

Lesson Plan
BA Hons. English Semester I

Paper No. & Name: ENC 102 European Classical Literature

Teachers – Text – No. of classes per week

Indulekha P R Burman (IRB): The Iliad (2 classes)

Novy Kapadia (NK): Oedipus Rex (1 class)

Saikat Ghosh (SG): The Pot of Gold (1 class)

Mehul Bhushan (MB): Ovid and Horace (2 classes)

Course objective:

To enable the students to recognize the perennial value and relevance of European classical literature by taking into account some of the most significant texts from ancient Greek and Roman literature. To motivate them to look back and forge a link between the past and the present. To make them explore relevant critical writings in order to reinforce textual understanding.

Week	Date	Text/Topic/Theme	Discussion	Teacher's name
1	20/07/16 to 23/07/16	General background on classical literature	Life of Homer, his influence and relevance, question of authorship, Epic as a genre	IRB
		Classical literature	General discussion	NK
		The idea of 'Mimesis' in Literature	Literature as Representation, Ancient Perspectives: Plato and Aristotle	SG
		Introduction to classical literature	Issues of dating classical literature in Europe. Greek and Roman art	MB
2	25/07/16 to 30/07/2016	Background on The Iliad	Oral tradition, formulaic system of composition/narrative technique	IRB
		General talk on the paper	Texts in the paper	NK
		Literature as Performance	Ritualistic origins of Drama and Dramaturgy as Meaning embedded in Form	SG
		Genre Study	Introduction to the epic tradition. Aristotle's theory of genre. Greek, Alexandrian and	MB

			Roman epic tradition	
3	01/08/16 to 06/08/16	Background on The Iliad	Historical background, Homeric society, idea of heroism/heroic code, Trojan war, general theme	IRB
		Background on the text	Explanation of Greek Gods and Goddesses and Greek City states, political structure	NK
		Comedy	Comedy's relationship with Familiarity, Homecoming, Restoration of Social Order (Oikea Hedonae - Aristotle)	SG
		Ovid's ' <i>cursus</i> '	Introduction to Ovid's <i>Metamorphoses</i> and the epic tradition in Rome. Ovid's <i>cursus</i> - elegy, tragedy and epic. Difference between epics of Virgil and Ovid	MB
4	08/08/16 to 13/08/16	Book 1 & 2: Text, reading and analysis	Epic conventions, main characters, Homeric gods and men, portrayal of women, 'catalogue', Homeric similes	IRB
		Background on the text	The origin of the Oedipus Myth—historical perspectives	NK
		Old Comedy and New Comedy in Ancient Greece	Difference between dramaturgy of Aristophanes and Menander	SG
		Historical background	Ovid and Augustan Rome. <i>Fasti</i> and <i>Metamorphoses</i> . Language, politics and image-making in Augustan Rome	MB
5	15/08/16 to 20/08/16 (15 th August – Gazetted Holiday)	Book 3 & 4: Text, reading and analysis	Helen, Trojan characters Aphrodite descriptions of battle scenes, elements of pathos and humanism, reenactment of theme	IRB

			Aristotle on Greek Tragedy, explanation of terms	NK
		Roman Comedy as Popular Entertainment	Importance of Templates and Formulae (stock situations and characters)	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Ovid's <i>Metamorphoses</i> and art of storytelling. Concepts of <i>deducite</i> and <i>perpetuum</i> . Reading of the Prologue to <i>Metamorphoses</i>	MB
6	22/08/16 to 27/08/16 25 th August – Gazetted Holiday	Book 5, 6 & 7: Text, reading and analysis	<i>Aristeia</i> , Humanisation of characters, marginalisation of women, history and material objects, myth and modernity	IRB
			The significance of the Oedipus trilogy, is it a tragedy of fate or character	NK
		Significance of Plautus	Use of the Carnavalesque, Social Satire, Effect of Repetition	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Reading and interpretation of Bacchus and Pentheus tale. Ovid's <i>Bacchus</i> and Euripides' <i>Bacchae</i> ,. Relationship between tragedy and epic tradition in <i>Metamorphoses</i>	MB
7	29/08/16 to 03/09/16	Book 8 & 9: Text, reading and analysis	Zeus, symbol, imagery, art of narrative, speeches, character of Achilles, notion of destiny and human dignity	IRB
		Text: Reading and analysis lines 1-51	Themes	NK
		Introduction to <i>The Pot of Gold (Aulularia)</i>	Prologue by Lars Familiaris and 'Quid Pro Quo' as a Civic Virtue	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Discussion on issues of gendered conventions of civil discourse in Augustan	MB

