# Classical Philology

## Prof. Maria Pia Pattoni, Prof. Giuseppe Bocchi

**Semester 1: Prof. Giuseppe Bocchi**

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to introduce the key tools for the critical interpretation of ancient literary texts – including modern editions, manuscripts, and papyri – from a historical perspective, using a rigorous methodology. It will be divided into two complementary modules. The first one will explore the general principles of textual criticism, and the transmission of ancient texts through codices; in order to do so, students will have the opportunity to read and analyse some classical manuscripts in Latin, selected by the lecturer as an example of the principles explained during semester 1.

**Knowledge and understanding**: at the end of the course, students will be able to read and compare different texts in Greek and Latin, adopting a critical approach towards the texts and their sources.

**Ability to apply knowledge and understanding**: at the end of the course, students will be able to analyse a wide variety of texts, identifying connections, similarities, and differences, and advancing theoretical and practical hypotheses that can be verified through the direct study of the sources.

**Independent judgment**: at the end of the course, students will be able to develop their logical and critical skills through philological research.

**Communication skills**: at the end of the course, students will be able to acquire the most appropriate methodology to support and/or refute a thesis advanced by philosophical research, and develop articulated argumentative skills.

**Learning skills**: at the end of the course, students will be able to acquire an excellent and flexible learning method, also thanks to constant use of their logical and critical skills.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The transmission of ancient texts: issues related to tradition and textual criticism. The application of the philological method to Seneca’s tragedies and a selection of passages by Virgil and Horace.

***READING LIST***

T. Braccini, *La scienza dei testi antichi. Introduzione alla filologia classica*, Le Monnier, Florence 2017

M.L.Reynolds - N.G. Wilson, *Copisti e filologi,* Antenore, Padua, 1987.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam.

Grade Mark

*Pass* 18-20

*Acceptable* 21-23

*Fair* 24-25

*Good* 26-27

*Very good* 28-29

*Excellent* 30-30 cum laude (full marks)

Assessment criteria: relevance of answers, quality of the analysis, ability to be concise, clarity and coherence of the presentation, quality of the presentation, ability to find connections between different topics, and use of appropriate terminology.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

1. The general part of the course (module 1 ) will take place during semester 1. Reading list (for attending students):

lecture notes; the photocopies of the classical texts analysed in class (provided by the lecturer); the reading of the textbooks by Braccini (chapters II, V, VII, VIII) and Reynolds-Wilson (chapters I, II, III p. 81-109), mentioned above (please see the ‘Reading list’ section). Further teaching material will be made available on the lecturer’s webpage.

Class attendance is highly recommended. Students who can’t attend classes (for good reasons) are invited to contact the lecturer for the definition of a customised reading list.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.

**Semester 2: Prof. Maria Pia Pattoni**

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to focus on the reading and the philological analysis of *The Trachiniae* by Sophocles and the 9th *Heroide* by Ovid. In particular, beside the strictly philological aspects related to the structure of these two texts, the course aims to highlight also the passages in which the Latin poet reconsiders, corrects, or completely changes the tragedy by Sophocles that represented his favourite starting point for the narration of Deianira’s myth and Heracles’ death. Therefore, among other objectives, the course aims not only to improve the students’ ability to read the critical apparatus of texts deriving from the manuscript tradition, but also highlight the refined intertextual game put in place by the Latin poet with regard to the Greek model in the passage from the theatrical genre to epistolary literature.

At the end of the course, students will be able to use, with a high degree of autonomy, the key methodologies and tools offered by philology. This means that they will be able to explain the history of the transmission of ancient texts from antiquity to the present day; use appropriate terminology; analyse the critical editions of texts that came to us through manuscripts; read and interpret the different types of critical texts; form independent judgments on the textual choices made by publishers (from antiquity to the present day).

***COURSE CONTENT***

A comparative study of two texts: *The Trachiniae* by Sophocles and the 9th *Heroide* by Ovid. Reading and commentary.

***READING LIST***

T. Braccini, *La scienza dei testi antichi. Introduzione alla filologia classica*, Le Monnier, Florence 2017.

M.L.Reynolds - N.G. Wilson, *Copisti e filologi,* Antenore, Padua, 1987.

The texts analysed during the course will be made available on Blackboard.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam.

Grade Mark

*Pass* 18-20

*Acceptable* 21-23

*Fair* 24-25

*Good* 26-27

*Very good* 28-29

*Excellent* 30-30 cum laude (full marks)

Assessment criteria: correct understanding of the questions, ability to use argumentation, accuracy of the references to the text, relevance of observations, and use of appropriate terminology.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

1. Class attendance is highly recommended. Students who can’t attend classes (for good reasons) are invited to contact the lecturer for the definition of a customised reading list.

2) Students can contact Prof. M.P. Pattoni by sending an e-mail to maria.pattoni@unicatt.it.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.