

GRK 3330 (13875)

MWF 2:30-3:20; Main 323L

Mark Damen (mdamen@hass.usu.edu)

M307; 797-3786

Office Hours: MWF 1:30-2:30

Purpose: The purpose of this class is to read, understand and enjoy Euripides' consummate masterpiece, *The Bacchae*, arguably the best single piece of drama ever written. Course work will center largely on translation of the text with close attention to grammar, meter and the historical context of the play. We will also address the various manuscripts and papyri which preserve this play along with the social institutions underlying it.

Textbooks: Euripides: *Bacchae*, ed. E.R. Dodds (text and commentary)
 Euripides: *Bacchae* et al. (Loeb Classical Library)
 Greek-English dictionary (buy one if you don't have one already)

Tests/Grades: 3 Tests + In-Class Quizzes

Tests. There will be three tests of equal weight, each covering one-third of the play and constituting a third of the final grade. Tests will be timed (50 mins.) and will consist of prepared translation, to which may be added metrical exercises, grammatical exegesis and review of secondary scholarship. The first and second tests will be given in class when we have completed the first third and second third of the play respectively; the third test will be given on the date scheduled for the final (Wednesday, May 2; 1:30-3:20 p.m.; Main 323L).

Quizzes. Students' performances on these tests will be supplemented by in-class quizzes, making it unnecessary to take attendance because the quizzes will serve as a gauge of attendance and preparation. Quizzes will be short (no more than a few minutes) and will entail defining and parsing words taken from the assignment for that day. For every complete and correct answer, students will receive one point which will be added to their score on the next test. Quiz scores may not be carried over to the following test.

Grading: Incompletes will be given only in strict accordance with university policy. Test make-ups will be given only (1) with proof of a valid excuse, (2) with prior notification and (3) on the condition that the test is made up within a week of the original test date. There will be no make-ups for quizzes. Missed tests and quizzes will count as zeroes. Cheating of any sort and to any degree will be prosecuted to the fullest extent possible. Homework should be done independently. The grading scale will be: A (100-90), B (89-80), C (79-70), and D (69-60). A plus sign (+) will be added to grades in the top 20% of a grade range (i.e., 90-88 B+; 80-78 C+; 70-68 D+), and a minus sign (-) to grades in the bottom 20% (i.e., 92-90 A-; 82-80 B-; 72-70 C-). F represents a grade below 60 and is Unsatisfactory. No finals will be given before or after the scheduled time (Wednesday, May 2; 1:30 pm).

Reading: Reading of *The Bacchae* will proceed at a pace appropriate to the class and the length of the play.