

City University of New York (CUNY)

CUNY Academic Works

Open Educational Resources

Queens College

2023

GRKMD 41W: Modern Greek Literature in Translation (2023)

Fevronia Soumakis

CUNY Queens College, Fevronia.soumakis@qc.cuny.edu

[How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!](#)

More information about this work at: https://academicworks.cuny.edu/qc_oers/69

Discover additional works at: <https://academicworks.cuny.edu>

This work is made publicly available by the City University of New York (CUNY).

Contact: AcademicWorks@cuny.edu

Fall 2023 GRKMD 41 W-002 Modern Greek Literature in Translation
Department of European Languages and Literatures
Mon/Wed 10:45am-12:00pm | Queens Hall Room 118 | 3 Credits | CUNYfirst Code 24817

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Prof. Fevronia K. Soumakis

Email: fevronia.soumakis@qc.cuny.edu

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 12-1pm

Email Correspondence: I will respond to your emails within 24 hours. It may take longer over the weekend or holidays. All students are required to use their email address on record with Queens College.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course site (LMS) and Mode: Blackboard; In-Person

Course Description: This course surveys Modern Greek literature in translation from the middle of the nineteenth century to the present. We will consider authors and their works not only for their individual stylistic elements, but also within the context of European literary and cultural movements. As a “W” course, we will also focus on the development of writing skills. We will devote several class sessions to reviewing the essential elements of writing.

Course Goals: After completion of this course students will be able to analyze and interpret texts through close reading, discussion, and writing. They will become familiar with significant authors and works and understand their role in illuminating Modern Greek society within the broader range of the liberal arts. The course will promote and develop students’ skills in critical thinking, understanding, and appreciation of the written language, and develop students’ writing and analytical skills on the university level.

This course is a Writing Intensive (W) course and fulfills one Writing Intensive requirement. *W* classes include a significant portion of time devoted to writing instruction. This may include things such as revision workshops, discussions of rhetorical strategies, or reflective writing about writing assignments.

Learning Outcomes: GRKMD 41W fulfills four learning outcomes as part of the **College Option Literature (COLIT)** requirement of the Pathways General Education Program. To that end, students will engage in the practice of reading and be able to understand and express the advantages of reading literature. They will gain an appreciation of different genres, including narratives, poetry, essays, or drama in English translation. Through discussion and writing, students will also develop and improve upon skills used in understanding and appreciating literature.

BOOKS, MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND ACCOUNTS

Books and Materials: This is a ZTC (Zero Textbook Cost) course. All required readings will be available either on Blackboard in the form of a link or an attachment or distributed in class. Students are required to bring readings to class.

Required Tools and Accounts: Access to Blackboard, Zoom, and current QC Email account.

Technical Support: Email Helpdesk@qc.cuny.edu or call the Queens College Helpdesk at 718-997-4444.

ASSESSMENT

20%	Class Participation
20%	Test #1
20%	Test #2
20%	Oral Presentation on assigned reading
20%	Research Paper

Class Participation: You are expected to attend each class having completed the readings in advance, bring copies of the readings to every class and take part in all assigned learning activities, including group activities within the class period. Participation entails demonstrating thoughtful analysis and evaluation of the readings as well as meaningful and respectful engagement with classmates. Absences and chronic lateness will adversely affect your participation grade. Cell phone use is *not* permitted during class. You may *not* use your cell phone to access readings. Laptops and iPads are acceptable.

Tests: There will be two tests based upon the readings and class discussions. The format will include multiple choice questions and essays. It is important that you take adequate notes during each class. There will be no makeup tests offered. If documented illness prevents you from taking a test, an alternate assignment will be made available.

Oral Presentation: Presentations will be on the assigned reading for the day. Each student will lead the class discussion once during the semester. Additional details will be discussed in class.

Research Paper: This is a formal research essay 10 pages in length due on the last day of class. Details will be made available in advance. Adequate time will be allotted in class for work on your essays.

COURSE POLICIES

Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change. Students will be notified in writing of such changes. For the most up to date information and activities, always refer to this document and the course site. All assignments are due on the dates indicated on the Course Schedule below.

Grading

Students will be assigned letter grades based on calculations coming from the course assessment section. Consult Queens College's academic and grading policies for further information.

Time Commitment: Expect to commit approximately 6-8 hours of reading and writing per week. Plan your time accordingly.

Recordings: Audio/Video recordings of our class sessions are not permitted.

Makeup Policy: Should an emergency prevent you from taking a test or presenting on your assigned day, you will be required to provide medical documentation. Alternate arrangements will be made with the instructor to make up the work.

Announcements: I will post weekly Announcements on Blackboard detailing the readings and assignments due for the following week. Announcements will be emailed to your address on file on Blackboard.

