

Great Conversation113ABC: The Tradition Beginning: The Greeks and the Hebrews
Fall, 2007

Section A Gary Gisselman, Artistic Director, Theater 43, X3320, <gisselma>
Section B Edward Langerak, Philosophy, Holland Hall 601C, X3494, <langerak>
Section C Mary Trull, English, Library 417, X3445, <trull>

Books:

Aristophanes, *Clouds*, translated by Peter Meineck (Hackett, 2000) 0-87220-516-9

Aristotle, *Introductory Readings*, translated by Terence Irwin and Gail Fine (Hackett, 1996) 0-87220-339-5

Gilgamesh: A New English Version, ed. Stephen Mitchell (Free Press, 2006), 0743261690

Herodotus, *The Histories*, translated by Robin A. Waterfield (Oxford, 1999) 0-19-282425-2

Homer, *The Odyssey*, translated by Robert Fagles (Penguin Classics, 2006), 0143039954

Plato, *Republic*, translated by C. D. C. Reeve (Hackett, 2004), 0-87220-736-6

Sophocles, *The Three Theban Plays*, translated by Robert Fagles (Penguin, 1984)
0-14-044425-4

Thucydides, *On Justice, Power, and Human Nature: Selections from The History of the Peloponnesian War*, translated by Paul Woodruff (Hackett, 1993) 0-87220-168-6

The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha, Third Edition, New Revised Standard Version, College Edition (Oxford, 2001), 0-19-528485-2

Borg, Marcus, *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time* (Harper, 2002), 0060609192

Melchert, Norman, *The Great Conversation: A Historical Introduction to Philosophy* (Oxford, 5th ed., 2007) 0-19-530682-1

Raimes, Ann, *Keys for Writers*, 4th ed. (Houghton, Mifflin, Co., 2007), 0618437851

Syllabus:

W	Sept. 5	Introduction: What makes a good (bad) conversation and conversationalist?
		Cicero, <i>De Officiis (On Duties)</i> I, 132-137 handout (HO); "Conversations On Conversation" (HO) is recommended
		<u>The Journey: Epic and Saga</u>
F	Sept. 7	Melchert, Ch. 1; Homer, <i>Iliad</i> , Book 3 and selections from Books 1, 12, 22, and 24 HO

M Sept. 10 Homer, *Odyssey*, Books 1-8 (rec. Knox's Introduction)
Monday night dinner in Valhalla Room, 5:30f; program at 6:15: Anne Groton, Classics

W	Sept. 12	Homer, <i>Odyssey</i> , Books 9-16	
F	Sept. 14	Homer, <i>Odyssey</i> , Books 17-24	
M	Sept. 17	<i>Gilgamesh</i> .	<i>First response paper due</i>
W	Sept. 19	Genesis 1-11; Borg, Ch. 1-4; Friedman's "Who Wrote the Bible?" HO	
F	Sept. 21	Genesis 12-35; Borg, Ch. 5	Meet in Viking Theater for plenary lecture by David Booth, Religion
M	Sept. 24	Exodus 1-20	
		<u>History and Historians: The Use and Abuse of History</u>	
W	Sept. 26	Herodotus, <i>The Histories</i> , Book 1, sects.1-91 (Croesus), 178-216 (Cyrus); Book 5, sects. 97-105 (Ionian revolt); Book 6, sects. 101-124 (Marathon) (rec. Dewald's Introduction)	
F	Sept. 28	Herodotus, <i>The Histories</i> , Book 7, sects. 1-60 (Xerxes), 202-239 (Thermopylae); Book 8, sects. 51-103 (Salamis)	
M	Oct. 1	Melchert, Ch. 3; Thucydides, <i>The History of the Peloponnesian War</i> , selections in Woodruff, 1-37 (rec. Introduction. ix-xxxiii)	
		Monday night dinner (Valhalla), 5:30f; program, 6:15: Tim Howe, History	
W	Oct. 3	Thucydides, <i>The History of the Peloponnesian War</i> , selections in Woodruff, 39-95.	<i>First edition of exegesis paper due, 5pm</i>
F	Oct. 5	Thucydides, <i>The History of the Peloponnesian War</i> , selections in Woodruff, 97-160.	<i>First debate</i>
M	Oct. 8	Joshua 1-12, 24; Judges 1-2, 4-8, 13-16	
W	Oct. 10	1 Samuel 8-31; 2 Samuel 1	
F	Oct. 12	Midterm Exam	
		October 13-16: Fall Break	
W	Oct. 17	2 Samuel 5-20; 1 Kings 1-2	<i>Second response paper due</i>
		<u>The Shape and Use of Sacred Space</u>	
F	Oct. 19	Exodus 25-29, 40; 1 Kings 6-8; Psalms 24, 43, 48, 63, 84, 100; E O James, "Sanctuaries in Palestine and the Temple in Jerusalem" (HO); HO/websites on tabernacle and temple	
M	Oct. 22	Pollitt, "The Parthenon," HO.	<i>Second edition of exegesis paper due, 5pm</i>
W	Oct. 24	Greek Lyric Poetry HO. Meet in Viking for plenary lecture by Mary Trull	
F	Oct. 26	Psalms 1,2,8,14,19,22,23,32,37,42,46,50,51,53,58,65,73,74,88,89,104,133, 137,150, and any student favorites; Song of Solomon	
		<u>Philosophy and Wisdom</u>	
M	Oct. 29	Melchert, Ch.4 (rec. Ch 2); Plato, <i>Apology</i> (Melchert, 85-103); Aristophanes, <i>Clouds</i>	
W	Oct. 31	Plato, <i>Crito</i> (Melchert, 103-113).	<i>Second debate</i>
F	Nov. 2	Plato, <i>Euthyphro</i> (Melchert, 71-85; death scene from <i>Phaedo</i>	

