



Instructor: Tommaso Gazzarri

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Class meets: T. Th. 10:55AM-12:40PM

Location: LIPM 012+

Office: Lamont House #305

Office hour: T. Th. 09:15AM-10:45 AM and by appointment - [online registration](#)

Mailbox: Dept. of Classics

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*** To book office h time go to the above

WEBPAGE > OFFICE HOURS

and select one or more slot(s) ***

Description of the course

This course will cover two of the most celebrated pieces of ancient Roman drama: *Poenulus* and *Medea*. The class will be divided into two segments of 5 weeks, and each segment will be entirely devoted to a single play. While *Poenulus* provides a unique insight into Plautus' comedic repertoire and the theatrical experience of the Republic, *Medea* offers an extraordinary perspective on imperial tragedy, its relations with the Greek models (Euripides in particular) and Seneca's unique preaching style and philosophical lore. Each student will be responsible for the creation of a thorough philological commentary on Seneca's *Medea*. Latin language competences will be assessed throughout the term by means of regular quizzes (6 total) and a midterm exam. This class satisfies the WAC requirement.

SIGLA/ABBREVIATIONS:

- **M:** Medea
- **R:** Romm
- **P:** Poenulus

Course schedule

TRAGEDY/ SENECA

Class #1 03/29/16	* Introduction to the course * Intro to Seneca and Roman tragedy * R: Suicide and Regicide  <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • Read the introduction to Medea on the Loeb volume pp. 334-341
Class #2 03/31/16	* Translation of M 1-55 (<i>est domus</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • Study the translation of M lines 1 to 55 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off • Read in English the entirety of Euripides' Medea   Link to Euripides' Medea's text: http://www.stoa.org/diotima/anthology/medea.trans.shtml  Link to Euripides' Medea's audio book (if you prefer to listen to it): https://librivox.org/search?title=Medea&author=EURIPIDES&reader=&keywords=&genre_id=0&status=all&project_type=either&recorded_language=&sort_order=catalog_date&search_page=1&search_form=advanced
Class #3 04/05/16	* Research tools for Classics: BRING YOUR LAPTOP  * Translation of M 56-115 (<i>fugitiva marito</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • Study the translation of M lines 56 to 155 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off • M: read in English lines 116 to 202 (<i>egregiae locus</i>)

ΣΠ 2	Class #4 04/07/16	* Translation of M. 203-251 (<i>fugitiva marito</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • Study the translation of M lines 203 to 251 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off • M: read in English lines 251 to 364 (<i>egregiae locus</i>) • R: Read chapters #3 (Fratricide) 
ΣΠ 3	Class #5 04/12/16	QUIZ #1  * Translation of M. 365-410 (<i>fervebit minis</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • Study the translation of M lines 365 to 410 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off • M: read in English lines 411 to 520 (<i>se stetit</i>) • R: Read chapters #4 (Matricide) and # #5 (Maritocide)  Class #6 04/14/16 * M: lines 521 to 574 (<i>cingi comae</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • Study the translation of M lines 520 to 574 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off • M: read in English lines 574 to 685 (<i>desertis adest</i>) • R: Read chapter #6 (Holocaust)   Assignment #1 is due today - NEXUS upload + Hard copy
ΣΠ	Class #7 04/19/16	QUIZ #2  * M: lines 686 to 739 (<i>primis tremi</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • Study the translation of M lines 686 to 739 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off • M: read in English lines 740 to 878 (<i>noctis Hesperus</i>) • R: Read chapter #7 (Suicide II) and epilogue (Euthanasia) 

