

AUGUSTINE

Medieval Latin 106

SPRING 2017



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Instructor: Dr. Julian Yolles
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Tu/Th 12-1pm, Boylston 237

Course Description

This course will explore the life, writings, and influence of St. Augustine (354–430), bishop of Hippo in North Africa, philosopher, theologian, historian, and autobiographer. While his theological and exegetical works were formative of Western spirituality at the earliest stages of its development, his *Confessions* and his *City of God* have ensured his place at the foundations of the Latin intellectual tradition. The purpose of this course is to engage critically with Augustine's masterpiece, as well as to explore other, less well-known areas of his prodigious output.

Requirements

This course is intended both for classicists and medievalists who have sufficient training in Latin (Latin 10, Medieval Latin 10, Ba, Bb, Bam, Bbm, or equivalent) to read substantial amounts of original material.

Required Texts

Augustine, *Confessions: Books I–IV*, ed. and comm. Gillian Clark (Cambridge 1995). ISBN 0521497639.

Kim Paffenroth and Robert P. Kennedy, *A Reader's Companion to Augustine's Confessions* (Westminster 2003). ISBN 0664226191. (PK)

Henry Chadwick, *Augustine: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford 2001). Online.

Internet resource: J. J. O'Donnell's edition and commentary on the confessions, at <http://www.stoa.org/hippo/>

Grading

35% Participation and Preparation (includes possible unscheduled quizzes)

10% Short Paper

15% Midterm Exam

20% Final Exam

20% Final Paper

Participation and Preparation

Attendance, active participation, and due preparation are crucial components of the course. All assigned readings are to be completed **prior** to the meeting of the class under which they are listed. After more than one unexcused absence, a student's final grade will be reduced by one third of a letter grade (e.g., an A will become an A-) for each such absence. If you cannot attend a class meeting (for illness, a family emergency, an interview, or a varsity athletic match), please make every effort to contact me beforehand.

Midterm and Final Exam

The midterm and final exams will consist primarily of translation, and will be taken in a single one-hour class.

Short Paper

The short paper will involve a detailed stylistic and rhetorical analysis of a particular passage of the student's choosing (3 pages).

Final Paper

The final paper will be approximately 10 pages (at least 3000 words) in length. It may be done on a topic of the student's choice.

Accessibility Education

Students needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a documented disability must present their Faculty Letter from the Accessible Education Office (AEO) and speak with me by the end of the second week of the term.

Academic Dishonesty

Discussion of scholarship and sharing of sources are essential for successful academic work. You are encouraged to consult with the instructors about the written assignments for this course and to exchange ideas with your classmates. You should, however,

ensure that any written work that you submit for evaluation is the result of your own research and writing, and that it reflects **your own approach** to the topic. You must also provide full citation for any books, articles, websites, etc. that you have used in the preparation of your work. Other people's ideas and opinions must always be attributed to them. All quotation from published sources must be enclosed in quotation marks and the source must be acknowledged with a full citation. If you paraphrase a source, you must still acknowledge it by supplying a citation. **Plagiarism, whether of published sources or another student's work, will not be tolerated.** If this occurs, a grade of zero will be assigned and the case will be brought to the attention of university officials.

Schedule of Readings

Chadwick = Henry Chadwick, *Augustine: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford 2001).
PK = Kim Paffenroth and Robert P. Kennedy, *A Reader's Companion to Augustine's Confessions* (Westminster 2003).

Week 1

Tu 01/24: Introduction
Th 01/26: *Confessions* I.1-10; PK 7-23

Week 2

Tu 01/31: *Confessions* I.11-21; Chadwick, Chapter 1
Th 02/02: *Confessions* I.22-31; Chadwick, Chapter 6

Week 3

Tu 02/07: *Confessions* II.1-9; PK 25-34
Th 02/09: *Confessions* II.10-18

Week 4

Tu 02/14: *Confessions* III.1-11; PK 35-52
Th 02/16: *Confessions* III.12-21

Week 5

Tu 02/21: *Confessions* IV.1-10; PK 53-70
Th 02/23: *Confessions* IV.11-20

Week 6

Tu 02/28: *Confessions* IV.21-31
Th 03/02: MIDTERM (in class)

Week 7

Tu 03/07: *Confessions* V.3-11, 22-25; PK 71-87
Th 03/09: *Confessions* VI.3-13; Lim 2012, "Augustine and Roman Public Spectacles"

03/14 and 03/16: SPRING BREAK

Week 8

Tu 03/21: *Confessions* VII.13 and 26; PK 89-105
Th 03/23: *Confessions* VIII.14-30; PK 127-136

Week 9

Tu 03/28: *Confessions* IX.4-8, 14, 23-27; PK 137-154

Th 03/30: *De ordine* I, 5-8, 24-25, 32; Clark 2012, "Philosopher: Augustine in Retirement"

Week 10

Tu 04/04: *De ordine* II, 1-3, 16, 22, 54

Th 04/06: *De doctrina Christiana* I, 1.1-5.5; II, 1.1-3.4; 15.22; 28.43; 40.60; Müller 2012, "Preacher: Augustine and His Congregation"

Week 11

Tu 04/11: *De doctrina Christiana* IV, 1.1-3.5; 6.9-7.11

Th 04/13: *De civitate Dei* I, praefatio, 1-6 ; Chadwick, Chapter 9. **Short Paper Due.**

Week 12

Tu 04/18: *De civitate Dei* II, 6-7; XIX, 21, 24 Weithman 2001, "Augustine's political philosophy"

Th 04/20: Review and Conclusion

Week 13

Tu 04/25: FINAL EXAM (in class)

Reading Period

W 05/06: Final Papers Due.