

Summaries of Dissertations for the Degree of Ph.D in Classics (1998-2001)

Principes de relations étrangères: une analyse contextuelle de quelques discours de Démosthènes

Spiridon Konstados (Mars 1998)

Programme d'études classiques, Département d'Histoire
Superviseur: Professeur M. Silverthorne

Le but de cette thèse est d'examiner certains aspects de la pensée de l'orateur Démosthène concernant la politique étrangère. Ayant le corpus démosthénien comme point de départ, la recherche va au-delà de la question dont chaque discours traitait, afin de repérer des principes permanents qui régissaient la politique de l'orateur et déterminaient ses choix. Il est notamment question de l'attitude de Démosthène à l'égard de certaines notions, telles que l'intérêt, la puissance, les alliances, le prestige et le droit, son choix entre la guerre et la paix, enfin l'importance que l'orateur accordait à la chance et à l'occasion. Après l'examen contextuel de ces notions, la thèse suggère l'existence d'un ensemble de principes, dont la base fut l'intérêt de la cité; vue l'instabilité de l'époque, cet intérêt nécessitait une puissance que seules les alliances pouvaient assurer. Pour y arriver, une cité devait cultiver son image, puisque elle n'était pas en mesure d'imposer des alliances. Quant à la chance, il est suggéré que, loin d'être un fataliste, Démosthène en tenait sérieusement compte.

Boundless Nature: The Construction of Female Speech in Plautus

Dorota Dutsch (September 2000)

Classics Program, Department of History
Supervisor: Professor T. Wade Richardson

The existence of specific lexical features marking the speech of female characters in Roman Comedy is signaled in scholiastic literature, and has been confirmed by modern quantitative research. This thesis, focusing on the comedies of Plautus, investigates the question of why the playwrights made specific linguistic choices for female personae.

Greek and Roman literary theory stipulated that the speech of women in drama had to be constructed so as to reveal the speakers' feminine nature. Philosophical doctrines that construed gender as a

polar opposition evince a fundamental distinction, defining male as 'bond' and female as 'boundless'. The association of female with boundlessness, it is argued, also determines woman's position with respect to speech. A study of Greek New Comedy reveals that the reflections on female nature and expression found there depict woman as adverse to limits, a concept which Plautus seems to have subsequently adapted from his sources.

Donatus's scholia to Terence characterize female speech as disorderly and disrespectful of the norms of verbal interaction. Concrete linguistic patterns are rationalized as symptoms of 'softness' and querulousness, both representing the female propensity to violate interpersonal limits. The text of Plautus, examined for meta-textual asides on female speech, confirms the scholiast's observations. An inquiry into the Plautine perception of blanditia reveals that female mannerisms are interpreted as tokens of a contagious moral disorder, and that they mark the feebleness of female (and effeminate) personae. The otherness of female complaints, emphasized during the performance of palliata by both verbal and para-verbal means, is intimately associated in the text of the comedies with the chaos within women's minds. Female speech patterns in Plautus thus illustrate the concept of *infirmis sexus*.

Heidegger's Interpretation of Ancient Greek Aletheia and the Philological Response to It

Rui de Sousa (September 2000)

Classics Program, Department of History
Supervisor: Professor M. Silverthorne

This thesis tries to provide a critical review of Heidegger's interpretation of ancient Greek truth in the different stages of his career and it also examines the philological response that his work on this question elicited. The publication of *Sein und Zeit* made Heidegger's views on aletheia available to a wide public and thereby launched a heated debate on the meaning of this word. The introduction tries to give an account of the general intellectual background to Heidegger's interpretation of ancient Greek truth. It also looks at the kind of interpretative approach favored by the philologists responding to Heidegger's views on aletheia. The thesis first examines his arguments on ancient Greek truth and language in *Sein und Zeit* from the point of view of the larger philosophical project of Heidegger's seminal work. It then looks at some initial philological responses to Heidegger along with Heidegger's views on aletheia in a few works following the publication of *Sein und Zeit*. As a next step, the bulk of the philological work responding to Heidegger is carefully examined with a special focus on the interpretative approaches of the various authors. Heidegger's attempt to respond to some of these philologists is also reviewed. Finally, Heidegger's retraction of his earlier views on aletheia is examined in light of a growing critical consensus among philologists. The very latest philological responses to Heidegger are also considered. The conclusion looks at the contributions made by Heidegger and his philological respondents to our knowledge of ancient Greek truth. Some suggestions are also made for future research on this topic.

