

Dear All,

You may like to know that our plan for tutorials in the coming term is to start you off on the 'Texts and Contexts' paper, for which you read a selection of Greek and Latin texts from both a literary and a historical/archaeological point of view. Below are the details of the four topics for this paper, all of which we shall cover in the first term. It will be very helpful if you can all read as many as possible of these texts in translation before you get here. Amy, Ella, Hattie, Isabel, Isobel, and Jack should also make a start on reading the texts for at least one topic in the original language. This includes making and learning word-lists, so that you increase your vocabulary as you read.

In addition, you will receive language instruction in Greek (for Amy, Ella, Hattie, Isabel, Isobel, and Jack) and Latin (for everyone). I very strongly recommend spending a little time each day consolidating your knowledge of Latin and/or Greek by systematic learning of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.

I'm conscious that, with the consequences of the pandemic, it's harder to get access to some books than usual. Do your best (in moderation) to do the reading suggested above, but don't worry too much if the global situation has made it impossible to achieve all of it. Note, too, that I've tried to make it clear below which of these texts will be available to you for free online once you are in Oxford and have access to the Bodleian Library (which has an interface that lets you read MANY texts online); naturally, you might want to hold off on buying any of those, for obvious reasons.

## **TEXTS & CONTEXTS**

An essay paper and a translation paper (each 3 hours). Candidates are expected to have considered the general topics as well as the particular texts and archaeological material specified. In the essay paper they will be required to answer a compulsory picture question, and three essay questions. A syllabus of images from which items will be selected for the picture question will be posted on CANVAS (the University's Virtual Learning Environments, to which you will gain access when you come up) under 'Texts and Contexts'. In the translation paper candidates will be required to translate six passages, three Greek and three Latin, set from the texts listed under ( $\alpha$ ) for each topic. Candidates are expected to know the texts under ( $\beta$ ) for each topic in translation. Course IIA candidates (Charlee) only have to translate Latin, although they will be expected to know some Greek texts in translation.

### **1. The Persian Wars and Cultural Identities**

#### **Texts for Course IA:**

- ( $\alpha$ ) Herodotus 7.1-53, 8.56-110
- ( $\beta$ ) Aeschylus, *Persians*  
Herodotus 1.1-32, 131-40; 3.61-88, 150-160; 7.54-239; 8.1-55  
Bisitun Inscription of Darius 1-15, 51-76

#### **Texts for Course IB:**

- ( $\alpha$ ) Herodotus 8.56-110
- ( $\beta$ ) Aeschylus, *Persians*  
Herodotus 1.1-32, 131-40; 3.61-88, 150-160; 7.1-239; 8.1-55  
Bisitun Inscription of Darius 1-15, 51-76

#### **Texts for Course IC:**

- ( $\alpha$ ) Herodotus 7.1-53; 8.56-110
- ( $\beta$ ) Aeschylus, *Persians*  
Herodotus 1.1-32, 131-40; 3.61-88, 150-160; 7.54-239; 8.1-55  
Bisitun Inscription of Darius 1-15, 51-76

### **Texts for Course IIA:**

- (β) Aeschylus, *Persians*  
Herodotus 1.1-32, 131-40; 3.61-88, 150-160; 7.1-239; 8.1-110  
Bisitun Inscription of Darius 1-15, 51-76

Archaeological material: Identities in Greek and Persian art

Herodotus: the text used for translation passages in the exam will be the Oxford Classical Text edited by N. G. Wilson (this replaces the older one by C. Hude). The Wilson edition is available for free online once you reach Oxford. There is no modern English commentary on book 7, but the old commentary by W.W. How and J. Wells (Oxford) is sometimes helpful; for book 8 there is the commentary by A.M. Bowie (Cambridge University Press, 2007).

For a translation, there is the Penguin by A. de Sélincourt, revised by J. Marincola, or the Oxford World's Classics translation by R. Waterfield and C. Dewald. The translation by Tom Holland (2014) should NOT be used, as it is too free.

You can read Aeschylus' *Persians* in the edition with translation by E. Hall (Arts and Humanities) or in the Oxford World's Classics translation by C. Collard (Oxford, 2008 – available for free online once you're in Oxford).

### **2. Dionysus, Drama, and Athens**

#### **Texts for Course IA:**

- (α) Euripides, *Bacchae* 1-1167  
Aristophanes, *Frogs* 1-459, 830-1533  
(β) Remainder of *Bacchae*  
Remainder of *Frogs*

#### **Texts for Course IB:**

- (α) Euripides, *Bacchae* 1-169, 370-518, 643-976  
Aristophanes, *Frogs* 1-459, 1004-98, 1378-1481  
(β) Remainder of *Bacchae*  
Remainder of *Frogs*

#### **Texts for Course IC:**

- (α) Euripides, *Bacchae* 1-1167  
Aristophanes, *Frogs* 1-459, 830-1533  
(β) Remainder of *Bacchae*  
Remainder of *Frogs*

### **Texts for Course IIA:**

- (β) Euripides, *Bacchae*

Aristophanes, *Frogs*

Archaeological material: Theatres, theatre images, and Dionysian iconography

Euripides, *Bacchae*: the text used for translation passages in the exam will be that of E.R. Dodds (Oxford University Press, 2nd ed., 1960), whose edition includes a commentary. Note that you can read this online via Oxford Scholarly Editions once you are in Oxford.

