

# Syllabus

for course at first level

**Greek Tragedy and Comedy in Translation**  
**Grekisk tragedi och komedi i översättning**

**7.5 Higher Education**  
**Credits**  
**7.5 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	KSA996
<b>Valid from:</b>	Autumn 2012
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2012-04-04
<b>Department</b>	Department of Romance Studies and Classics
<b>Main field:</b>	Classical Languages
<b>Specialisation:</b>	G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

## Decision

This course plan has been validated by the board of the Department of French, Italian and Classical Languages on April 10, 2008.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Basic eligibility.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
996A	Greek Tragedy and Comedy in Translation	7.5

## Course content

The student will read a number of Greek dramatic works from the 5th century B.C., by the authors Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes, in translation (see literature list). The course will provide a general orientation in ancient Greek tragedy and comedy as well as basic knowledge on the dramatic works that are part of the selected texts. Great emphasis will be placed on the structure of tragedy and comedy, and on similarities and differences between the contents and structures of the two forms of drama. During the course, various alternatives in interpreting the contents of the dramatic texts will be continuously discussed. The relationship between dramatic texts and their historical and social contexts will be emphasized. The texts will be analyzed and commented upon from literary and philological perspectives as well as those stressing the history of their reception. Special emphasis will be laid on explaining ambiguous passages (with reference to the Greek texts) or passages altered in translation. Additionally, central selections from Aristoteles' Poetics will be read and commented upon.

## Learning outcomes

Having completed the course, the student is expected to:

- have attained general knowledge of the literary production of Greek dramatists
- have acquired knowledge on the dramatic texts read during the course, and the ability to report on various interpretations of the texts
- be able to report on the various parts of the dramas, the practice of their performance, the relationship between actors and choir, the organization of the festival of Dionysos and the shape of the theatre
- be able to report on similarities and differences between, on the one hand, the various Tragedists and on the other hand tragedy and comedy
- know relevant parts of Aristoteles' Poetics and the concepts that Aristoteles applies in the analysis of

tragedy.

### **Education**

Education will take place in the form of lectures and classroom teaching.

The form and extent of education may be adapted to the number of students in the course as well as to the economic situation of the Department.

### **Forms of examination**

a. Examination will take place through active participation at the lectures and a take-home exam. The form of examination may be adapted to, for example, the size of the group.

b. Grading is carried out according to a seven-point scale:

A = Excellent

B = Very Good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Adequate

F = Insufficient

Fx = Fail

c. The grading criteria for this course are to be distributed at the beginning of the course (see actual course plan).

d. A grade of at least E is required on all modules which are graded according to the seven-point scale, and a grade of at least G on all the moments or modules which are graded according to the two-point scale.

e. In order to obtain at least a grade of E, a student who has received an F or Fx has the right to an additional four tests provided the course is still offered. A student who has received a grade of E or higher may not take the test again in order to get a higher grade.

A student who has received the grade of F or Fx, respectively U twice on a given test and by the same examiner can, on application, be granted a new examiner, unless there are specific reasons against it. The application should be addressed to the board of the department.

### **Interim**

When the course is no longer offered or its contents have been essentially revised, the student has the right to be examined according to this course syllabus once per semester for a three-semester period. However, restrictions mentioned above under e still hold. For information about transitional rules for courses in the older system the student councillor/director of studies/or equivalent at the Department should be contacted.

### **Limitations**

The course may not be credited in an exam together with another course taken in Sweden or abroad, if the contents of said course are wholly or partially equivalent to the contents of this course.

### **Required reading**

The following dramas are read: Agamemnon (Aeschylus); King Oedipus, Antigone (Sophocles); Medea, The Bacchantes (Euripides); The Frogs, Lysistrata (Aristophanes) These texts will be read from: Litteraturens klassiker: Grekisk litteratur. Dramatik, published by L. Breitholtz, Panpocket, Norstedts förlag, Panpocket, 2001. Världsdramatik 1. Den klassiska traditionen, published by B. Lewan, Studentlitteratur, 1998. The Frogs (Aristophanes) is sold as a syllabus at the Department. Reference literature used in teaching: Aristoteles, Om diktkonsten (transl. J. Stolpe), Göteborg, Anamma, 1994. Syllabus with articles, etc. to be bought at the Department. Rehm, Rush, Greek Tragic Theatre, London, Routledge, 1992. Recommended reading: The Cambridge Companion to Greek Tragedy, utg. av P. E. Easterling, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1997. Dover, K. J., Aristophanic Comedy, London, 1972. Kitto, H. D. F., Greek Tragedy: A literary study, London, Routledge, 1990 (1961). Litteraturens världshistoria. Forntiden, utg. av F. J. Billeskov Jansen et al, Stockholm, Norstedt, 1991, p. 278-343. MacDowell, D. M., Aristophanes and Athens: Introduction to the plays, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1995. Nothing to do with Dionysos? Athenian drama in its social context, published by J. J. Winkler och F. I. Zeitlin, Princeton, Princeton University Press. Steiner, George, Antigones, New Haven (Conn.), Yale University Press, 1996. Storey, I. C. och Allan, Arlene, A Guide to ancient Greek drama, Blackwell, 2005. Tragedy and the Tragic: Greek theatre and beyond, utg. av M. S. Silk, Oxford, Clarendon, 1998. Vernant, Jean-Pierre och Vidal-Naquet, Pierre, Myth and Tragedy in Ancient Greece (transl. Mythe et tragédie en Grèce ancienne), New York, Zone Books, 1988. Wiles, D., Greek theatre Performance. An introduction, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2001.