Pindar's Nemean Odes: A Poetic Commentary

Carolyn Jones (December 2000)

Classics Program, Department of History

Supervisor: Professor M. Silverthorne

This professes to be a poetic commentary to the Nemean odes of Pindar. It argues for a re-evaluation of this poet's epinikia as poetry and has taken as its principal focus the stuff that is critically ignored or devalued. Much that Pindar writes is difficult in that it is at once dense and dynamic, obedient to the strictures of a genre and yet never ruled by them. He invites commentary and scholars have for the most part centred their considerable efforts on decoding genius. There is as much literature on the poet and his relatively inaccessible work as there is an absence of poetic appreciation of it. The desire for a system of language, a master decoder of metaphor, imagery and thought processes, and the desire to find unity of thought, for Grundgedanken, for correspondences, structural parallels and polarities is the engine that drives the philologist reading these odes. But Pindar defies system.

The Numan Tradition and its Uses in the Literature of Rome's "Golden Age"

Lise Otis (October 2001)

Classics Program, Department of History

Supervisor: Professor W. Richardson

This dissertation presents a critical analysis of literary texts that recount fully or briefly the life and legend of King Numa Pompilius. Focusing on the "Golden Age," it comprises the Numan accounts of Cicero, Livy, Dionysius of Halicarnassus and Ovid. These authors lived at a time when Rome was trying to reconcile for herself and for her subjects the price of her military world domination with the belief in her foreordained supremacy. This reconciliation was to be achieved by a re-acquaintance with the Roman ancestral values whose observance had merited Rome her dominion and whose neglect had driven the state to civil war. The question of Roman national identity is at the heart of the Numan accounts of the chosen prose-writers. In his portrayal of Numa, who combines the civilizing virtues of classical Athens with native Roman virtue, Cicero offers a rebuttal for Greek critics who questioned Rome's supremacy because of her lack of civilizing virtues. Livy investigates the leading causes of Rome's world domination and identifies the national values and institutions that many generations of leaders forged. Numa is one such leader, having established laws, religious rite and a peaceful way of life. Dionysius represents Numa as the Greek ideal of kingship in order to establish for the Greek world the excellence of the Roman national identity founded on Greek virtue. The Numan accounts of Livy and Dionysius, composed in Augustus' principate, do not draw direct parallels between Numa and Augustus, although the narration sometimes suggests a special relevance to Augustan rule. Finally, Ovid, the only poet, recounting traditional Numan tales, offers analogies and allegories of certain Augustan ideas and measures that may be seen to flatter the ruler.

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Tips and Strategies for Translating "Sight" Passages

1. Note carefully any heading or description and refer to it constantly as you proceed. Do not fail to use any vocabulary that might be given.
2. Read the whole passage through, quite quickly.
3. Re-read the passage, commencing to work through the sense in your head.
4. Proceed with writing your first draft in rough (not to be handed in), attacking the sense in terms of the suspected content. Keep this content in mind sentence by sentence. Do not be satisfied with nonsense.
5. If you get stuck on part of a sentence, skip it and keep going. Return to it, perhaps with a better understanding, after doing what follows.
6. After writing out the rough draft go back to the unsatisfactory bits, making very sure you have left nothing out.
7. Study the draft against the passage and seek to put it into normal, natural, modern, but quite formal English (or French). Strive for uniformity and consistency of style throughout. Avoid use of brackets, alternatives, etc. This is your second draft, also not to be handed in. Polish this version and check for omissions, until ready to copy.
8. Copy out neatly, double-spaced, your final, clean version. Make your last, important check for omissions in the copying. Hand it in.

