

http://myweb.ecu.edu/stevensj/

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Purpose: To develop an advanced reading proficiency in "golden" Latin poetry and prose, and to become familiar with civilization in the later Roman Republic (133-43 BC).



To that end, we will read Book I Cicero's *Tusculan Disputations* on the nature of the soul. It was written in 45 BC to console himself for the death of his only child, his beloved daughter Tullia. Book III of the Tusculans deals with the Stoic doctrine of how to control the passions, and in it we can see Cicero's very pointed search for the philosophical doctrine that would tell him in clear terms how to control his grief. In Book I, which we will read, we encounter his research on the different doctrines of soul and the afterlife. His interests are clearly not limited to his own grief. He begins with some interesting remarks on the Roman self-impression of their superiority over Greek culture in nearly every area except literature and philosophy. The death of Tullia inspired Cicero to take up the challenge of translating Greek thought into Latin. He did not think that he was being very original in content. He calls his

work $\dot{\alpha}\pi\dot{\alpha}\gamma\rho\alpha\phi\alpha$, 'copying' of Greek thought. His great originality was in developing a Roman philosophical vocabulary that would allow the flourishing of Roman philosophy in the centuries after his death. So successful was he, despite the obvious advantages of the Greek language for philosophy (larger more precise and varied vocabulary, definite article enabling the expression of complex concepts as substantives, more tenses of the participle etc.), when the Greek originals were lost, Cicero' mere translations of Greek philosophical ideas became the deposit of ancient philosophy until the fall of Constantinople in 1453. In Tusculans I, Cicero expresses the doctrines of every major school and thinker on the soul, death, and afterlife in antiquity. He also raises the subjects of suicide and tyrannicide resulting in death at the end of the book, which we cannot help but see as anticipating if not helping to lay the philosophical justification for the assassination of Caesar that would come mere months after publication.

A midterm, book report and paper of 4-5 pages are required. The paper must perform a close reading of a portion of a Latin text we have read or the interaction of the Latin text and some aspect of ancient philosophy or Roman culture. The book report should be a 15 min. presentation on another of Cicero's philosophical writings or another book of *Tusculan Disputations*.

Recommended Dictionary:

 Elementary Latin Dictionary, ed. C.T. Lewis (Oxford UP) 978-0199102051 (http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.04.0060)

Online Texts and Commentaries:

- HTML text from Packard Humanities Institute (https://latin.packhum.org/loc/474/49/0#0). Alpheios Reader plugin: (https://alpheios.net/)
- Tusculanarum Disputationum de libro primo commentarius. Steven Kennedy. Diss U. Exeter 2010 (https://bit.ly/3z8Goz1)

- Cicero, Tusculan Disputations I. Ed. Charles Anthon. Harper & Brothers NY 1852 (https://bit.ly/3AIBpve)
- Cicero, Tusculan Disputations I. Ed. Thomas Chase 1880 (https://bit.ly/3xvuHAI)
- Cicero, *Tusculan Disputations*. Selections I, II, V. Ed. H. C. Nutting, Allyn and Bacon, Boston 1909. (https://archive.org/details/tusculandisputa00nuttgoog)
- The Cicero Homepage (http://sites.la.utexas.edu/cicero/)
- Biography of Cicero (https://goo.gl/d7pZUt)
- Timeline of events in the life of Cicero (http://myweb.ecu.edu/stevensj/latn3001/timetable.htm)

Grading:

Midterm	25%	Scale: A 93-100, A- 90-92
Book Report	25%	B+ 87-89, B 83-86, B- 80-82
Paper	25%	C+ 77-79, C 73-76, C- 70-72
Class participation, translation	25%	D+ 67-69, D 63-66, D- 60-62, F 0-59

Syllabus:

T 8/24	Intro to the life and career of Cicero, intro to the Tusculan Disputations as an imitation of the Platonic dialogue, esp. <i>Phaedo</i> . Sight-read ¶1
Th 8/26	Davis 2; Gallagher 3; Hanna 4; Uddin 5.
T 8/31	Davis 6; Gallagher 7; Hanna 8; Uddin 9
Th 9/2	Davis 10; Gallagher 11; Hanna 12; Uddin 18
T 9/7	Davis 19; Gallagher 20; Hanna 21; Uddin 22
Th 9/9	Davis 23; Gallagher 24; Hanna 25; Uddin 26
T 9/14	Davis 27; Gallagher 28; Hanna 29; Uddin 30
Th 9/16	Davis 31; Gallagher 32; Hanna 33; Uddin 34
T 9/21	Davis 35; Gallagher 36; Hanna 37; Uddin 38
Th 9/23	Davis 39; Gallagher 40; Hanna 41; Uddin 42
T 9/28	Davis 43; Gallagher 44; Hanna 45; Uddin 46
Th 9/30	Davis 47; Gallagher 48; Hanna 49; Uddin 50
T 10/5	Davis 51; Gallagher 52; Hanna 53; Uddin 54
Th 10/7	Midterm exam
T 10/12	Fall break, no class
Th 10/14	Davis 55; Gallagher 56; Hanna 57; Uddin 58
T 10/19	Davis 59; Gallagher 60; Hanna 61; Uddin 62
Th 10/21	Davis 63; Gallagher 64; Hanna 65; Uddin 66

T 10/26	Davis 67; Gallagher 68; Hanna 69; Uddin 70
Th 10/28	Davis 71; Gallagher 72; Hanna 73; Uddin 74
T 11/2	Book report presentation due. Davis 75; Gallagher 76; Hanna 77; Uddin 78
Th 11/4	Davis 79; Gallagher 80; Hanna 81; Uddin 82
T 11/9	Davis 83; Gallagher 84; Hanna 85; Uddin 86
Th 11/11	Davis 87; Gallagher 88; Hanna 89; Uddin 90
T 11/16	Davis 91; Gallagher 92; Hanna 93; Uddin 94
Th 11/18	Davis 95; Gallagher 96; Hanna 97; Uddin 98
T 11/23	Davis 99; Gallagher 100; Hanna 101; Uddin 102
Th 11/25	Thanksgiving Break
T 11/30	Davis 103; Gallagher 104; Hanna 105; Uddin 106
Th 12/2	Davis 107; Gallagher 108; Hanna 109; Uddin 110
M 12/13	Paper due at noon

Reference Resources:

Fuhrmann, Manfred, 1992. Cicero and the Roman Republic DG260.C5F8413 1992

Oxford Classical Dictionary Ref DE 5 O9 1996

The Cambridge Ancient History Ref D 57 C252 (1982) v.9-10

Smith, Dictionary of Greek & Roman Bio & Myth Ref DE 5 S75 1967

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