For a translation, there is the Penguin by J. Davie (*Euripides, The Bacchae and Other Plays*, 2005) or the Oxford World's Classics translation by J. Morwood (*Euripides, Bacchae and Other Plays*, 1999). Note that you can read Morwood's translation online via the Bodleian once you are in Oxford.

Aristophanes, *Frogs*: the text used for translation passages in the exam will be the Oxford Classical Text ed. N.G. Wilson (2007).

The recommended commentary for those reading the play in Greek is that of K. Dover (Oxford University Press, 1993: also available in an abridged Student Edition, including vocabulary). Note that you can read both Wilson's OCT and Dover's commentary online via Oxford Scholarly Editions once you have arrived in Oxford.

The edition by A.H. Sommerstein (Aris and Phillips) is also recommended; it includes a translation, but the commentary does not discuss the Greek text. (The Penguin translation by D. Barrett strays too far from the original Greek to be recommended.)

### **3. Love and Luxury**

#### **Texts for Course IA and IB:**

(α) Cicero, *pro Caelio* 17-53 (... *dedisti*.)

Catullus 1-16, 31-7, 42-5, 48-51, 53, 69-70, 75-6, 79, 83-6, 95, 99-101, 116

Propertius 1.1-3, 6, 11, 14

(β) Remainder of *pro Caelio*

Catullus 64.31-266

Remainder of Propertius 1

#### **Texts for Course IC and IIA:**

(α) Cicero, *pro Caelio* 30 (*sunt autem*)-50

Catullus 1-8, 10-13, 31, 34, 36, 44-5, 48-51, 69-70, 76, 79, 85, 95, 101

Propertius 1.1, 3, 6, 14

(β) Remainder of *pro Caelio*

Catullus 9, 14-16, 32-3, 35, 37, 41-2, 64.31-266, 83-4, 86, 99-100, 116

Remainder of Propertius 1

Archaeological material: Love pictures and Vesuvian villas

Cicero, *Pro Caelio*: the text used for translation passages in the exam will be that of R.G. Austin (Oxford University Press, 3rd ed., 1960), whose edition includes a commentary. A more up-to-date and useful commentary, however, is the one by A. Dyck (Cambridge, 2013).

There is a translation by D.H. Berry in *Cicero: Defence Speeches* (Oxford World's Classics, 2017). Note that this will be available on-line via the Bodleian once you are in Oxford.

Catullus: the text used for translation passages in the exam will be the Oxford Classical Text ed. R.A.B. Mynors. Note that this will be available online via Oxford Scholarly Editions once you are in Oxford.

For a commentary, I recommend the edition of K. Quinn (Macmillan, reprinted by Bristol Classical Press). [I find the commentary by C.J. Fordyce (Oxford) in some ways more helpful, but he omits some of the prescribed poems.]

There is a translation by G. Lee (Oxford World's Classics).

Propertius: the text used for translation passages in the exam will be the Oxford Classical Text ed. S.J. Heyworth (2007). Note that this will be available online via Oxford Scholarly Editions once you are in Oxford.

For a commentary, there are editions of Book I by W.A. Camps (Cambridge) and R.J. Baker (Aris and Phillips) – but watch for differences from Heyworth's text. Baker includes a translation.

#### **4. Class**

##### **Texts for Course IA and IB:**

(α) Petronius, *Cena Trimalchionis* 26.7-36, 47-78

Juvenal 3, 5

(β) Remainder of *Cena Trimalchionis*

Juvenal 1, 4, 6, 7, 9

Pliny, *Epistulae* 7.29, 8.6

Tacitus, *Annals* 14.42-5

##### **Texts for Course IC and IIA:**

(α) Petronius, *Cena Trimalchionis* 26.7-36, 64.2-67, 74.5-78

Juvenal 3

(β) Remainder of *Cena Trimalchionis*

Juvenal 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9

Pliny, *Epistulae* 7.29, 8.6

Tacitus, *Annals* 14.42-5

Archaeological material: Houses, tombs, and the archaeology of public entertainment

Petronius: the text used for translation passages in the exam will be that of M.S. Smith (Oxford University Press, 1975), whose edition includes a commentary. Note that this will be available to you online via Oxford Scholarly Editions once you are in Oxford. There is also a good commentary on the whole of Petronius by G. Schmeling (Oxford, 2011), also available to you online via Oxford Scholarly Editions once you are in Oxford.

There is a translation by P.G. Walsh (Oxford World's Classics, 1997). Note that this will be available to you online via Oxford Scholarly Editions once you are in Oxford.

Juvenal: the text of Satires 3 and 5 used for translation passages in the exam will be that of S.M. Braund (*Satires, Book I*, Cambridge University Press, 1996), whose edition includes a commentary.

You can read Pliny's *Letters* in the translation of P.G. Walsh (Oxford World's Classics, 2006), available to you online via Oxford Scholarly Editions once you are in Oxford.

The Penguin translation of Tacitus' *Annals* by Cynthia Damon (London, 2012) is very good; the older Penguin translation by M. Grant is less good, but OK

All the best, and see you soon,

Yours sincerely,

Luke Pitcher