			Rome and Ovid's Metamorphoses. Issues of kingship, masculinity and civil discourse. Historical significance of women Bacchanals.	
8	05/09/16 to 10/09/16 (9th September – no classes on account of DUSU elections)	Book 10, 11 & 12: Text, reading and analysis	Narrative devices: humour, irony, confidential asides, patroclus, importance of myths and tales from the past, Why does an epic hero fight, economic, political cause of war	IRB
		Text: Reading and analysis lines 52-101	Themes and use of myth	NK
		Text: Reading and Discussion of Scenes 1-2	Class society in Ancient Rome, Slaves, Master-Slave relationship, Fetishism	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Reading and interpretation of the tale of Philomela. Ovid's mythologizing of Philomela's tale. Adaptation of Ovid's Philomela tale by other writers like Shakespeare in <i>Titus Andronicus</i>	MB
9	12/09/16 to 17/09/16 13 th Sept – Gazetted holiday for Eid-ul-Zuha (Bakrid)	Book 13, 14 & 15: Text, reading and analysis	Role of gods, Hector, Homer's attitude to war, poetic value of The Iliad, theme of father son relationship	IRB
		Text: Reading and analysis lines 101-200	Themes and use of irony	NK
		Text: Scenes 1-2	'Ox and Ass' Analogy: Plautus' use of Rhetoric	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Civilisation and barbarism in Roman civic and political life. Gender, class and imperial politics in Augustan Rome. Ovid's idea of counter-nation based	MB

			on 'libertas'. Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i> and Ovid's <i>Metamorphoses</i>	
10	19/09/16 to 24/09/16	Book 16 & 17: Text, reading and analysis	Fate & Will of Zeus, cremation and burial	IRB
		Text: Reading and analysis lines 200-400	Plot, problems with Teiresias	NK
		Text: Reading and Discussion of Scenes 3-5	Marriages as Alliances, Public Approval/Disapproval, characters of Euclio and Megadorus, Importance of Ox and Ass Simile	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Reception history of Ovid's Philomela tale. Questions of silencing of voices in feminist discourse. A study of <i>Game of Thrones</i> in relation to Philomela's tale	MB
11	26/09/16 to 01/10/16	Book 18, 19 & 20: Text, reading and analysis	Theme of mother son relationship, Achilles, World beyond Troy, <i>Apotheon</i> , Elements of paradox in heroism	IRB
		Text: Reading and analysis lines 400-700	Themes and plot, conflict with Creon	NK
		Text: Reading and Discussion of Scenes 6-15	Conflict as Integral to Plot and Action (Nature of <i>Agon</i> in the Play), Nature of Humour, Use of Coarseness in Language	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Reading and discussion of Paramus and Thisbe Tale. Ovid, Roman elegy in Augustan poetry, Augustan love poetry and discourses of gender in Augustan Rome and <i>Metamorphoses</i>	MB
12	03/10/16 to 08/10/16 + 10 th Oct	Book 21, 22 & 23: Text, reading and analysis	Difference between battle on divine and mortal plane, significance of funeral games	IRB

		Text: Reading and analysis lines 700-900	Themes and plot, discovery & Reversal, Jocasta—Oedipus debate	NK
		Text: Reading and Discussion of Scenes 16-18	Megadorus' Soliloquy on Dowry (Soliloquy and dramaturgic element, close reading lines to scrutinise Megadorus' convenient projection of himself as a champion of the anti-dowry sentiment, Nature of Patriarchy in Ancient Rome, Plautine Satire)	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Questions of love, marriage and private property in Augustan Rome, Dichotomy between Urban and village setting in Augustan poetry and civic life. Family, class and imperial agenda in Augustan love poetry	MB
	11/10/16-15/10/16	UNIVERSITY MID SEMESTER BREAK		
13	17/10/16 to 22/10/16	Book 24: Text, reading and analysis	Significance of the book, Achilles, Priam, Iliad as a tragic poem, Homeric style	IRB
		Text: Reading and analysis lines 900-1050	Themes and plot, Self-discovery by Oedipus	NK
		Text: Reading and Discussion of Scenes 19-23	The Slave's Voice, Ingenuity and Disingenuity in Characters, Movement towards Denouement	SG
		Introduction to Horace	Horace: life and works, Horace's Satires and Roman tradition of Satire, Humour in Satire	MB
14	24/10/16 to 29/10/16	Entire text	RTC,	IRB
		Text: Reading and analysis lines 1050-1250	Themes and plot, Entrance of Shepherd and role of destiny, Oedipus's tragic	NK

			fate	
		Text: Reading and Discussion of Scenes 24-28	Reciprocity between Pythodocus and Lyconides, Modern Reconstruction of Denouement, Comic Pleasure	SG
		Text: Reading and Analysis	Reading and discussion of Satires 1:4, class society in ancient Rome. Roman imperial politics. Master-slave relationship	MB
15	31/10/16 to 05/11/16	Entire text	Short notes	IRB
		Text: Reading and analysis lines 1250-1530	Themes and plot, Oedipus as a Tragic hero	NK
		Overview of Play	Recap of Themes, Ideas, Important Action Sequences and Characterisation	SG
		Text: Reading and analysis	Issue of the 'self', autobiographical elements and public life in Horace's <i>Satires</i> . Gender and class	MB
16	07/11/16 to 12/11/16	Questions and answers	Discussion and preparation	IRB
		Text	Discussions on the Guilt of Oedipus, the Chorus in Oedipus Rex, the Innocence of Oedipus and Flaws of Oedipus and University questions.	NK
		Critical Perspectives	Discussion critical works by Erich Segal, Kathleen McCarthy, Michael Fontaine	SG
		Reception Study	Discussion of questions, major critical perspectives and reception study of Ovid and Horace's works	MB