R40902, CLASSICS 599G, SPECIAL STUDY IN GREEK:
EURIPIDES, ALCESTIS

δὲ ἐὰν ἔλθῃ, ὡς ἂν καὶ σοφότερος γένη.
—Alcestis 779

Professor. Dr. E. N. Genovese, Professor of Classics and Humanities, AH-4231, 594-5186, fax 594-1004, genovese@mail.sdsu.edu, http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~genovese/pagina.html. Office hours: 10:00–10:50 MTWF and by appointment, but call or drop by any time, if only to leave a message.

Class. 1:00–2:50 Th, AH-3110, three units. Translation-discussion of assigned readings. Formal written translation. Comprehensive final exam.

Course. Translation and criticism of Euripides, Alcestis, and perhaps passages from the Medea and the Cyclops. Prerequisite: Classics 304G.

Objectives. To read, translate, and enjoy Euripidean drama, and to learn a little more about classical scholarship.

Texts. We will translate from Euripides, Cyclops, Alcestis, Medea, ed. and trans. Kovacs (Loeb; Harvard, 1995), with help from Hamilton and Haslam, Euripides’ Alcestis (Bryn Mawr Commentaries, 1980).

Expectations. This is a university course, not merely an exam or a grade: Your classmates and I rely on you to complete every assignment when due and to attend every class, ready to participate. Absences will affect your knowledge and likely your course grade. Take notes in class. All written work will exhibit standard English grammar and correct American spelling and punctuation (see below, Literacy); submitted work will be typed double space on single sides of 8½ × 11–inch white paper.

Translation. You will present a formal translation of all assigned passages, typed double space on 8½ × 11–inch white paper. Indicate the text line number at the top of each page or at the beginning or end of each first line. Translate literally but intelligibly and, as much as possible, line by line. The translation will be due on the day of the final exam.

Exam. The comprehensive final exam will comprise three to five brief passages for translation and analysis and some questions on Euripides, drama, or the Alcestis. Tentatively scheduled for 1:00–3:00 Th, May 22.

Privacy, Ownership, Courtesy. I reserve the right to retain all written work. Graded work will be returned publicly; if you wish to claim work privately in my office, please so indicate on the work. Work not claimed by the end of the subsequent semester’s first week of classes will be destroyed. You may record classes but only with my permission. Guests are welcome but only with my permission. Please arrive for class punctually or, if late, without disturbance. If you should take offense or annoyance with any remarks or conduct by me or others, please call it to my attention promptly.

Grading. All work will be graded by letter, with X (−1 on the 4-point scale) for unsubmitted work. Your grade will be determined by your classwork (⅔), translation (⅓), and final exam (⅗).
The humanities depend on the effective use of language according to acceptable standards. In this course all written work must be logical, legible, and literate. Thoughtfulness and proofreading will ensure avoiding the avoidable error—and its penalty.

**Language.** Use standard educated English, not dialect or slang.

**Writing.** Write neatly in blue or black ink only.

**Capitals.** Capitalize all proper nouns and adjectives as well as the first word of every sentence. But do not capitalize “a god” or “the gods.”

**Periods, Semicolons.** End every declarative sentence and most abbreviations with a period. Do not use semicolons in place of commas and colons.

**Apostrophes.** Use apostrophes only with contractions and possessive nouns. Do not use them with plurals and possessive pronouns. This sentence uses no apostrophes with its verb, pronoun, or plurals.

**Underlines, Quotes.** Underline or italicize nonquoted Latin and other foreign words and the titles of works. Use “double quotes,” not ‘single quotes,’ for direct quotations in Latin as well as English. And there’s no need for boldface or any fancy fonts.

**Dictionary, Spelling.** Consult your dictionary for correct American spelling, noting especially in this course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>achieve</th>
<th>deity</th>
<th>goddess</th>
<th>liaison</th>
<th>prophecy (noun)</th>
<th>resistance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Alcestis</em></td>
<td>divine</td>
<td>heroes</td>
<td>messenger</td>
<td>prophesy (verb)</td>
<td>separate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>analyze</td>
<td>Euripides</td>
<td>intelligence</td>
<td>occurred</td>
<td>receive</td>
<td>tragedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apollo</td>
<td>exaggerate</td>
<td>its (of it)</td>
<td>occurrence</td>
<td>recurring</td>
<td>whose (of whom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>becoming</td>
<td>existence</td>
<td>it’s (it is)</td>
<td>principal (adj.)</td>
<td>referring</td>
<td>writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>belief</td>
<td>explanation</td>
<td>judgment</td>
<td>principle (noun)</td>
<td>relevant</td>
<td>Zeus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| believe | extraordinary | led (did lead) |"