4	Class #8 04/21/16	* M: lines 879 to 925 (<i>poenas date</i>) * Conclusion of M (in English) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • if necessary complete the reading of M from we left off • R: think about your question/s for Prof. Romm  Assignment #2 is due today - NEXUS upload + Hard copy
Σ	Class #9 04/26/16	★ IN-CLASS VISIT OF PROF. JAMES ROMM ★ AFTERNOON LECTURE OF PROF. JAMES ROMM
Σ	Class #10 04/28/16	<u>MIDTERM EXAM</u> 
Σ		COMEDY / PLAUTUS
Σ	Class #11 05/03/16	 NO QUIZ (Catch your breath!)  * Introduction of Plautus and the <i>Palliata</i> * P: first 52 lines (<i>in manu</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> • Study the translation of P lines 1 to 52 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off

7 6	Class #12 05/05/16	* P: lines 53 to 103 (<i>illa deperit</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> - Study the translation of P lines 53 to 103 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off P: Read in English lines 104-209 (<i>lepidum spectaculum</i>)  Assignment #3 is due today - NEXUS upload + Hard copy
Ε Λ Μ Ε	Class #13 05/10/16	QUIZ #3  * P: lines 210 to 260 (<i>ego opinor</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> - Study the translation of P lines 210 to 260 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off P: Read in English lines 261-359 (<i>male facis</i>)
1 Ε Λ Μ Ε	Class #14 05/12/16	* P: lines 360 to 409 (<i>facturam tibi</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> - Study the translation of P lines 360 to 409 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off P: Read in English lines 410-503 (<i>sum mercennarius</i>)
	Class #15 05/17/16	QUIZ #4  * P: lines 504 to 554 (<i>possimus tibi</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> - Study the translation of P lines 504 to 554 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off P: Read in English lines 555-654 (<i>in sycophantiam</i>)

7 8 9	Class #16 05/19/16 * P: lines 655 to 704 (<i>dixit omnia</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> - Study the translation of P lines 655 to 704 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off P: Read in English lines 705-805 (<i>hic intro</i>)
10 11 12	Class #17 05/24/16 QUIZ #5  * P: lines 806 to 856 (<i>viri sis</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> - Study the translation of P lines 806 to 856 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off P: Read in English lines 857-960 (<i>egrediuntur foras</i>)
13 14 15	Class #18 05/26/16 * P: lines 961 to 1011 (<i>quid ait?</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> - Study the translation of P lines 961 to 1011 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off P: Read in English lines 1012-1112 (<i>ipsa ea est</i>)
16 17 18	Class #19 05/31/16 QUIZ #6  * P: lines 1113 to 1161 (<i>te sequor</i>) <u>Assignments for next class:</u> - Study the translation of P lines 961 to 1011 - if necessary complete the translation from where we left off P: Read in English lines 1162-1277 (<i>auxilio fuit</i>)
19 20 21	Class #20 06/02/16 * Completion of P (in English) * Final remarks
22 23 24	 Final Project (Assignment #4) - <u>due by June 9th, 05:00 PM</u> - NEXUS upload + Hard copy



Required texts (available from the bookstore)

- **Plautus: The Little Carthaginian. Pseudolus. The Rope (Loeb Classical Library)**– May 1, 2012 by [Plautus](#) (Author), [Wolfgang de Melo](#) (Translator) **ISBN-13: 978-0674999862 - MANDATORY**
- **Seneca: Tragedies, Volume I: Hercules. Trojan Women. Phoenician Women. Medea. Phaedra (Loeb Classical Library)** Hardcover use pre formatted date that complies with legal requirement from media matrix – October 30, 2002 by [Seneca](#) (Author), [John G. Fitch](#) (Translator) **ISBN-13: 978-0674996021 - MANDATORY**
- **Seneca: Tragedies II: Oedipus, Agamemnon, Thyestes, Hercules on Oeta, Octavia (Loeb Classical Library)** annotated edition Edition by [Seneca](#) (Author), [John G. Fitch](#) (Translator) **ISBN-13: 978-0674996106 - OPTIONAL**
- **Dying Every Day: Seneca at the Court of Nero** Paperback - December 2, 2014 by [James Romm](#) (Author) **ISBN-13: 978-0307743749 - MANDATORY**

