Colby

GREEK

In the Department of Classics.

The Classics Department offers courses listed in this catalogue under "Ancient History," "Classics," "Greek," and "Latin."

Course Offerings

GK111f Introductory Greek Western civilization and culture finds its basis in the ideas and thoughts of the ancient Greeks. Students acquire the basic principles of ancient Greek grammar, syntax, and vocabulary while learning to translate simple and some compound sentences from Greek to English and from English into Greek. The grammatical and syntactical aspects also bring an appreciation for and understanding of a radically different culture, separated from us by time and space. Other learning goals include developing reading comprehension skills, enhancement of critical and analytical faculties, and attention to detail. *Four credit hours.* H. ROISMAN

GK112s Intermediate Greek Students continue to acquire the basic principles of ancient Greek through grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, and thus come closer to the ideas and thoughts of the ancient Greeks. Students will acquire the elementary knowledge of tools necessary to read original Greek text. Various passages in the original Greek bring students an appreciation of ancient Greek literature. Learning goals include developing reading comprehension skills, enhancement of critical and analytical faculties, attention to detail. Satisfies the second semester of language requirement. *Prerequisite:* Greek 111. *Four credit hours.* H. ROISMAN

GK131f Introduction to Greek Literature Introduction to the reading of original ancient Greek text. The choice of text varies from year to year and consists of either poetry or prose. Focus on applying the concepts of syntax and grammar learned in previous semesters. It includes textual and literary analysis of the selected work. Learning goals include decoding of ancient text, further development of reading ancient Greek and comprehension skills, enhancement of critical and analytical faculties, improvement of oral argumentational structuring skills. *Prerequisite:* Greek 112. *Four credit hours.* **L** H. ROISMAN

[GK232] Male Deception: Sophocles's *Philoctetes* Sophocles's *Philoctetes* dramatizes the suffering and rage of a hero who was abandoned on a deserted island because of a putrefied and bad-smelling wound. Ten years later his comrades realize that without Philoctetes and his bow Troy cannot be captured, and they want him back. The play questions the values of betrayal, loyalty, and friendship. It debates the value of truth and deception as means for attaining goals and of the war itself. *Prerequisite:* Greek 131. *Four credit hours.* **L**

GK239f Revenge and Cowardice: Euripides's *Electra* In the Euripidean version of the myth of Electra, the playwright asks his audience what happens when one parent murders the other. How does one reconcile the imperative to avenge a father's murder with matricide? *Prerequisite:* Greek 131. *Four credit hours.* **L** H. ROISMAN

[GK251] Husbands and Wives: Euripides's *Alcestis* Alcestis agrees to die instead of her husband, Admetus. Why? And why does Admetus let her? Is there a tragic character in the play? *Prerequisite:* Greek 131. *Four credit hours.* **L**

[GK252] Euripides's *Hippolytus*: The Stepmother and the Prince Phaedra lusts after her stepson Hippolytus, who expresses his devotion to the virgin goddess Artemis by choosing sexual chastity. His angry rejection of Phaedra's advances leads to suicide, false accusations of rape, and an ever-worsening family tragedy. We shall discuss and examine the interactions of this family through the prism of Greek tragedy's perspective on deception, truth, and emotional or devotional excess. *Four credit hours.*

[GK352] Zeus's World Order: Hesiod's *Theogony* In this poem Hesiod narrates the creation of the world, the births of the gods, the battles they fight, and the eventual rise to power of the god Zeus. Hesiod's poetry is the oldest source for many myths, including those of Prometheus and Pandora. *Four credit hours.* **L**

GK354s Homer's *Iliad* Having suffered losses, the Achaeans send an embassy to Achilles asking him to rejoin their forces. What is their argumentative strategy? Are they convincing enough to bring Achilles back to the battlefield? *Prerequisite:* Greek 131. *Four credit hours.* **L** H. ROISMAN

[GK355] Spy Missions: *Iliad* 10 Both the Achaeans and the Trojans decide on spy missions. Why? What are their motives, and how are the spies chosen? Are the missions successful, and does either side gain an advantage from their subterfuge? *Prerequisite:* Greek 131. *Four credit hours.*

[GK356] Homer, *Iliad* 1: Hero's Rage Achilles's quarrel with Agamemnon followed by his decision not to fight caused the

Greeks and their allies many casualties and led to the deaths of Patroclus and Hector. The episode described in *Iliad* 1 questions the values of authority, hierarchy, bravery, gratitude, loyalty, and arrogance, as well as the attitude of the Homeric Greeks toward their wives and concubines, allowing us to analyze the emotions of anger and restraint as well as forgiveness. Learning goals include further development of Greek reading and comprehension skills, familiarity with the Homeric epic, enhancement of critical and analytical faculties, improvement of oral and argumentational structuring skills, refinement of writing skills. *Prerequisite:* Greek 131. *Four credit hours.* **L**

[GK358] Politics of Revenge: Sophocles's *Electra* Electra's own inaction in the face of her mother's crime is examined in this drama. Each of Greece's great tragedians confronted this horrifying tale of conflicting duties and responsibilities. The differing emphases and perspectives of Euripides and Sophocles will receive particular scrutiny. *Prerequisite:* Greek 131. *Four credit hours.*

[GK359] Menelaos and Paris: Homer's *Iliad* In preparation for the combat between Menelaos and Paris, Helen shows herself on the walls of Troy. Will the two heroes, rivals for her hand, fight to the death? If not, what will happen next? *Prerequisite:* Greek 131. *Four credit hours.* **L**