

INTRODUCTION TO ANCIENT GREEK LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

Monmouth College Classics 250

2nd Half Fall Semester, 2013

Science & Business Center, Rm. 303, T&TH, 2-3 pm

Instructor: Chris Maisto

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Office: 19 Wallace; 309-457-2341

Office hours: 11:30 am-12:30 pm & by appointment.

REQUIRED READINGS/TEXTS: To be provided and announced; most will be in the form of photocopies

COURSE OBJECTIVES/AIMS:

Welcome to the class...

This course is designed to introduce the student to the ancient Greek language and the key literature produced during the time of ancient Greece and the subsequent periods in which use of some form of the language dominated most of the eastern Mediterranean. Students will acquire a historical, cultural, and linguistic context for this language and its literature. Students will also learn the ancient Greek alphabet and its origins, and will have the opportunity to examine some samples of ancient Greek epigraphy. Additionally, students will be able to begin to familiarize themselves enough with the basics of the grammar to translate simple quotations in the original. Students will additionally come to understand the evolution of the literature produced in this language and the main genres that developed. When these objectives are met, the student should be well prepared to begin the Monmouth College elementary ancient Greek course in the spring, though this is by no means required and the knowledge gained in the course is valuable on its own.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance, participation, and preparation: Please come to class. It will go a long way toward receiving a good grade for the course and gaining the knowledge offered. Remember: "80% of success in life is just showing up." There will be weekly assignments, mainly readings, and please make every effort to do these prior to class so that you can actively participate in discussions, etc. You may be asked to hand-in any written assignments. The 3 p's will be worth 10% of the final grade for the course.

Quizzes: There will be weekly quizzes on Thursdays to help you keep up with the material and so that you can have a gauge of your understanding of it. These will be mainly short answer and T/F type questions. The quizzes will be worth 15% of the final grade.

Midterm: There will be a mid-term sometime in November (TBA). It will most likely consist of a combination of short answer and short essay, maybe some T/F questions. This will be worth 20% of the final grade.

Research project: There will be an individual research project. Students will research a topic and write 3-5 pages (citations and bibliography required). Each student will also present their work to the class (approximately 10 minutes of speaking) at the end of term. The research project is worth 25% of the final grade.

Final exam: There will be a final exam during finals week. It will be comprehensive, but will concentrate on material since the midterm and on pulling everything together to come to a solid understanding. The final is worth 30% of the final grade.