30 L Ovid (Mariapia Pietropaolo)
- W Nov 1 D Ovid's *Metamorphoses*
- F Nov 3 D Ovid's *Metamorphoses*
- M Nov 6 D Ovid's *Metamorphoses*

MODERN DRAMA BASED ON HOMER'S *Odyssey*:***Father Comes Home from the War***

- Sun Nov 12 (2PM) *Father Comes Home from the War*,
by Suzan-Lori Parks (performance)
- M Nov 13 D *Father Comes Home from the War*

10 Roman Art II

- W Nov 15 L Roman Art & Architecture II
(Marcus Rautman)
- F Nov 17 D Roman Art I & II

Thanksgiving Break

Nov 18 – Nov 26

11 Apuleius

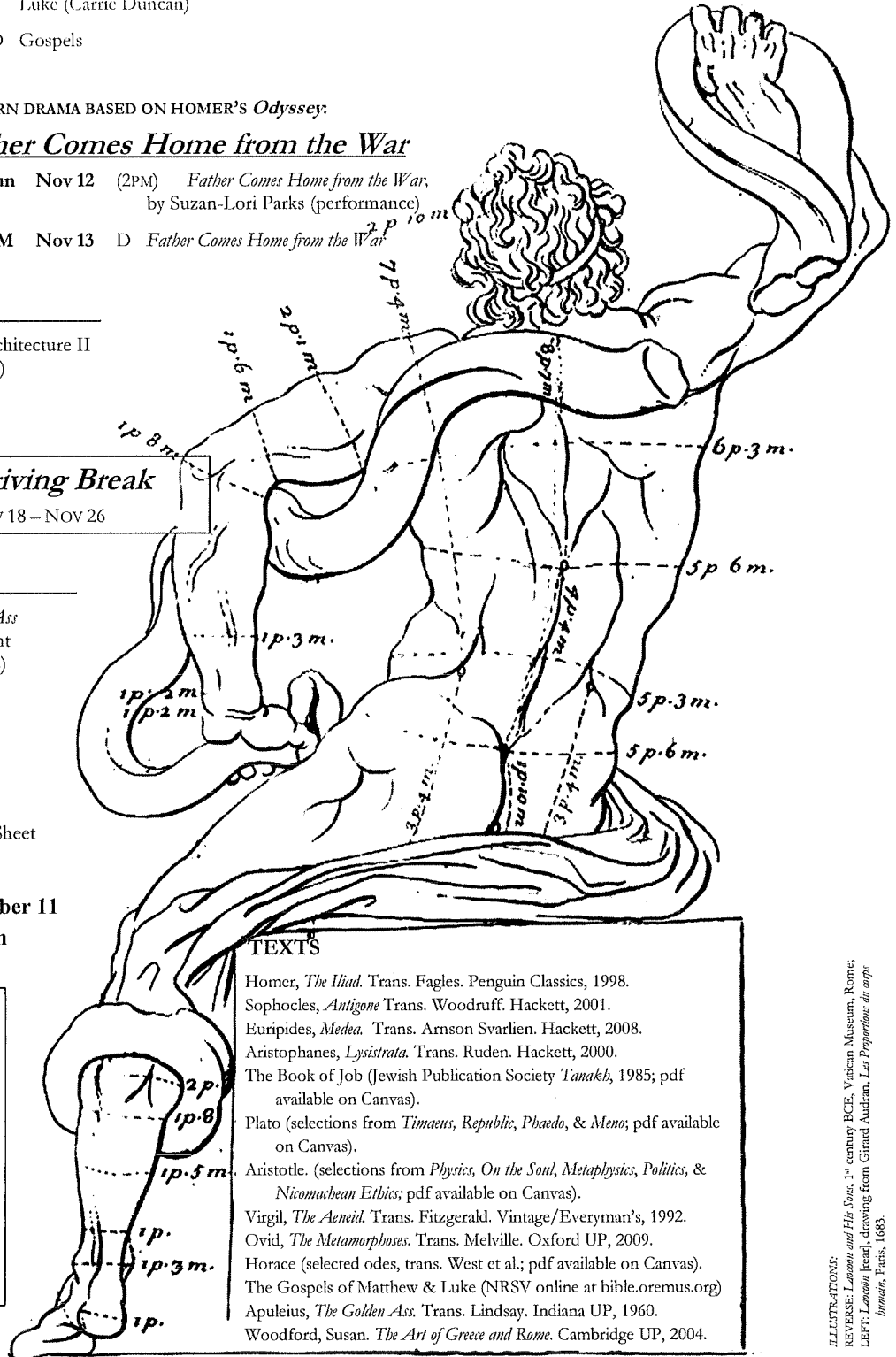
- M Nov 27 L Apuleius, *The Golden Ass*
(Dennis Trout, Ancient Mediterranean Studies)
- W Nov 29 D *The Golden Ass*
- F Dec 1 D *The Golden Ass*
- M Dec 4 D *The Golden Ass*
- W Dec 6 D Evaluations & Study Sheet

FINAL EXAM: Monday, December 11**7:30am – 9:30am****DISCUSSION SECTIONS**

- 01 Greg Foster (Middlebush 208)
- 02 Neil Minturn (Strickland 106)
- 03 Rachel Harper (Middlebush 205)
- 04 Ted Tarkow (Middlebush 210)
- 05 Mariapia Pietropaolo (Swallow 008)
- 06 Mark Smith (Mumford 321)
- 07 Carrie Duncan (Gwynn 223)
- 08 Dan Sipe (Middlebush 10)
- 09 Sandy Sanders (Geology 112)
- 10 Bill Dawson (Strickland 112)
- 11 Tim Langen (Strickland 104)

TEXTS

- Homer, *The Iliad*. Trans. Ewings. Penguin Classics, 1998.
- Sophocles, *Antigone*. Trans. Woodruff. Hackett, 2001.
- Euripides, *Medea*. Trans. Arnson Svarlien. Hackett, 2008.
- Aristophanes, *Lysistrata*. Trans. Ruden. Hackett, 2000.
- The Book of Job (Jewish Publication Society *Tanakh*, 1985; pdf available on Canvas).
- Plato (selections from *Timaeus*, *Republic*, *Phaedo*, & *Meno*; pdf available on Canvas).
- Aristotle. (selections from *Physics*, *On the Soul*, *Metaphysics*, *Politics*, & *Nicomachean Ethics*; pdf available on Canvas).
- Virgil, *The Aeneid*. Trans. Fitzgerald. Vintage/Everyman's, 1992.
- Ovid, *The Metamorphoses*. Trans. Melville. Oxford UP, 2009.
- Horace (selected odes, trans. West et al.; pdf available on Canvas).
- The Gospels of Matthew & Luke (NRSV online at bible.oremus.org)
- Apuleius, *The Golden Ass*. Trans. Lindsay. Indiana UP, 1960.
- Woodford, Susan. *The Art of Greece and Rome*. Cambridge UP, 2004.



ILLUSTRATIONS:
REVERSE: *Laocöon and His Sons*, 1st century BCE, Vatican Museum, Rome;
LEFT: *Laocöon* (head), drawing from Girard Audran, *Les Proportions du corps humain*, Paris, 1683.