

The Latin Humanist Tradition

Humanities 303

Section: D100

Term: 1998 Fall

Instructor: Lawrin Armstrong,
AQ 6233, 291-5817

Discussion Topics: For over a thousand years the culture of ancient Rome was considered by Europeans to be synonymous with culture itself and its literature was the reading of every educated person. At the centre of this tradition was the poetry of Publius Vergilius Maro, or as we know him, Virgil (70-19 B.C.). The poet of Augustus' Rome, Virgil was claimed by writers as diverse as St. Jerome, Dante and Dryden as the model of all that was best in classical humanism. Through a close reading of the Eclogues, the Aeneid and the Georgics in translation we shall explore Virgil's understanding of his own world and his lasting influence on the post-classical tradition.

Grading: Two reading analyses 20%

Essay 40%

Participation 20%

Seminar Work 20%

Required Texts: The Eclogues, trans. Guy Lee (Penguin)

The Aeneid, trans. Robert Fitzgerald (Random)

The Georgics, trans. L.P. Wilkinson (Penguin)

Recommended Texts: N/A

Materials/Supplies: N/A

Prerequisite/Corequisite: 45 credit hours

Notes: HUM 303-4 may be applied toward the Certificate in Liberal Arts.

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