Latin 402/502: Propertius and Tibullus (Sulpicia)
Spring 2018 (T/TH 3:00-4:15, Twilight 305)

Jessica/Penny Evans
Office Hours: by appointment

Texts: All materials will be posted on the course website. I will provide hard copies of the Latin text in class. These and all supplementary readings and commentary will be posted on the course website.

Objectives: This course will be an exploration of elegiac poetry through the writings of Propertius, Tibullus, and Sulpicia. While our primary focus will be Latin texts, we will consider how identity, gender, and sexuality during the early empire shaped elegy as a genre and the poet’s construction of both self and mistress through the metaphor of saevitium and servitium amoris. There are twenty-two poems in Book One of Propertius’ poetry. Our goal is to read the first book. If we have time, we will read selections from books 2-4. Then we will read selections from Tibullus and finish the semester with the poetry of Sulpicia.

Expectations: To meet the goals stated above, it is essential that you come to class prepared to read and discuss the lines assigned. Attendance and participation are mandatory; communication is essential. If you are struggling, please see me during office hours. Phones and computers are not permitted in class.

The following list may seem self-evident, but are worth noting nonetheless.

• Prepare all lines assigned and complete all readings in English. Be ready to both translate the Latin and to discuss the readings in English.
• All supplementary readings are intended to contribute to our understanding of the poetry. As you are reading, consider how the article or chapter contributes to and shapes your understanding of what we have read.
• Do not write out translations. Sometimes students like to make vocabulary notes in the margins of the text. While this is certainly better than writing out a translation, this strategy will not help you learn new vocabulary.
• Here’s an even better strategy for learning the vocabulary: using the language of the poet, write a prose paraphrase of the poem.
• When you have finished going through the assigned lines in this manner, translate the Latin again, consulting your notes when needed. The more often you review your Latin, the easier translating will be.
• Review the lines translated in class again in the evening or the following morning.

Assessment: Assessment will be based on participation, one paper, a midterm, a final, and reading comments. Keep in mind that missing class will negatively affect your participation grade.

Participation/Preparation (20%): If you come to class prepared and you participate, you will receive full credit for preparation/participation. Please feel free to email me if you have any questions.

Midterm/Final Exam (25% each; 50% total): The tests will consist of passages that we have read together in class since the last test. You will be asked to translate the passages and to answer specific questions concerning grammar that we have covered together in class. There will be a short paragraph response to one of the seen passages. Your response should incorporate readings assigned for class
and discussions. In addition there will be a short unseen passage. You may use a dictionary for the unseen passage.

**Reading Responses (5%)**: Reading responses will be due on days that an article or book chapter is assigned. Your reading comment should be two paragraphs. The first paragraph should be a summary of the reading. The second should explain how the reading contributes to your understanding of either the poetry we've read in class, the poet, or the genre of elegy. Your reading comment should be no more than 400 words. *You must submit them via email to me by 2:30 pm on the day of class in order to receive credit.* Please type them directly into the email. Do not send them as attachments. You are only responsible for submitting these on days when there is a chapter/article assigned. Three readings for the reading responses have been set. Two more will be added.

**Work-in-Progress Paper Presentations (5%)**: These will happen in class on May 1.

**Paper (20%)**: Research papers (10-12 pages) will be discussed on April 3.

(CW students will be required to write one extra paper and to submit drafts.)

**Accommodations**: Students who have Letters of Accommodation in this class are encouraged to contact me as early in the semester as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. For those without Letters of Accommodation, assistance is available to eligible students through Student Accessibility Services. Please contact Jodi Litchfield or Courtney Cioffredi, the ADA Coordinators, for more information: Courtney Cioffredi can be reached at ccioffredi@middlebury.edu or 802-443-2169 and Jodi Litchfield can be reached at litchfie@middlebury.edu or 802-443-5936. All discussions will remain confidential.

**Warning**: Elegy is harsh. Our goal is to contextualize the poetry in order to understand how poets engage with themes of love and sex as metaphors to create meaning. If, at any time, you feel that you are not comfortable or feel that the classroom is not a safe space, please email me or come see me during office hours. I encourage you to develop both a personal and academic relationship to the poetry.

**Readings**: The dates for the lines and readings listed below reflect the day on which they will be translated and discussed in class. Please note that the syllabus is subject to change. All readings will be posted on the course website.

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<th>Week One</th>
<th>(T 13 Feb)</th>
<th>(TH 15 Feb)</th>
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<td>Week Two: Propertius</td>
<td>(T 20 Feb)</td>
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<td>Week Three: Historical Context</td>
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**Week Four:**  Mistress, Metaphor, and the *Servitium Amoris.*  
(T 6 March) ________________________________  
(TH 8 March) ________________________________

**Week Five**  (T 13 March) ________________________________  
(TH 15 March) ________________________________  
****Friday, March 16, 7:59 pm: CW paper one draft due.

**Week Six**  (T 20 March) Review  
(TH 22 March) Midterm

**Spring Break**

**Week Seven:** (T 3 April) ________________________________  
(TH 5 April) ________________________________  
****Friday, April 6, 7:59 pm: CW paper one draft due.

**Week Eight:**  (T 10 April) ________________________________  
(TH 12 April) Penny at CAMWS.

**Week Nine:**  (T 17 April) ________________________________  
(TH 19 April) ________________________________

**Week Ten:**  (T 24 April) ________________________________  
(R 26 April) ________________________________  
****Friday, April 27, 7:59 pm: paper draft due.

**Week Eleven:**  (T 1 May) ________________________________  
(TH 3 May) ________________________________

**Week Twelve:**  (T 8 May) ________________________________  
(R 10 May) ________________________________

*Friday, May 11: Paper due by 7:59 pm.*