

i Formal requirements

ANT2700 - Ancient Literature in translation

Spring 2020

Postponed school exam

Wednesday August 12th (4 hours)

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Practical information about the examination

The test consists of two parts. In **each** part you shall choose **one (1)** out of three topics.

You can answer in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish or English.

Sources and referencing

It is important that you get familiar with the rules for sources and referencing:

<https://www.hf.uio.no/english/studies/sources-referencing/index.html>

It is not mandatory to include a bibliography (reference list) if it is a short take-home examination (2-6 hours).

Using other people's material without declaring it properly may be considered as cheating or attempted cheating. The consequences of cheating or attempted cheating may be severe for you as a student, please

follow the link for more information: <https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/sources-citations/>

Contact information

If you are experiencing technical difficulties during your examination or have further questions, please send an e-mail to eirik.finne@ifikk.uio.no or call 22 84 10 70.

If you have questions regarding the subject or the examination questions, please send an e-mail via:

eirik.finne@ifikk.uio.no

Good luck!

i General instructions

Please write an essay on **ONE** of the three proposed topics for each part of the course. In total you are asked to write **TWO** essays, one for part A and one for part B.

Remember that your arguments must rest on textual evidence (quotations or citations) and that all quotations must be accompanied by full citations (in the text, in parenthesis). For example, (Iliad 1.100) = Book 1, line 100 of the Iliad OR (Homer/Name of translator 1997: 119) = Page 119 in the edition of the Iliad published in 1997. F

This is an open-book exam but please note that there is no expectation that you engage with any secondary literature. Instead, work as closely as possible with primary texts.

Length is subordinate to adequate discussion of the two topics chosen, but we recommend a **minimum length of 1000 words per essay**.

Please leave about 15 minutes to proofread your work carefully.

1 Part A

Please write an essay on ONE of the three proposed topics

Either:

1. Ancient texts often include descriptions, or visualizations, of works of art such as paintings, buildings, or crafted objects (usually fictional, as in the case of the shields of Achilles and Aeneas). The scholarly term for such a description is ecphrasis. Choose two texts, at least one of which should be an epic, that include an ecphrasis and compare (1) to what ends such pauses in the narrative are put by the author; (2) how the text approaches the paradoxical task of rendering a visual experience in the verbal medium.













Or:

2. Plato, in the Republic, claimed that the Iliad poet represents the heroes' raw emotions all too vividly. Compare two or three texts, ideally drawn from two different genres (at least one should come from an epic), from the viewpoint of how they represent strong, overwhelming emotions. You can focus on two illustrative passages. Look for significant differences and, if you can, try to offer an explanation for them.

Or:

3. Ancient literary texts, during their long history of reception, were often read for political guidance or exempla (models for imitation). Compare two or three representations of characters who are placed in a position of leadership (at least one should come from an epic), staying close to particular passages. Attempt an explanation of differences in how leadership is represented in these passages, keeping in mind that these representations are necessarily integrated in the overall design of the work.

Fill in your answer here

Format | **B** | *I* | U | x_2 | x^2 | I_x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 

Words: 0

Maximum marks: 0

2 Part B

Please write an essay on ONE of the three proposed topics

Either:

1. As another Antigone Callirhoe, the female protagonist in Chariton's novel *Chaireas and Callirhoe*, is buried alive (1.6). Later her husband Chaereas throws himself into the sea "to die, so as not to have to choose between abandoning the search for Callirhoe and causing grief to his parents" (3.5), reminding us strongly of Haemon's dilemmas. With the burial and resuscitation of Callirhoe (1.6 and 1.8) and Chaereas' reaction in 3.5 as your starting point, reflect on how and to what ends Chariton appropriates elements from the genre of tragedy in general and from Sophocles' *Antigone* in particular.

Or:

2. Analyze the narrative and thematic relationship between the story of Eros and Psyche in Apuleius' *The Golden Ass* (4.28-6.24) and the main story-line (Lucius' transformation into an ass and his return to human form) in this novel.

Or:

3. The classicist Jonas Grethlein has claimed that «Whereas poetic works define their own eternity via their objects, Thucydides claims eternity in relation to his readers. Fame has been replaced with usefulness.» (J. Grethlein, *The Greeks and their Past. Poetry, Oratory and History in the Fifth-Century BCE*, 2010, 214).

Explain citing passages from Homer's *Iliad* in what sense poets lay claim on eternity for their works via their objects and describe on which intellectual moves Thucydides' counterconcept of «usefulness» for his work depends. Take as your starting point Thucydides 1.23.

Fill in your answer here

Format
B
I
U
x₂
x²
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📄
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↶
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☷
Ω
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ABC
✖

Words: 0

Maximum marks: 0