

## Latin 202: Ovid

Spring 2016 (M/W/F 10:10-11:00, Twilight 206)

Jessica/Penny Evans

Office Hours: M 1:45-2:45; W 1:45-2:45; F 11:00-12:00; by appointment

Office: Twilight 210

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**Text:** Block, Elizabeth. *Ovid. Ars Amatoria*. Bryn Mawr, Penn: Bryn Mawr, 1984. All other materials will be posted on the course website.

### go/ovid

**Objectives:** To improve reading proficiency and knowledge of Latin grammar and syntax by reading unadapted Latin, specifically the poems of Ovid. We will explore both the life of the poet and his city, Rome. In addition to reading Book One of the *Ars Amatoria* in Latin, we will consider themes relevant to the text, including and especially gender and sexuality during the early empire. We will explore how Ovid's poetry is shaped by and is a response to shifting norms of gender and sexuality.

Book One: 770 lines. We have 25 class days devote to reading. We have five class days partially devoted to reading Latin. We have three days set aside for project presentations. Some of these sessions will include some reading. If we read thirty lines per class, we will finish Book One during the 25 sessions devoted to reading. If we meet this goal, there will be time to read some more Ovid.

**Warning:** Ovid's *Ars Amatoria* treats sensitive topics in ways that may be disturbing. Our goal is to contextualize these moments in order to understand how Ovid employs problematic motifs in order to create meaning. We will, at all times, explore how Ovid responds to Roman norms of gender and sexuality, and how he manipulates stable categories in order to create irony and humor in his poetry.

**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. 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 want you to learn and succeed, but I also can't always predict when or if there are problems, or if you need some extra help. Phones and computers are not permitted in class.

**Assessments:** These will include participation, a midterm, and a final. Keep in mind that missing class will negatively affect your participation grade.

Participation/Preparation: All lines of Ovid's text assigned must be prepared. You will be asked to translate the prepared reading in class. I do not expect that your translations be perfect, but they must be prepared. In addition you should identify one question that you could potentially ask about the lines assigned for homework. Your question should not be "how do I translate this sentence?" Instead, you should identify what was difficult about the sentence. In short, your questions should demonstrate that you've assessed the sentence and made an effort to translate it. If we do not have time in class to address your question, please hand in the question so that I can address it in the next class.

Midterm/Final Exam: 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. You will receive a list of all morphology and syntax that you will be responsible for in advance. 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 Comments: There are comments concerning the readings, specifically what you found most interesting and why, and, more specifically, how the reading contributes to our understanding of Ovid's poetry. These comments are not meant to super long—only 150-200 words. ***You must submit them via email to me by 9.30 am 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.

Research Project: This is a creative research project. Your presentation should be interactive (we'll discuss interactive presentation formats in class). You will be required to research a particular topic that pertains to the *Ars Amatoria*.

**Grading:** Participation 25% Midterm 25% Final Exam 25%  
Reading Comments 5% Research Project 20%

## Schedule

### Week One

Feb 15	_____
Feb 17	_____
Feb 19	_____ (Reading: Introduction to the life of Ovid)

### Week Two

Feb 22	_____
Feb 24	_____
Feb 26	No class

### Week Three

Feb 29	_____
March 2	_____
March 4	_____ (Reading: Introduction to gender and sexuality)

### Week Four

March 7	_____
March 9	_____
March 11	_____

### Week Five

March 14	_____
March 16	_____
March 18	No class (Reading: _____)

### Week Six

March 21	_____
March 23	_____
March 25	_____

### Spring Break

### Week Seven

April 4	_____ (Discussion of research projects)
April 6	_____
April 8	Midterm

### Week Eight

April 11	_____
April 13	_____
April 15	No class

**Week Nine**

<b>April 18</b>	_____	(Reading: Mythological exempla in Ovid)
<b>April 20</b>	_____	
<b>April 22</b>	_____	

**Week Ten**

<b>April 25</b>	_____	
<b>April 27</b>	_____	
<b>April 29</b>	_____	

**Week Eleven**

<b>May 2</b>	_____	(Project Presentations)
<b>May 4</b>	_____	(Project Presentations)
<b>May 6</b>	_____	(Project Presentations)

**Week Twelve**

<b>May 9</b>	_____	(Reading: Ovid and Trigger Warnings)
<b>May 11</b>	_____	
<b>May 13</b>	_____	

**Week Thirteen**

<b>May 16</b>	_____	
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**Classes End/Final Exam (Student Scheduled)**