(Melchert, 113-116)

M Nov. 5 Plato, *Republic*, Books I and II; Melchert, Ch 6
W Nov. 7 Plato, *Republic*, Books IV, VI, and VII, and synopsis of remaining chapters

Third response paper

due

F Nov. 9 Aristotle, *Introductory Readings*, 48-50 (*Physics* II, 3), 115-125 (*Metaphysics* I, 1-4), 196-216 (*Nicomachean Ethics* I); Melchert, Ch.7, 157-91

M Nov. 12 Aristotle, *Introductory Readings*, pp. 216-228 (*Nicomachean Ethics* II 1-7), 277-279 (*Nicomachean Ethics* X, 7), (see also the last two paragraphs of X,8, p.181), 288-296 (*Politics* I, 1-2, II, 1-5), 302-305, 308-309 (*Politics* III, 9, 12), 310-318 (*Politics* VII 1-2, 13, 15); Melchert, Ch.7, 191-96

Monday night dinner (Vahalla), 5:30f; program, 6:15, Ed Langerak

W Nov. 14 Proverbs 10-12, 21-29, 30-31; Ecclesiastes 1-12; Borg, Ch.7, 145-70

F Nov. 16 Job 1-13, 38-42; Psalm 22; Borg, Ch.7, 170-79. ***First edition of second formal paper due, 5pm***

Tragedy

M Nov. 19 Sophocles, *Oedipus the King*; Aristotle, *Introductory Readings*, 319-25 (*Poetics* 6, 9, 13); Arthur Miller, "Tragedy and the Common Man." **Meet in Viking for plenary lecture by Gary Gisselman**

Nov. 21-25: Thanksgiving Break

M Nov. 26 Sophocles, *Oedipus* (con't); *Antigone*

W Nov. 28 Sophocles, *Antigone* (con't).

F Nov. 30 Euripides, *The Bacchae* HO

Third Debate

Prophecy and Dramatic Narrative

M Dec. 3 Amos 1-9; Isaiah 1-12, 36-39, 40-42, 45, 49-50, 52-53; Borg, Ch. 6

Fourth response paper due

Monday night dinner (Vahalla), 5:30f; program, 6:15: College Pastor Bruce Benson

W Dec. 5 Esther; Ruth

F Dec. 7 Judith. ***Second edition of second formal paper due, 5pm***

M Dec. 10 Review

Final Exam: Tuesday, December 18, 2:00-4:00 p.m

Grading: class and course participation, including the debates: 15%; four response papers:10%; two essays, 35% (15 and 20%--the latter for the better one); midterm exam: 15%; final exam: 25%

Academic accommodations: Any student with a documented cognitive, physical or social/emotional disability needing academic accommodations is expected to speak with the instructor during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with a disability who do not have an accommodation letter to present to me must also contact Ruth Bolstad (bolstadr@stolaf.edu) or Connie Ford (ford@stolaf.edu) in Student Disability Services in the Academic Support Center (x3288) located in the back of the Modular Village.

Some St Olaf links: Here is the link to St. Olaf's Plagiarism policy, which the course instructor endorses and enforces: <http://www.stolaf.edu/stulife/thebook/academic/plagiarism.html>
Here is the link to St. Olaf's newly revised grading system:
<http://www.stolaf.edu/committees/cepc/cepcgreensheets/2006-07/cepcpreissuedgs060707.html>