

LATN 3398 Sp-Readings in Latin T-Th 2:30-4:00 AH 304

Vergil's *Aeneid*

Instructor: Francesca D. Behr (fbeh@mail.uh.edu)

Office: AH 423 office hours TTh 5:30-6:30 or by appointment



Textbook (required):

- Barbara Weiden Boyd (ed), *Vergil's Aeneid, Selections from Books 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, and 12* (2nd Edition) Bolchazy-Carducci ISBN 978-0-86516-584-7
- The *Aeneid* in English translation (any will do; best are Fagles, Mandelbaum, and Lombardo)

Description of the Course/Requirements:

We will read selections from Virgil's *Aeneid*. Most of our primary readings will be taken from the textbook. The rest of the primary readings can be found at Bibliotheca Augustana:

http://www.hs-augsburg.de/~harsch/Chronologia/Lsante01/Vergilius/ver_ae00.html)

While translating Latin for class use whatever tool you prefer (dictionary, translations, websites, etc.). In class be ready to give explanations of the way in which you translated and do not hesitate to express doubts and problems about your translation. Always bring English translation of the *Aeneid* to class. Sometimes you will be asked to read secondary readings (see list below). I am expecting students to be able to summarize each reading and discuss their most important ideas. All students will have to work on a paper on the *Aeneid*. Their research will have to be typewritten and submitted through Turnitin. The topic will have to be pre-approved by the instructor (talk to me before you start researching) and presented to the rest of the class in a brief but effective oral presentation (12/20 minutes, you can use slides, posters, models, etc.). Students will present their research outcomes on an appointed date. Attendance is required. Students will be dropped from the course for excessive absences. Three unexcused absences or two consecutive unexcused absences are considered excessive. If the student has valid or University excused absences, they must consult with the instructor to avoid being dropped or penalized. Absences: 0=A+, 1=A, 2=A-, 3=B+, 4=B, 5=B-, 6=C, 7=D, 8=F. Every student must pass two exams. No make-up exams will be given unless this is discussed previously with the instructor.

Plagiarism in this class will not be tolerated. I assume every student knows what plagiarism is. If you do not, please let me know. For further information about academic honesty, the academic calendar, religious holidays, and disabilities: http://www.uh.edu/provost/stu/honesty_faq_stu.html)

Immediate Goals:

1. Knowledge of syntax, morphology and vocabulary of sections translated. 2. Knowledge of basic plot, characters, and themes of the *Aeneid*. 3. Awareness of the main features of the genre discussed (epic). Ability to discuss the style and tone of

every passage. 4. Knowledge and modern relevance of the main issues raised by the text and discussed in class. Some of the issues which will be discussed are: heroism in epic, representation of women in epic, approaches to the *Aeneid* from the Renaissance to the modern time, comparison with Homeric precedents.

Long term Goals:

1. Understanding of the Western World and its heritage through the study of Roman language and its culture. 2. Development of superior writing, analytical and communication skills through the study of Latin, etymology, and complex syntax.

Grades Distribution:

- 2 exams taken in class (no dictionary/notes allowed): 50%
- attendance and class participation: 30%
- oral presentation: 10%
- paper: 10%

Secondary Sources (available through e-reserve or UH electronic database):

1. C. Segal, "Art and the Hero: Participation, Detachment, and Narrative Point of View in the Aeneid" *Arethusa* 14 (1981) pp. 67-83
2. Robin Mitchell-Boyask, "Sine Fine; Vergil's Masterplot" *American Journal of Philology* 117.2 (1996) pp. 289-307 [accessible through Project Muse]
3. G.E. Duckworth, "The Significance of Nisus and Euryalus for Aeneid 9-12" *American Journal of Philology* 88 (1967) pp.129-50 [accessible thr. Jstor]
4. D.C. Feeney, "The Reconciliation of Juno" *Classical Quarterly* 34 (1984) pp.179-94 [accessible thr. Jstor]
5. M.J. Putnam, "The Hesitation of Aeneas" in e-reserve
6. G.K. Galinsky, "The Anger of Aeneas" in e-reserve

Reading list week by week (NB: passages underlined are not in your textbook!):

Aug. 25-27 *Aen.* 1.1-1.200;
Sept. 1-3 1.200-400; 2.1-56;
Sept. 8-10 2.199-297; 2.469-566;
Sept. 15-17 2.735-804; 4.1-100
Sept. 22-24 (class is cancelled for the 24th I am at a colloquium) 4.100-200
Sept. 29/Oct. 1 4.200-300; 4.300-448;
Oct. 6-8 4.642-705; 9.176-356; [Euryalus & Nisus];
Oct. 20-22 9.384-451; 9.473-502 [Euryalus & Nisus];
Oct. 13-15 10.429-509 [Death of Pallas]; **Midterm on Oct. 15**
Oct. 20-22 12.1-80; 12.134-159;
Oct. 27-29 12.219-265; 12.593-611;
Nov. 3-5 12.791-842;
Nov. 10-12 12.843-886;
Nov. 17-19 12.887-952
Nov. 24-26 Thanksgiving Vacation
Dec. 1-3 Presentations-Paper is submitted