**CLAS 101 F syllabus - Latin and Greek in Current Use**  
Autumn 2021, T Th 09:30-10:20am, MUS 216

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| Instructor: Zainab Syed  (pronouns: they/them)  E-mail: zhsyed@uw.edu  Mailbox: Classics Dept. Office, Denny 262  Office: Denny Hall 400K | Office Hours: MW 12:30-1:30pm via Zoom & by appointment (also via Zoom)  Department Phone: 206-543-2266  Department Website:  <https://classics.washington.edu> |

Required Text:

* William J. Dominik, *Words and Ideas* (Bolchazy - Carducci).

Reference Texts:

* Any reputable English dictionary with etymological entries, e.g. *The American Heritage Dictionary* (3rd ed.), or *Webster’s New World Dictionary*.
* The *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED) is also available free online: go to http://lib.washington.edu/ 🡪 Log In 🡪 click “FIND IT” 🡪 click “Oxford English Dictionary (OED)” under the heading “Quick Fact Resources”.

If you have any difficulties obtaining the text, please let me know as soon as possible. Other readings will either be provided as handouts in class or will be posted online on Canvas.

Course Aims:

The aims of the class are twofold. First, we will seek to improve and increase English vocabulary through a study of the Latin and Greek elements in English, with emphasis on words in current literary and scientific use. The Latin and Greek elements learned in this course will help you better understand how many English words have evolved, and prepare you to continue expanding your English vocabulary well after the class is over. Second, we will examine the ever-changing relationship between language and ideas in order to better understand the continuing impact of classical Greece and Rome on modern culture. This course aims to give you a sense of the words, ideas, and stories that we have adopted from the ancient Greeks and Romans, and to help you identify, understand, and critically examine classical influence when you encounter it. It is inevitable that while we do this, we will also interrogate what “classics” really means and, hopefully, question preconceived notions of classical Greece and Rome that are rooted in racism, misogyny, and classism.

# Content Note:

Some of our course readings and discussions will be focusing on potentially difficult topics. There will be content warnings provided below in the class schedule (they will be bolded and labeled as CW). Some important general content warnings when studying Classics: violence/war, sexual violence/assault, slavery, sexism, ableism, and racism. Please feel free to contact me at any time regarding potential triggers or otherwise difficult topics so that I can provide warnings for them if I haven’t already.

Class Conduct:

*(More about UW’s policies on conduct and accommodation at end of syllabus)*

Out of courtesy to your classmates and to me, please come to class **on time** and prepared to contribute. Cellphones and other such electronics must be **silent or off**. University conduct and scholarly integrity codes should be followed at all times.

With regards to classroom discussions, please ensure that you are respectful during these conversations and treat your classmates (and me) with courtesy and consideration. Hateful or discriminatory speech will not be tolerated in the classroom. This includes, but is not limited to, racism, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, or ableism.

If absence is unavoidable due to illness or other legitimate circumstance (e.g. family emergency, religious or cultural obligation, court date, university-sponsored competition or field trip), **please contact me via e-mail** **to let me know**. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed in class, to catch up on any missed homework, and to schedule make-ups for any quizzes or exams. However, given that we are still in a pandemic and in order to ensure that you stay home if you are feeling at all unwell, I am providing **three automatically excused absences.** This means that you will not be required to let me know and I will help you catch up as necessary. The only exception to these absences is quizzes, **I will still need you to let me know if you’re absent on a quiz day** so that I can schedule a make-up quiz for you. The past year and a half have been challenging for everyone and I understand that the transition to in-person classes is going to be tricky, however, I will be unable to help you if you do not let me know when difficult circumstances arise that may impact your presence in the classroom.

**I *cannot* discuss grades during class or via e-mail** due to university policy, but only during office hours and by appointment only. If a student has questions regarding assignments, tests, homework or any other matter, I will be more than happy to discuss that in my office hours.

General Note:

As I mentioned earlier, we are all coming back to school from a difficult period that is not completely over yet. I aim to be as accommodating as possible, but you have to reach out to me in order for me to help you. If you have any difficulties or concerns about the class, please email me or schedule a meeting with me as soon as possible so I can assist you.

