

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2016

Course GRST 455.03 L01 : ANCIENT BIOGRAPHY
Time MWF 13:00-13:50
Instructor Dr Noreen Humble
Office Hours Wednesday 14:00-15:00 or by appointment
Office SS 514
E-mail nmhumble@ucalgary.ca
Telephone 403-220-4560

Required Text(s): There is no textbook which needs to be purchased (though a number of the readings are available in Penguin translations if you desire to purchase them). A list of readings will be handed out in the first class, most will be available online or will be put on reserve reading in the library; some will also be handed out in class.

Course Description: This course will examine the rise of biographical writing in the ancient Greek world and follow its development through the centuries, assessing the impact of Roman and Christian authors on the genre. Topics to be covered include: the relation between biography and history, the sources available to ancient biographers, the development of autobiographical writing, the influence of philosophical schools of thought and the role of ethics, the ancient concept of character, and the writing of series of or collective biographies. Among the major authors whose works will be studied in detail are Xenophon, Nepos, Plutarch and Suetonius.

Online elements for this course: Much of the reading that will be assigned will be available online. Additional material may be posted to D2L.

Core Competencies: This course aims to increase your critical abilities through careful reading and analysis of the primary source material for the period, to enhance your ability to argue effectively and to identify and evaluate arguments of others, and to express yourself and your thoughts clearly through different types of written exercises and through class discussion.

Course Requirements:

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)
Due Feb. 26	Reading Journal: Part 1	15%
Due April 1	Reading Journal: Part 2	15%
Due March 18	Essay proposal and preliminary bibliography	5%
Due April 8	Essay	40%
Due April 13	Take-home final exam	25%

Grading

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, standardized within the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content. Correct spelling and grammar are not optional.

Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments:

Deferrals of term-work will only be granted when documentation (e.g. official doctor's note, a note from Dino's coaching staff, or the equivalent) has been provided.

Expectations for student conduct in this course:

You are expected to show consideration and respect for your fellow-classmates and instructor, to come to class with the course reading done so that you can participate fully in discussions, and to participate fully in the group exercises (which will also include completing readings in advance).

Electronic Device Policy:

Please show respect towards your classmates and instructor with regard to the use of electronic devices. Your phones should be switched to silent mode during the class, and laptop computers (or other note-taking devices such as ipads or tablets) should be used only for the purpose of taking notes, following along with classroom demonstrations, or for other course-related purposes. Using them for facebook, email, twitter, etc. during class time is unacceptable. Those who cause a distraction by using their electronic devices for purposes other than those outlined above will have this privilege withdrawn.

Syllabus:

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

References and Bibliography:

The Department of Classics and Religion uses the most recent edition of the Chicago Manual of Style and requires references and bibliographies to adhere to the Chicago citation system. You can find a quick guide here: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html. Alternatively please consult with the library staff for help and advice using the Chicago citation style. **More detailed instructions will accompany the essay assignment.**

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism.

Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>). If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, or librarian staff.

Student Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- For program planning and advice, students in the Faculty of Arts will contact The Arts Students' Centre (ASC). Drop in at SS102, call at 403-220-3580 or email at as-carts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at arts1@ucalgary.ca.

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints. Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

Safewalk

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.