Honor Code

Union College aims to establish an environment of mutual trust as part of its educational mission. Membership in an academic community requires respect for, and proper acknowledgement of, the thoughts and work of others. Enrollment in this course signifies implicit agreement with the Academic Honor Code of Union College. The full text of Union's Honor Code may be found on line at <<http://honorcode.union.edu>>. In short, it is the responsibility of all students to ensure that the work they submit is their own, and that their work does not engage in any form of academic misconduct. Students should ask the instructor of the course to clarify any questions that they might have regarding collaboration, citation, plagiarism or related matters. Ignorance is no excuse for violating accepted standards of academic integrity.

Students must also affix the full Honor Code Affirmation or an appropriately abbreviated version to any assignment submitted for a grade or in-class exam:

I affirm that I have done my academic work honestly.
Signed: _____



Course requirements

Attendance

- Regular participation and prompt attendance are required. Your attendance grade on the first day of class is 105. You will be granted one free absence. Each subsequent absence will result in a 5-point deduction from that total. After three-absences (this includes the point-free absence), each subsequent absence will result in a 10-point deduction from your attendance average. Three tardies count as one absence. Can absences beyond the one free absence be excused or forgiven? No. It is possible to make up missed work, but not a missed class. The only exceptions to this rule: emergencies documented through the Dean of Studies and absences from classes moved by your instructor from their regular meeting time. **Attendance is crucial.**

Assignments

- A missed Homework (HW) or Written Assignment (WA) = minus 10% on your HW/WA component of the final grade.
- Missed HW/WA can be made up only within a week of the due date. A HW/WA made up within one class = minus 4% on your HW/WA component of the final grade. A HW/WA made up within 2 classes = minus 8% on HW/WA component of the final grade.

Example → You do not complete the HW/WA due on Tuesday. These are the possible scenarios:

You complete the HW/WA by Thursday.	→ = -4%
You complete the HW/WA by the following Tuesday.	→ = -8%
You decide not to complete the HW/WA.	→ = -10%
You complete the HW/WA by Th. of the following week	→ = that's cute! But you are still gonna get -10%

- If you forget your HW/WA in your dorm, even if you bring it to me in the afternoon, you are still going to get -4%. Bottom line: do not forget it in your room!
- Certified (that means an official letter signed by your coach) athletic events count as exceptions, and you will be excused
- Certified (that means an official letter signed by the Dean) health/family emergencies count as exceptions, and you will be excused
- To be successful in this class, between memorization and HW/WA, I expect you to spend at least between 5 to 7 hours per week on your Latin. you complete your HW/

WA on time, no penalty will be assessed and you will still maintain your 100 percentage

Description of Assignments

<u>Assignment #1</u>	Part #1 of final project (3 to 5 pages) - Week 3
<u>Assignment #2</u>	Translation assignment - Week 4
<u>Assignment #3</u>	Part #2 of final project (3 to 5 pages) - Week 6
<u>Assignment #4</u>	Part #3 of final project (3 to 5 pages) - Week 9
<u>Assignment #5</u>	Final project completed (around 15 pages) - Exam Week

The major Assignment of the term will be the writing of your own scholarly commentary on a chosen section of Seneca's Medea. Since you are reading the text in Latin you will use a number of scholarly commentaries (ON RESERVE). These commentaries are standard in Classics and explain textual cruxes, grammatical issues, narrative issues, and also provide literary critique/commentary. Your job will be to pick a passage, study published commentaries on your chosen passage, and then produce your own commentary. This writing assignment will require you not only to learn to write in a certain scholarly style, but to argue your points while writing clearly and using your creativity. The first section of the project requires that you introduce the passage, setting it up in the context of the larger work of the author and time period. You will need to explain its relative importance in scholarship and their own interest in the passage. The second part requires you to do a very careful and close reading of the Latin text, discussing grammar, syntax, word-choice, etc. The final section requires that you do a literary analysis of the text. At each stage of the project, I will provide extensive feedback. My feedback typically includes, but is not limited to, comments on clarity and originality of argument, organization of evidence, solidity and nature of evidence, in addition to issues of composition, such as grammar and syntax. You are asked to revise your ideas in line with my comments and/or your own rethinking of the issues. The project will be worth 25% (HW/WA) + 20% (Final Project) of the final grade.