Department Course Coordinator:

Professor Stephen Hinds 262 Denny Hall, Department of Classics Email: [shinds@uw.edu](mailto:shinds@uw.edu)

Grading:

**Homework/Participation**: Active classroom participation is important. The first step in participating in class is regularly attending. Beyond simply showing up, I expect everyone both to be prepared (by having read the assigned material and completed any homework assignments) and to participate actively in class discussions and activities. Completion of homework assignments will count for 30 points, as will regular participation in class, for a total of 60 points. Homework and participation account for a large portion of your grade – if you were to get a zero in this category, the highest course grade you could receive is a 3.1! However, I am happy to provide extensions if needed. I will rarely refuse an extension request so if you feel that you cannot meet a deadline, please let me know.

**Quizzes:** There will be three quizzes worth 80 points each given over the course of the term (see schedule below for dates). You will be given the whole class period to complete them. Make-up opportunities will be given due to a legitimate absence, but it is important that you email me as soon as possible in order for me to accommodate your request. I strongly recommend keeping up on relevant vocabulary from each chapter as we cover it by completing your homework and attending class; this will make preparation easier and allow you to get higher scores.

**Final Exam:** The Final, worth 130 points, will be on Wednesday, December 15th, from 10:30am-12:20pm in MUS 216*.* In accordance with university policy, **the final exam will be administered *only* on this date and at this time.** Final Examination Guidelines, including policy on ‘unavoidable absence’: <https://www.washington.edu/students/reg/examguide.html>

**Bonus points:** Bonus points will be offered in the quizzes and in the final. Even if a student has achieved the maximum score for a given quiz or final without the bonus points, any earned bonuses will be ‘banked’ for use towards the student’s overall points total for the course.

**Grading Breakdown**:

Participation + Homework: 60 Points

Quizzes: 3 x 80 = 240 Points  
 Final exam: 130 Points  
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Total: 430 points

**Grading Scale:**

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| 4.0: 430-411 | 3.0: 365-361 | 2.0: 315-311 | 1.0: 265-261 |
| 3.9: 410-406 | 2.9: 360-356 | 1.9: 310-306 | 0.9: 260-256 |
| 3.8: 405-401 | 2.8: 355-351 | 1.8: 305-301 | 0.8: 255-251 |
| 3.7: 400-396 | 2.7: 350-346 | 1.7: 300-296 | 0.7: 250-246 |
| 3.6: 395-391 | 2.6: 345-341 | 1.6: 295-291 | 0.0: 245 or fewer\* |
| 3.5: 390-386 | 2.5: 340-336 | 1.5: 290-286 |  |
| 3.4: 385-381 | 2.4: 335-331 | 1.4: 285-281 |  |
| 3.3: 380-376 | 2.3: 330-326 | 1.3: 280-276 |  |
| 3.2: 375-371 | 2.2: 325-321 | 1.2: 275-271 |  |
| 3.1: 370-366 | 2.1: 320-316 | 1.1: 270-266 |  |

\* Note: in order to pass this class, you must receive 246 points or greater.

**Tentative Schedule:**

All readings and assignments ***are due*** on the day they are listed on the syllabus (unless an extension has been provided).

**Week 1:**

**Thursday, September 30th:**

* Introduction & syllabus

**Week 2:**

**Tuesday, October 5th:**

* What is Classics?
* Chapter 1 – Word Building Basics: Read pp. 1-15
* Appendices I-III – Diphthongs, Numbers, and Colors: Read pp. 251-256

**Thursday, October 7th:**

* Chapter 4 – Mythology: Read pp. 75-99 **(CW: violence/war, sexual violence/assault)**
* Responsible for: *Greek Nouns/Adjectives – pp. 19-25* (Memorize all bulleted bases/combining forms in this section. For example, know that -archy means ‘rule by.’)

