



Classics Newsletter

NOVEMBER 6, 2012

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In This Issue

NEWS
EVENTS
OPPORTUNITIES
ALUMNI

News

Dreams and Nightmares of the Egyptian Revolution Talk on Wednesday

Please come to hear our new Professor in Arabic Language, Dr. Wessam El-Meligi from Alexandria, Egypt, speak about the "Arab Spring" and Facebook Revolution in Egypt.

Dreams and Nightmares of the Egyptian Revolution

Prof. Wessam El-Meligi, Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics

4:45-6:00 PM, Wednesday, Nov. 7

The Harmon Room, First Floor of the Library

Sponsored by the Classics Department

Dr. El-Meligi will address what he calls the "Dreams and Nightmares of the Revolution."

He was deeply involved in the revolution in Alexandria, Cairo, and the blog-o-sphere. This first-hand account of the changes in Egypt is a timely and compelling story. So please come join us this Wednesday in the Harmon room in the library from 4:45-6:00. Refreshments will be served.

Hope to see you all for this talk.



Arabic Discussion Hour

The Classics Department will be instituting Arabic Discussion Hour for all Arabic speakers - beginners to native speakers - the next four Monday afternoons of this semester.

Starting this coming **Monday Nov. 12** we will meet in the 4th Floor Lounge of Old Main for a time to speak Arabic together. There are no rules or subject matter but one – we are speaking only Arabic. It will be a time for casual conversation for Arabic learners and accomplished speakers alike to get together, get to know one another, and work on our Arabic. So please mark your calendars and join the not yet famous ARABIC DISCUSSION HOUR. The four dates are: **Nov. 12, 19** (4 floor lounge), **26** (Harmon Room) and **Dec. 3** (4 floor lounge), from 4:30-5:30. Please come and spread the word. Classics will provide food for all the discussion hours.

Registration Starts November 12

To view the courses for spring 2013 offered by the Classics Department [click here](#).

New Course Descriptions:

CLAS 194-01 Gender in Greek Tragedy MWF 1:10-2:10 Brian Lush

The genre of Greek tragedy has proven remarkably fruitful for the study of gender in the ancient Greek world. Characters such as Medea, Antigone, Clytemnestra and Phaedra seem simultaneously to challenge and confirm the ideology that informed gender inequity in the Greek polis. These texts have continuously inspired and provoked artists, activists and critical theorists to consider issues of gender and social inequality since their initial production in the fifth century BCE. This course will engage with the topic of gender in Greek tragedy by pursuing two separate but closely related goals. First, we will read a broad selection of tragedies by Athens' three great tragic dramatists - Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides - and discuss the ways in which they engage with and invite examination of gender. We will also use our growing facility with these texts to approach and gain an understanding of the developing discourse among feminist Classicists about Greek tragedy.

CLAS 301-01 Research Forum: Pompeii TR 9:40-11:10 Beth Severy-Hoven

Until Pompeii was buried by ash in the volcanic eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 C.E., it was an ordinary town in southern Italy. In this course we will explore the remains of this preserved city -- from graffiti to wall painting, latrines to bath complexes, shops to sanctuaries -- and how we can use these remains to learn about the people who lived there. In addition to shared seminar readings, students will develop and pursue an independent research project on the site or the modern reception and interpretation of this ancient town.

Prerequisites: CLAS 121, CLAS 122, CLAS 127, CLAS 129, CLAS 145 or permission of the instructor.

Classics Office

Old Main, room 311
651-696-6376
Fax: 651-696-6498

Office Hours

Weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Classics Website

<http://www.macalester.edu/classics/>

[We're also on Facebook. Check out the "Friends of Macalester"](#)

[Classics" Facebook page.](#)

Quote of the issue: "we will explore the remains... from graffiti to wall painting, latrines to bath complexes, shops to sanctuaries"

Independent Study course, POLITICAL CHANGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Andy Overman is offering an Independent Two-Credit course this coming Spring semester entitled, *POLITICAL CHANGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST*. The course will meet once a week on Thursdays from 11:30-1:00. The course number is CLAS 612-01. Students will discuss current political developments, elections, shifts of balance of power, and look particularly at the roles and struggles of the Youth in certain Middle Eastern societies. Participants will write one research paper/project, and will make one presentation to the class on a topic related to the theme. Other faculty will also participate in the course discussions/classes. If you want to be in the course please email Andy Overman or stop by his office (313 Old Main).