Missed Quizzes

- 🔊 if you wish to have the opportunity to make up a Quiz without penalty, you must contact your instructor ahead of time (that is before the actual date of the Quiz that you know you will not be able to take). I can be reached most easily by email. If con-

tacting me proves impossible (or if I finds the reason inexcusable), you may still make up missed quiz, but a ten-point penalty will be assessed. Please keep in mind that a ten-point penalty is much better a zero (a one hundred point penalty)!

- 📍 If you have not contacted me before the set date of a given Quiz, you can still make it up, but only within one week from the date of the given Exam and a ten-points penalty will automatically apply.
- 📍 Certified (that means an official letter signed by your coach) athletic events count as exceptions, and you will be excused
- 📍 Certified (that means an official letter signed by the Dean of Student or of Studies) health/family emergencies count as exceptions, and you will be excused.

Midterm and Final Project

- 📍 Midterm and final project **CANNOT** be made up. Missing the midterm or the final project will heavily affect your final grade. You can be excused from these crucial appointments **ONLY** presenting an official letter signed by the Dean of Studies documenting an excruciating circumstance.
- 📍 Certified (that means an official letter signed by the Dean) health/family emergencies count as exceptions, and you will be excused.

Work overload and Conflicting Exams

The syllabus is extremely detailed. In particular it shows:

- 1) all dates for Quizzes, Midterm, Final Project
- 2) all topics to be covered + relative homework with relative dates

It is your responsibility to organize your schedule and anticipate when, during the term, it is likely that exams, presentations and heavy loads of HW are going to accumulate. Acquiring such organizational skills and learning how to deal with demanding situations are fundamental components of your college education.
Thus Exam dates will **NOT** be moved, and Written Assignments will **NOT** be excused even if conflicting with other classes' major tasks.
Start organizing your term from the very beginning!!!

Grades

Final grades will be weighted as follows:

Attendance and participation:	15%	-----
Weekly Quizzes:	20%	-----
<u>Midterm Exam:</u>	20%	<u>Class #10</u> - April, 28th
HW/WA	25%	-----
<u>Final Project:</u>	20%	June 9th, by 5:00 pm

- Do you want to **calculate your grade**? Go to: <http://apps.mercer.edu/registrarcalc/weightedaverage.html>

Grading Scale



A 99-100
(commendation letter)

A 95-98

A- 90-94



B+ 87-89

B 84-86

B- 80-83



C+ 77-79

C 74-76

C- 70-73



D+ 67-69

D 63-66

D- 60-63

ADA Requirements

It is Union College policy to make accommodations for individuals with disabilities. If you have any disability or special concern, please let me know what your needs are in order that they may be accommodated. All discussions will remain confidential to the extent permissible by law.

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations must also:

- 1." Register with and provide documentation to the Dean of Students Office.

2." Present documentation from the Dean of Students Office indicating what academic accommodations you require. This should be done within the first two weeks of the term.

For more information about services available to Union College students with disabilities, please contact the Dean of Students Office:

Shelly Shinebarger, Director of Student Support Services
Dean of Students Office
shinebas@union.edu
(518) 388-6116

Cell Phones and Computer Policies

- The use of cell phones, smart phones, or other mobile communication devices is disruptive, and is therefore prohibited during class. All the mobile devices, including laptops, are expected to be **TURNED OFF and placed on a common table in the classroom**. If you are expecting an emergency call please inform the instructor in advance and keep the phone in “silent mode”. You should leave the classroom before you answer the call.
- The use of all electronic devices, including computers, is prohibited during tests and exams.