**Week 3:**

**Tuesday, October 12th:**

* He Wants to Save Classics from Whiteness. Can the Field Survive? By Rachel Poser (A NYT feature that will be uploaded as a PDF onto Canvas)

**Thursday, October 14th:**

* **Homework**: Ch. 4 ex. 2-3

**Week 4:**

**Tuesday, October 19th:**

* Chapter 5 – Medicine, pp. 105-139 **(CW: ableism)**

**Thursday, October 21st:**

* **Quiz #1**

**Week 5:**

**Tuesday, October 26th:**

* Chapter 6 – Politics and Law, pp. 145-164
* Responsible for: *Greek Adverbs/Verbs – pp. 25-29*

**Thursday, October 28th:**

* Athenian democracy, citizenship, and status discussion **(CW: xenophobia, misogyny**) – assigned reading for this discussion will be handed out the week before

**Week 6:**

**Tuesday, November 2nd:**

* **Homework**: Ch. 5 ex. 4-5, Ch. 6 ex. 3
* Responsible for: *Greek Prefixes/Suffixes – pp. 29-36*

**Thursday, November 4th:**

* Chapter 7 – Commerce and Economics, pp. 169-187 **(CW: slavery)**
* Review Greek word-building from Ch. 2

**Week 7:**

**Tuesday, November 9th:**

* **Quiz #2**

**Thursday, November 11th:**

* **No Class – Veterans Day**

**Week 8:**

**Tuesday, November 16th:**

* Chapter 8 – Philosophy and Psychology, pp. 191-206 (stop before “psyche”)
* Responsible for: *Latin Nouns/Verbs – pp. 45-48*

**Thursday, November 18th:**

* Chapter 8 – Philosophy and Psychology, pp. 206-219
* **Homework**: Ch. 7 ex. 4, Ch. 8 ex. 6(b)
* Responsible for: *Latin Prefixes – pp. 48-55*

**Week 9:**

**Tuesday, November 23rd:**

* **Quiz #3**

**Thursday, November 25th:**

* **No Class** - Thanksgiving

**Week 10:**

**Tuesday, November 30th:**

* Chapter 9 – History, pp. 227-238
* Responsible for: *Latin Suffixes – pp. 55-63*

**Thursday, December 2nd:**

* Chapter 9 – History, pp. 238-246
* Review Latin word-building from Ch. 3

**Week 11:**

**Tuesday, December 7th:**

* Thinking critically about Classics discussion. Additional handout will be provided

**Thursday, December 9th:**

* Review day – bring questions

**Wednesday, December 15th:**

* **FINAL EXAM** – MUS 216 10:30-12:20pm

**Important UW policy-related things to know:**

**UW’s Religious Accommodations Policy:** “Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW’s policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy [(https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/)](https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using <https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/> , the Religious Accommodations Request form.”

**UW’s Student Conduct Code:** “The University of Washington Student Conduct Code (WAC 478-121) defines prohibited academic and behavioral conduct and describes how the University holds students accountable as they pursue their academic goals. Allegations of misconduct by students may be referred to the appropriate campus office for investigation and resolution. More information can be found online at <https://www.washington.edu/studentconduct/>”

**UW Disability Resources: Access and Accommodations:** Your experience in this class is important to me. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please communicate your approved accommodations to me at your earliest convenience so we can discuss your needs in this course.

If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (conditions include but not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are welcome to contact DRS at 206-543-8924 or [uwdrs@uw.edu](mailto:uwdrs@uw.edu) or [disability.uw.edu.](http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs/)DRS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions.  Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and DRS.  It is the policy and practice of the UW to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law.

**Academic Integrity:** University of Washington students are expected to practice high standards of academic and professional honesty and integrity as outlined here: <http://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf>

**UW Language on Face Covering in the Classroom (COVID):** *To ensure the health and safety of the University campus community, face coverings are required to be worn indoors when other people are present regardless of vaccination status. Eating and drinking will not be permitted in the classroom. This requirement is in accordance with UW’s COVID-19 Face Covering Policy:*

[*https://www.ehs.washington.edu/system/files/resources/COVID-19-face-cover-policy.pdf*](https://www.ehs.washington.edu/system/files/resources/COVID-19-face-cover-policy.pdf)

*For the purposes of this policy, a face covering must: Fit snugly against the sides of the face; completely cover the nose and mouth; bandanas and gaiters are not considered face coverings for this policy. Students who forget a face mask or refuse to wear one will be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated failure to wear a face covering may result in being referred to the Student Conduct Office for possible disciplinary action. In these still-difficult times, it is important that we all do our part to keep each other safe. (September 2021)*