

**MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ANCIENT CLASSICS**

GC350 GREEK AND ROMAN CIVILIZATION ESSAY PROJECT INSTRUCTIONS

This document contains important information on the lecture schedule concerned with this module and on the signing-up process. Please read carefully!

This module requires students to write an essay of **approximately 5000 words** on one of a range of topics. **Five** topics are offered, each relating in a general way to a module taught in the second-year course or the first semester of third year. For each topic, there will be one introductory lecture; all five introductory lectures will be given in the first two weeks of the second semester (for the rota, see below). Each topic will also be accompanied by a bibliography and some written guidelines suggesting how it might be approached. But as GC350 is specifically designed as an **independent study** module, you are required to do most of the work on your own. You will of course be free to consult the lecturer concerned in his or her consultation times, but the lecturer will **not** give additional classes on the topic or read and comment on your essay in draft form.

Each student will need to indicate his/her preference for a particular essay topic, but will not have a completely free choice. A limit of **two** will be imposed on the number of students who can do any particular topic. If more than two students opt for the same essay topic, a ballot will be held to decide which students can do that essay. Those students who are not successful in the ballot will have to do another topic, but will still have some choice, as all students will be asked to express at least three preferences from among the topics on offer. **All essay topics are now available for inspection in the accompanying document in Moodle (GC350 module) and on the Departmental webpage.**

To indicate your preferences, you should download the Essay Preference Form from the Departmental website and mark '1', '2', and '3' for your first, second, and third preferences in the appropriate boxes. You may also indicate additional preferences if you wish. **You should submit this Preference Form electronically to classics@mu.ie by 17:00 on Tuesday 24 January 2023.** Forms submitted after the stated deadline will still be accepted, but if there are no vacancies on the list for your first preference, you will be given your second preference, and if that list is full, your third preference, and so on. **If you do not submit a form stating your preferences, your essay will not be accepted.**

It is possible that some students may wish to switch from the topic for which they are initially signed up to another topic. This is permissible **only** where there is a vacancy on the list for the topic to which the student wishes to switch, or where two students agree to a direct swap. In either case, the students concerned **must put their requests in writing and email them to classics@mu.ie.** No switches will be permitted after 17:00 on Monday 20 February 2023.

All students MUST follow the procedure set out in this notice in order to be permitted to do a particular essay topic. If you submit an essay on a topic for which you are not signed up, the essay will not be accepted.

The **introductory lectures** to these essay topics will be held according to the following schedule:

(Week 1)	Wednesday 1 February	(12:00 JHT1)	Dr Desmond
(Week 1)	Thursday 2 February	(09:00 RW.01)	Dr O'Brien
(Week 2)	Wednesday 8 February	(12:00 JHT1)	Dr Cadau
(Week 2)	Thursday 9 February	(09:00 RW.01)	Dr McGroarty
(Week 3)	Wednesday 15 February	(12:00 JHT1)	Dr Moloney