

Hum/En 20  
Greek Epic and Drama  
Fall 2019  
George Pigman

*Requirements and Procedures*

By the morning of each class you must send me by email (gwp@caltech.edu) a question on the reading. I will choose one of the questions for a short quiz, which will take place at the beginning of class.

You must write three essays, the first two approximately 1,250 words long and the third, approximately 1,500 words long. The first essay is due October 20 at 11:59 pm, the second, November 17 at 11:59 pm, and the third, December 11 at 5 pm. If you'd like me to read a draft of your essay before submitting it to be graded, I'll try to do so provided that you send it to me a couple of days before it is due.

Roughly two-thirds of your grade will be based on the essays, and the other third on your quizzes and participation in class. You must receive a passing grade on all of the essays to pass the class. If you are not a freshman, the course may be taken for grades only.

If you have not already, you must attend the presentation, "Working with Sources: Avoiding Plagiarism and Working Effectively with the Texts of Others," at the Hixon Writing Center. See <http://writing.caltech.edu/workshops> for more information.

Please do not bring laptops, tablets, or smartphones to class.

The easiest way to communicate with me is by email, but I am happy to speak to you in person. My office is 208 Dabney.

*Required Texts*

I realize that books are expensive and that translations of these works are available for free on the web. But there are two problems with using those translations in addition to your not being able to bring them to class. First, since different translators have different principles of translation, you may find one that takes great liberties with the Greek. Second, many freely available translations have no notes, and without notes you won't be able to understand the numerous allusions to Greek myths.

*The Greek Plays: Sixteen Plays by Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides*, ed. Mary Lefkowitz and James Romm (New York: Modern Library, 2017).

Homer, *The Iliad*, trans. Robert Fagles (New York: Penguin, 1998).

Homer, *The Odyssey*, trans. Emily Wilson (New York: Norton, 2017).

## Writing Matters

Caltech's Hixon Writing Center offers a number of resources that you may find useful for supporting your writing in this class, including tutorial support that allows you to discuss a work-in-progress with a professional or peer tutor. You can learn more about the Center, how to make an appointment with a tutor, and about their other resources on their website (<http://writing.caltech.edu>).

Plagiarism is a serious offense against the Caltech honor code and against the scholarly community at large; you should become thoroughly familiar with the Hixon Writing Center's "Understanding and Avoiding Plagiarism" (<http://writing.caltech.edu/resources/plagiarism>).

## Schedule

October 1	Introduction
October 3	Homer, <i>Iliad</i> 1–3
October 8	Homer, <i>Iliad</i> 4–8
October 10	Homer, <i>Iliad</i> 9–13
October 15	Homer, <i>Iliad</i> 14–18
October 17	Homer, <i>Iliad</i> 19–24
October 22	Homer, <i>Odyssey</i> 1–6
October 24	Homer, <i>Odyssey</i> 7–12
October 29	Homer, <i>Odyssey</i> 13–18
October 31	Homer, <i>Odyssey</i> 19–24
November 5	Aeschylus, <i>Agamemnon</i>
November 7	Aeschylus, <i>The Libation Bearers</i>
November 12	Aeschylus, <i>The Eumenides</i>
November 14	Writing workshop at Hixon Writing Center. You must have completed a draft of your second essay by November 13 at 5 pm for this peer-review workshop.
November 19	Sophocles, <i>Electra</i>
November 21	Euripides, <i>Electra</i>
November 26	Euripides, <i>Hippolytus</i>
December 3	Sophocles, <i>Oedipus the King</i>
December 5	Sophocles, <i>Antigone</i>