Tips and Strategies kindly supplied by T. Wade Richardson

Text taken entirely from McGill University Library documents available online at the *Classics Subject Guide* Page: <http://www.library.mcgill.ca/human/SUBGUIDE/classics.htm>

McGill University Resources for Classical Studies

The **Humanities and Social Sciences Library** is the major location for the University's collection in Classical and Modern Greek Studies. The **Department of Rare Books and Special Collections** has a fine range of early editions of the classics as well as prints and maps of interest to classicists. The **Otto Ribbeck collection** consisting of monographs and some 6,000 offprints and pamphlets is a rich source of secondary materials for classical scholarship in the 19th century. The monographs have been incorporated into the main collection, the rest are in the process of being catalogued. **Osler Library** has strong holdings of primary and secondary sources relating to classical medicine and science as well as a few purely literary texts in very early editions. The **Law Library** collects seriously in Roman law. The **Wainwright (rare book collection)** includes some non-legal material of interest to the Classical scholar e.g. the backfile of the *Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des inscriptions*. **BlackaderLauterman Library** is the main resource for Ancient Greek and Roman Art and Architecture. It is very strong on Byzantine art. **Islamic Studies Library** includes important publications describing the Greek and Roman colonies in the Eastern Mediterranean and North Africa. The **Religious Studies Library** holds some material of interest for the study of religion in the classical world. **Blacker-Wood Library** and **Physical Sciences and Engineering Library** have interesting holdings in the history of science and technology in antiquity.

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Bibliothèque nationale du Québec: Because this library holds the historic collection of the Sulpicians, there is a wealth of retrospective materials relating to the classical world. **Université de Montréal, Bibliothèque des lettres et sciences humaines** has significant holdings of critical works in French and of French translations of the classics. It has a long-standing subscription to the *Les Belles Lettres* series. The outstanding feature of the collection is its strength in retrospective and current publications concerning imperial Rome. The **Centre for Canadian Architecture** has outstanding holdings concerning classical architecture, and some materials related to construction and town planning in the ancient world.

Consortia and Document Delivery

The **Center for Research Libraries**, a consortium to which McGill belongs, has an excellent historical collection of European dissertations and acquires virtually all European theses automatically. **Research Libraries Group** and **OCLC** memberships provide access to vast bibliographic databases and to efficient document delivery systems based on the holdings of North America's most eminent research collections.

Classics: a selective list of reference sources at McGill

This guide lists selected titles found mainly in the **Humanities and Social Sciences Library (McLennan-Redpath)**. Many more titles are available in McGill libraries; check MUSE by author, title, subject, and keyword. Please ask library staff at the Reference Desk for assistance.

GUIDES TO THE LITERATURE

<i>Bibliographical Guide to Classical Studies 2v</i>	Ref Z6209 C65W485 1997
<i>Classical Scholarship: An Annotated Bibliography</i>	Ref Z7016 M252 1986
<i>Classical Studies, a Guide to the Reference Literature</i>	Ref Z7016 J4 1996
<i>Classics: A Guide to Reference Sources (at McGill)</i>	Ref Desk

DICTIONARIES & HANDBOOKS - GENERAL

<i>Archaeological Method and Theory: an encyclopedia</i>	Ref CC75 A654 2000
<i>Chronology of the Ancient World</i>	Ref D11.5 W46
<i>Civilization of the Ancient Mediterranean (3v.)</i>	Ref DE59 C55 1988
<i>Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt</i>	Ref DT58 O94 2000
<i>Encyclopedia of Greece and the Hellenic tradition</i>	Ref DF757 E53 2000
<i>Handbook to Life in Ancient Greece</i>	Ref DF77 A35 1997
<i>Illustrated Encyclopaedia of the Classical World</i>	Ref DE5 A8x
<i>Kleine Pauly</i>	Ref DE5 K5
<i>Medieval Archaeology an encyclopedia</i>	Ref D125 M42 2001
<i>Oxford Classical Dictionary</i>	Ref DE5 O9 1999
<i>Princeton Encyclopedia of Classical Sites</i>	Ref DE59 P7

DICTIONARIES & HANDBOOKS - MYTHOLOGY

<i>Crowell's Handbook of Classical Mythology</i>	Ref BL303 T75 1970
<i>Dictionnaire de la mythologie grecque et romaine (Grimal)</i>	Ref BL715 G7 1982
<i>Dictionary of Classical Mythology</i>	Ref BL715 B44 1982
<i>Dictionary of Classical Mythology (Grimal)</i>	Ref BL715 G713 1986
<i>Encyclopedia of Ancient Deities</i>	Ref BL473 C67 2000
<i>Mythology of All Races, v. 1</i>	Ref BL25 M8 1964
<i>Place Names in Classical Greek Mythology</i>	Ref BL715 B445 1991
<i>What Men or Gods Are These</i>	Ref BL782 B6
<i>Women of Classical Mythology</i>	Ref PA31 B83 1991

DICTIONARIES & HANDBOOKS - LITERATURE

<i>Ancient Writers: Greece and Rome (2v)</i>	Ref PA3002 A5 1982
<i>Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism (CMLC)</i>	Ref PA1 C52
<i>Crowell's Handbook of Classical Drama</i>	Ref PA3024 H35
<i>Dictionnaire des auteurs grecs et latins</i>	Ref PA31 B83 1991
<i>Greek and Latin Authors 800b.c. - a.d.1000</i>	Ref PA31 G7
<i>Oxford Companion to Classical Literature</i>	Ref PA31 O94 1989

DICTIONARIES & HANDBOOKS - BIOGRAPHY

<i>Classical Scholarship, a Biographical Encyclopedia</i>	Ref PA83 C58 1990
<i>Roman Emperors, a Biographical Guide</i>	Ref DG274 G73
<i>Who Was Who in the Greek World</i>	Ref DF208 W5
<i>Who Was Who in the Roman World</i>	Ref DG203 W45

LANGUAGE DICTIONARIES

<i>Greek-English Lexicon (Liddell & Scott)</i>	Ref PA445 E5L6 1996
<i>Latin Dictionary (Lewis & Short)</i>	Ref PA2365 E5A7 1962
<i>Oxford Latin Dictionary</i>	Ref PA2365 E5O9 1982

ATLASES

<i>Atlas of Classical Archaeology</i>	Ref, McL & B-L G1046 E15A8 1977
<i>Atlas of Classical History</i>	Ref G1033 A833 1985
<i>Atlas of the Classical World</i>	Ref DE29 H463 ATLAS STANDS
<i>Atlas of the Greek and Roman World in Antiquity</i>	Ref G1033 A84 1981 ATLAS STANDS
<i>Atlas of the Greek World</i>	Ref DF77 L43
<i>Atlas of the Roman World</i>	Ref DG77 C597 1982

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

<i>Aristotle's Metaphysics: annotated Bibliography of the 20th Century Literature</i>	Ref Z8044 R3513 1997
<i>Bibliographie critique de la philosophie greque...1453-1953</i>	Ref Z7129 G7V6
<i>Bronze Age, Greek and Roman Technology...</i>	Ref Z7914 H5O42
<i>Classical Greek and Roman Drama: an Annotated Bibliography</i>	Ref Z7108 D7F67 1989
<i>Classical Mythology: an Annotated Bibliographical Survey</i>	Ref Z7836 P4x
<i>Classical Scholarship, an Annotated Bibliography</i>	Ref Z7016 M252 1986
<i>Greece & Rome: New Surveys in the Classics</i>	Search MUSE under this title for series
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<i>Greek and Roman Authors: A Checklist of Criticism</i>	Ref Z7016 G9 1982
<i>Philosophy of Cynicism</i>	Ref B508 N38 1995
<i>Recent Studies in Myths and Literature, 1970-1990</i>	Ref Z2014 M985 1991
<i>Rome in the Fourth Century AD</i>	Ref Z2340 R653 1991
<i>Women in Antiquity: an Annotated Bibliography</i>	Ref Z7961 G66

BIBLIOGRAPHIES - TRANSLATIONS

<i>Classics in Translation (before 1930) (Smith)</i>	Ref Z7018 T7F87
<i>Classics in Translation: A Selective Bibliography, 1930-76 (Green)</i>	Ref Z7018 T7E872x

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<i>Année philologique</i>	Index Stands
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