



Syllabus

Plato Gorgias - 28214

Last update 06-01-2022

HU Credits: 2

Responsible Department: Classical Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Donna Shalev

Coordinator Email: donna@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Mondays by appointment

Teaching Staff:
Prof Donna Shalev

Course/Module description:

We will read in class key passages from the Plato's Gorgias in Greek. This dialogue,

alternatively titled 'On Rhetoric' already in antiquity, not only discusses themes such as the essence and effects of rhetoric, but is a dialogue of unusually lively and sometimes adversarial dynamics between the interlocutors.

Course/Module aims:

The aim of this course is to read key passages in Greek, analyze the language, format and structural elements, through close reading, reference works and modern scholarship.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Students who complete this course successfully will be able*
- to read, analyze and discuss issues pertaining to Plato's Gorgias in Greek*
 - to independently read passages in the Classical Prose dialogue of Plato, with the help of reference tools and scholarship introduced in the course*
 - to produce academic writing on a Classical text*
 - to read, analyze and discuss texts involving advanced Greek prose style and form, in dialogue mode, involving particular linguistic features.*

Attendance requirements(%):
100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Active reading by all students and common discussion. In each lesson the teacher will present items of language, literary analysis and reference and scholarly works.

Course/Module Content:

Passages to be read will be assigned in class by the teacher, taking into consideration the specific interests of the students attending, and those pre-selected by the teacher, including the beginning and the end of the dialogue. Special attention will be paid to the following themes:

- ancient rhetoric, rhetoric vs. dialogue, rhetoric vs. philosophy*
- managing the 'floor' during a dialogue, and in Plato's Gorgias.*
- the nature of questions, and questions-and-answers as they emerge in the dialogue*
- the 'grammar' of response in Classical Greek dialogue*
- modalization, hedging, attenuation and politeness in the Classical Greek of Platonic dialogue*
- the characterization of contentious interlocutors vs. 'yes'-men*
- the ancient commentators of the Gorgias*
- other aspects of the reception of the Gorgias*

- CA (Conversational Analysis) in Classical Texts

Required Reading:

*Plato, Gorgias (selections) in the original Greek
with the commentary by E.R. Dodds (Oxford University Press).*

Additional Reading Material:

Scholarly literature to be distributed by the teacher during the course, and on Moodle.

Grading Scheme:

Additional information: