



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION
COURSE OUTLINE
Winter 2022**

COURSE NUMBER: GRST 455.3

COURSE NAME: Topics in Greek Literature in Translation (Ancient Biography)

CLASSROOM LOCATION: Scurfield Hall (SH) 157

CLASS DAYS & TIMES: Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays, 1400–1450 (January via Zoom; hopefully afterward in person)

INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS: George Ferzoco, george.ferzoco@ucalgary.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 10:00–11:00. The instructor will be available for individual online sessions by appointment, structured in 15-minutes intervals. Please contact the instructor via email to request an appointment. For students that are not available during office hours, please contact the instructor via email to request an alternate time. Instructor's office (Social Sciences 506) has no telephone.

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL POLICY: The instructor will only be opening e-mails sent from a @ucalgary.ca address, and will delete e-mails sent from other domains (e.g., gmail.com). The instructor will respond on Mondays to Fridays to e-mails sent on Mondays to Fridays. Response will normally be within 48 hours of receipt; if you have not received a response within that timeframe, please send a (gentle) reminder. This correspondence is of a business nature, so you are expected to reply by starting with 'Dear' then name (e.g., 'Dear George'); do not begin with, e.g., 'Hey' or 'Yo'. Please include the subject of your email and clearly identify yourself by full name and the course you are registered in. Please do not send email enquiries related to dates and deadlines. Students shall refer to the university calendar, course outline, and final exam schedule for schedule information. Enquiries related to exams or assignments must be sent no less than 24 hours before a deadline. Please ensure that the e-mail address linked to your name in D2L is your ucalgary.ca address.

COURSE CALENDAR STATEMENT: Topics will reflect developments in current research. Course hours: 3 units; (3-0). May be repeated for credit.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine the rise of biographical and hagiographical writing from the ancient world to the pre-modern period, focusing mainly on literature in Greek and its development through the centuries. The work of Roman and especially early/medieval Christian authors will be emphasised. Topics to be covered include: the relation between biography/hagiography and history; the creation and evolution of models of wonder and imitation; the sources available to ancient biographers/hagiographers; the development of autobiographical writing; the influence of philosophical and religious schools of thought; the role of ethics; the concept of character; and the writing of collective biographies/hagiographies. Works and figures studied will include, e.g., Homer, Alexander, Plutarch, Suetonius, Roman emperors, Jesus, Augustine, early/medieval holy figures. Non-literary sources will also be examined in context.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Basic reading: Hägg, Tomas, *The Art of Biography in Antiquity*. Available online via the library.

Other texts will be provided online or on our D2L page.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

There is a D2L site for this course, containing required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2l.ucalgary.ca).

For the online portion of this course, in order to successfully engage in your learning experience, you are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

A computer with a supported operating system as well as the latest security and malware updates

A current and updated web browser and Zoom application

A webcam

A microphone and speaker or a headset with microphone

Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled

Broadband internet connection

CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS, January to April 2022 – main dates

10 January – first day of classes

20 January – last day to drop without financial penalty

21 January – last day to add or swap a course

28 January – tuition and fee payment deadline

11 February, 11:59pm – deadline for submission of Essay 1 – 25% OF THE FINAL MARK

20–26 February – term break (no classes)

18 March, 11:59pm – deadline for submission of Essay 2 – 25% OF THE FINAL MARK

11 April – last class

12 April, 11:59pm – deadline for submission of Essay 3 – 25% OF THE FINAL MARK

FROM FEBRUARY TO THE END OF TERM, PAIRS OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WILL LEAD A CLASS DISCUSSION. A MARK WILL BE SHARED BY THEM; THIS WILL BE WORTH 25% OF THE FINAL MARK.

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, usually used within the Department of Classics and Religion. Below you will find: numerical mark; letter grade; grade point value

96–100 A+ 4.0

90–95 A 4.0

85–89 A- 3.7

80–84 B+ 3.3

75–79 B 3.0

70–74 B- 2.7

65–69 C+ 2.3

60–64 C 2.0

55–59 C- 1.7

53–54 D+ 1.3

50–52 D 1.0

0–49 F 0.0

A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each element separately in order to pass the course.

Adjusted Final Grades:

The instructor will implement a standard measure of .5% adjustment for grades. Please do not send email enquiries asking the instructor to increase or 'round up' or 'bell' your final grade. Please do not tell your instructor that you always get very high marks in all your other courses. Please do not tell your instructor that you need a certain grade in order to get into, *e.g.*, law school.

Policy regarding missed assessments:

If a student submits an essay late, the student must provide the instructor with supporting documentation (note from doctor, note from counselor, accident report, etc.) not later than 48 hours after the essay deadline. If documentation is not provided within 48 hours, the student will not ordinarily be provided an opportunity to submit the essay without a penalty, and may receive a numerical mark of zero.

Extra Assignments:

There are no extra assignments for this course. Students will not be given an opportunity to submit extra work or retake a test to increase their grade.

Weighting of Module Requirements:

The weighting for module requirements is identified above. The weighting of these requirements will not be changed to accommodate individual student requests.

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

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.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be fully present and engaged in class activities and discussions. If students miss a class session in which they are leading the discussion, they must contact the instructor within 24 hours to discuss options to make up for that component.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

Please submit all assignments electronically via the dropbox in D2L. Assignments **MUST** be submitted in Word format. Assignments must be double-spaced, with a standard 12-point font. Assignments must have a file name as follows:

Surname, Given Name - student number - essay #.docx

e.g.: Bosch, Hieronymous - 12345678 - essay 1.docx

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

Students must remember that the deadline for submission is 2359 (11:59pm) on the due date, and that sometimes the server is slow, so it is wise not to wait until very near that final deadline, as a submission that is late by even 1 minute (e.g., submitted successfully by 0000 on the day following the deadline) will normally be penalized.

CONDUCT

Students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html> In general, please be courteous toward other students in the course. Be respectful of class time. For students who raise questions during class, please contribute to the resourceful use of classroom time by limiting the number of questions you ask in each class. Be respectful of class space. Seating in the course is reserved for students registered in the course. Guests are permitted to attend a lecture if seats are available. All guests must obtain the permission of the instructor in advance to attend a lecture. Be considerate of the shared learning environment. Avoid distracting behavior and activities. Focus on objective inquiry. While critical evaluation is permitted in this course, students are encouraged to steer inquiries toward objective investigation rather than confessional or adversarial agendas. Students who flagrantly or repeatedly abuse these guidelines will be asked to leave the class.

USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASS

Be aware that if you care about your marks, you will not use your notebook computer to take notes in class, as studies consistently demonstrate that students who use pen/pencil and paper in class outperform those who use electronic devices. Under no circumstances must anyone use laptops during class for email, Facebook, or other social or recreational activities. Cell phones must be turned off during the entire class time. Texting during class is not permitted. Taking pictures in the classroom is not permitted, including picture-taking of data projector images and slides. No video or audio recording is permitted. Students who distract the instructor or other students due to the misuse of electronic devices during class will be asked to leave the classroom, at least for the duration of the lecture. Recording of lectures is prohibited without the consent of the instructor. According to Academic Regulations E.6, "With the permission of the instructor, students may tape record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a Release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered." Regulation E.6 includes the notification to students, **"Any use other than that described above constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion."**

GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: : <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

COURSE EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms. A midterm evaluation may also be included to provide students an opportunity to provide feedback, for the instructor to adjust their approaches to teaching and learning, and to continuously improve the course. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). 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.

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/.

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the express written consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third-party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk