

Greek 4540: Greek Oratory
Syllabus for SP'18

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Anticipated Office Hours (subject to change): T and TH 3:30-4:30 PM; W 1:00-2:30 PM; F 11:15-1:30 PM; other times possible by appointment.

Required Textbooks:

Lysias, *Selected Speeches*, ed. C. Cary (Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics), Paperback: ISBN: 0-521-26988-1.
Morwood, James, *The Oxford Grammar of Classical Greek* (Oxford, 2002), Paperback: ISBN: 978-0-19-521851-0.

Canvas: Use of Canvas is required for this course.

Syllabus Statements: You will find the usual required statements in a file on Canvas.

General Information about the Course:

1. Class work:

a. Class performance in translation, discussion, and any other assignments will account for up to 75 points of your final course grade. Although I shall take into account your differing levels of skills and previous course work, you will lose points if you frequently come to class unprepared or underprepared, and I shall deduct points for excessive unexcused absences.

b. Translation: You should come to class prepared to translate and analyze the assigned passages. Pay attention to content as well as to form (e.g., grammar and syntax and rhetorical devices) and be familiar with the issues brought up in the commentary.

2. Written Work (negotiable):

a. Quizzes, Tests, and the Final Examination: I plan to give you up to three 20-minute quizzes (Feb. 6, March 15, and April 24), two tests (Feb. 22 and April 10), and a final examination (May 11, 7:30-9:30 AM). The dates that I have given here and the number of quizzes are subject to change by mutual agreement.

- Each quiz will include short passages for translation and comprehension (including questions about grammar, syntax, content, and important points from the commentaries) and will be worth 25 points.
- Each test and the final examination will be worth 100 points and will include translation, comprehension (see above), and questions on background and content (including material from reading assignments and class work). I may also decide to include a passage for sight translation on a test or on the final examination. The final will not be comprehensive. I shall, of course, tell you

later what it will cover. Quizzes, tests, and the final may be made up if you have a good excuse.

c. Project: You may earn up to 50 points doing some kind of creative project relevant to the course. Your project is due on April 20.

3. Grade scale: Your grades will be based on the total number of points that you earn for the semester. At this point, the maximum that you may earn is 500. My grade scale will be approximately the following:

A+ = 500-490 A = 489-450 B+ = 449-439 B = 438-399 C+ = 398-388
C = 387-348 D+ = 347-337 D = 336-297 F = 296 and below.

Topics and Assignments:

1. Required background reading: You will be responsible for the material in the introduction in our Lysias text (pp. 1-12) as well as for the “essay” that you will find in introducing the commentary for each speech that we read (e.g., pp. 59-64 for Lysias 1).

2. You also will be responsible for the material on handouts and /or presented in any lectures that I give or our class discussions--- e.g., what we deal with on Jan. 16 and 18.

- On Jan. 16, I expect to introduce you to basic Athenian government and the court system.
- On Jan. 18, I expect to work with the Gorgias passage that I have posted on Canvas as a way to:
 - introduce you to the Sophists who got rhetoric started at Athens;
 - let you see a style quite different from Lysias’;
 - and show you an example of epideictic oratory.
 - We probably will also use it to review some grammar and/or syntax.
- On Jan. 23, before we begin to work on translating Lysias 1, we shall talk about some gender issues in Athens. As we translate Lysias, I am going to have you make use of the Morwood book to help us review grammar and syntax. On Jan. 23, we shall work on the first paragraph of Lysias 1.

2. Translation Assignments: Changes are possible/probable after we establish our “pace” and your interests. The list below is probably the maximum that we can do and will need trimming.

- I would like for us to translate the following passages from Lysias:
 - ❖ Lysias 1: all.
 - ❖ Lysias 7: “On the Olive Stump” (probably all).
 - ❖ Lysias 3: “Defense Speech against Simon” (sections TBA).
 - ❖ Lysias 14: “Against Alkibiades” (sections TBA).