Events

Department Events Calendar

	Wednesday, November 7
12pm - 1pm	Dreams and Nightmares of the Egyptian Revolution Harmon Reading Room, DeWitt Wallace Library
	Monday, November 12
4:30-5:30	Informal Arabic Conversations 4 Floor Lounge
	Monday, November 19
4:30-5:30	Informal Arabic Conversations 4 Floor Lounge
	Monday, November 26
4:30-5:30	Informal Arabic Conversations Harmon Room, 1 st Floor Library
	Monday, December 3
4:30-5:30	Informal Arabic Conversations 4 Floor Lounge
	Tuesday, December 4
7:00	Senior Seminar Capstone Presentations Old Main, Room 111
	Monday, December 10
4:00-5:30	Classics Cookie Party 4 Floor Lounge
	Monday, March 25, 2013
9am - 12pm	Peeps Dioramas Due Old Main 311
	Friday, March 29, 2013
4pm - 6pm	PeepsShow 2013 Third floor, Old Main
	Monday, May 6, 2013
4pm - 6pm	History and Classics End-of-Year Picnic First floor and outdoors, Hugh S. Alexander Alumni House

Classics Colloquium

The Classics Senior Major Capstone Presentations will be on Tuesday, December 4, at 7pm. in Old Main 111.

Archaeology Institute of America, MN Events

This week the AIA MN is proud to host Dr. Tina Neuhauser's presentation: "*Roman Provincial Theaters. A Review Based on Selected Examples.*" Dr. Neuhauser's talk will examine the influence of diverging cultures on theater development in the far Roman provinces. The lecture begins at 6:00 PM on **Thursday, November 8** in the John B. Davis Hall of Macalester College and is followed by a no-host meal (likely at Pad Thai on Grand).

The AIA would also like to announce an upcoming lecture hosted by the Minneapolis Institute of Art, entitled: "A Report from the Field: Recent Finds in the First Emperor's Tomb Complex." The lecture will be held in the Wells Fargo Community Room on **Sunday, November 18**, 2012, from 2 – 5 PM. Three Chinese archaeologists from the Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum and Shaanxi Provincial Institute of Archaeology will present the most updated reports on the recent archaeological excavations associated with the First Emperor's burial, his capital Xianyang, and other sites in Shaanxi. The presentations will be given in Chinese with English translations. Admission is \$10; \$5 for MIA members; free for members of the Asian Art Affinity Group.

For more information and to reserve tickets, call [\(612\) 870-6323](tel:6128706323) or reserve tickets online https://tickets.artsmia.org/public/default.asp?use_more=true&cgCode=13&cgName=Lectures

Opportunities

Critical Language Scholarships 2013

The U. S. Department of State is pleased to announce the scholarship competition for the 2013 Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program in thirteen critical need foreign languages.

The CLS Program provides fully-funded group-based intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences for seven to ten weeks for U.S. citizen undergraduate and graduate students.

Languages offered: Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish, and Urdu.

The application is available online at <http://www.clscholarship.org>. Applications will be due November 15, 2012.

Prior to preparing their application, interested students should review the full eligibility and application information on the CLS Program website: www.clscholarship.org/applicants.

Arabic, Chinese, Persian, Russian, and Japanese institutes have language prerequisites, which can also be found at the link above.

Students from all academic disciplines, including business, engineering, law, medicine, sciences, and humanities are encouraged to apply.

While there is no service requirement attached to CLS Program awards, participants are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship period, and later apply their critical language skills in their professional careers.

The CLS Program will be planning outreach events at universities across the U.S. in fall 2012. Check out the CLS webpage or our Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/CLSscholarship> page for updates! For more information about the CLS Program, please visit the CLS website: <http://www.clscholarship.org>.

The Job Hunt

Our office receives occasional requests to forward e-mail announcements of events and opportunities to our majors, and students in our classes. When possible, we consolidate these notes by including them in this newsletter. Otherwise, we generally reserve our e-mailing lists for department-specific communications. For information about job opportunities, we suggest advertisers post their opportunity with Macalester's Career Development Center (CDC). The CDC has career counselors who can help you with career planning, job search and graduate schools options. They offer resume & personal statement reviews, mock interviews, workshops, access to employment opportunities, and career assessment testing and interpretation to students and recent alumni. [Find their web site here.](#)

Of course, a conversation with a Classics professor about your aspirations is recommended as well.



Come to the Lounge

Use the community bookshelf, try knitting at Mac, make popcorn in a bag, and hang out in comfy chairs. Come spend time where Classics chills. Old Main room 311.

Alumni News

The Classics Department E-newsletters have been sent to Classics alumni worldwide. To have your news included in the next issue, please send a note to Herta Pitman at pitman@macalester.edu

There are no new reports this month. Please let us know if you have news you'd like to share.