

**MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ANCIENT CLASSICS**

GC350 GREEK AND ROMAN CIVILIZATION ESSAY PROJECT INSTRUCTIONS

This document contains 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 5,000 words (about twice as long as an optional essay offered in other third-year modules in Greek and Roman Civilization) on one of a range of topics. **Six** topics are offered, each relating in a general way to a module taught in the first or second-year course or the first semester of third year. For each topic, there will be one introductory lecture; all six introductory lectures will be given in the first 3 weeks of the second semester. (See rota 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 you will not have a completely free choice. A limit of **6** will be imposed on the number of students who can do any particular essay topic (so there will be 36 slots in all: more than enough to accommodate the entire class). If more than 6 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 they 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 documents on this web page and on the Departmental notice board.**

To indicate your preferences, you should download **and print out** the Essay Preference Form (available on the Departmental webpage), and write '1', '2', and '3' next to your first, second, and third preferences. You may also indicate additional preferences if you wish. You should submit this to the Departmental Office (Room 9, Arts Building) by **5 p.m. on Friday 2 February 2018**. Any necessary ballot will be held on Monday 5 February, and lists of those who are signed up for each essay will be posted on the Departmental notice board on Tuesday 6 February. Forms submitted after 5 p.m. on Friday 2 February will still be accepted, but if there are no vacancies on the list for your first preference, you will be given your second preference, or if that list is full, your third preference, and so on.

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 essay 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 deliver them to Breege Lynch in the Departmental Office. No switches will be permitted after Monday 12 February 2018.**

All students MUST follow the procedure set out in this notice in order to be permitted to do a particular essay topic.

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

(Week 1)	Wednesday 31 January	(12 noon Hall H)	Dr Williams
(Week 1)	Thursday 1 February	(9am Hall D)	Prof. Scourfield
(Week 2)	Wednesday 7 February	(12 noon Hall H)	Dr Desmond
(Week 2)	Thursday 8 February	(9am Hall D)	Dr Campbell
(Week 3)	Wednesday 14 February	(12 noon Hall H)	Dr O'Brien
(Week 3)	Thursday 15 February	(9am Hall D)	Dr McGroarty