Assignment Due Dates: All assignments are due on the days listed on the syllabus. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Writing Essentials: These sessions will focus on several areas of writing development including close reading, crafting a strong thesis statement, sentence and paragraph structure, grammar, revising, editing, and proper citations. Should you require additional assistance, I encourage you to make an appointment in advance of your final essay due date with a Writing Consultant at the Queens College Writing Center (see below).

Writing Resources:

- Queens College Writing Center: This is an excellent and underutilized resource offered by Queens College to assist you in the writing process. Students work one-on-one with a Writing Consultant by setting up 25-minute or 50-minute appointments through their site. If you find aspects of the writing process to be a challenge or need help on assignments, visit their site for more information:
<https://sites.google.com/qc.cuny.edu/qcwritingcenter/home>
- Purdue Online Writing Lab: This site offers clear explanations of the writing process.
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html
- MLA Style: This is the style guide you will need for your citations.
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Instructions and materials are available on Blackboard
1	<p>Introduction to Class</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Skills #1- Close Reading, Annotating, and Plagiarism • Barack Obama, “Remarks by President Obama at Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center in Athens, Greece” https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2016/11/16/remarks-president-obama-stavros-niarchos-foundation-cultural-center
2	<p>The Greek Revolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Gallant, <i>Modern Greece</i>, select chapters • Paschalis M. Kitromilides and Constantinos Tsoukalas, <i>The Greek Revolution: A Critical Dictionary</i>, select chapters • Dionysios Solomos, “Hymn to Liberty” https://www.presidency.gr/en/presidency/the-national-anthem/
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dimitrios Vikelas, <i>Loukis Laras: Reminiscences of a Chiote Merchant during the War of Independence</i> https://archive.org/details/loukislarasremi00vikegoog • Benaki Museum’s <i>Tribute to 1821</i> https://www.benaki.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3348&Itemid=131&lang=en • <i>Travelogues: Travellers’ Views</i> http://eng.travelogues.gr
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Makriyannis, <i>The Memoirs of General Makriyannis, 1797-1864</i> https://openlibrary.org/books/OL6016328M/The_memoirs_of_General_Makriyannis_1797-1864 • Makriyannis’ Paintings https://www.ascsa.edu.gr/news/newsDetails/makriyannis-paintings-for-the-greek-war-of-independence and https://www.filmfestival.gr/en/archive/1821/app-e21/paintings-1821 • Hellenic Heritage Foundation “The Idea of Greece” https://hhf.ca/podcast-series-the-idea-of-greece/

5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Skills #2- The Research Process • Test #1
6	<p>Mythology in Modern Greek Literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constantine P. Cavafy, select poems https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/c-p-cavafy https://www.onassis.org/people/c-p-cavafy • Orhan Pamuk, “Other Countries, Other Shores” https://www.nytimes.com/2013/12/22/books/review/other-countries-other-shores.html • Daniel Mendelsohn “The Right Poem” https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/07/27/the-right-poem
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odysseas Elytis, select poems • Nikos Kazantzakis, <i>Report to Greco</i> https://archive.org/details/reporttogreco0000niko/page/n5/mode/2up
8	<p>The Greco-Turkish War</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dido Soteriou, <i>Farewell Anatolia</i>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hellenic Heritage Foundation “Exodus” https://hhf.ca/exodus-resources/ • The Lausanne Project https://thelausanneproject.com/members/
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stratis Doukas, <i>A Prisoner of War’s Story</i> • Film Screening: <i>Smyrna: The Destruction of a Cosmopolitan City</i>
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Skills #3- Writing the Research Paper • Test #2
12	<p>Greeks in America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moskos, Charles and Peter, <i>Greek Americans: Struggle and Success</i>, select chapters • Demetra Vaka Brown, <i>A Child of the Orient</i> https://www.gutenberg.org/files/66019/66019-h/66019-h.htm#xxi • Film Screening, <i>Brides</i>
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen Zeese Papanikolas, <i>Small Bird Tell Me: Stories of Greek Immigrants</i>, select stories https://www.utahwomenshistory.org/bios/helenzeesepapanikolas/
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Mark Petrakis, select stories • National Hellenic Museum in Chicago https://nationalhellenicmuseum.org
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentary, <i>The Journey: The Greek American Dream</i> • Digital Exhibit “Katy Vlavianos and the Ladies Philoptochos Society” https://fevroniasoumakis.wordpress.com
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Paper Due

Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Candidates with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: 1) register with and provide documentation to the Special Services Office, Frese Hall, Room 111; 2) bring a letter indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class. For more information about services available to Queens College candidates, visit <https://www.qc.cuny.edu/sp/> or contact: Special Services

Office Director, Mirian Detres-Hickey, Frese Hall, Room 111; 718-997-5870 (Monday-Thursday 8am to 6pm & Friday 8am to 5pm.).

CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity

Academic Dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion as provided at <https://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/legal-affairs/policies-procedures/academic-integrity-policy/>. Please read this document, paying careful attention to the sections on plagiarism and Internet plagiarism. If you are not sure how to cite work you have found on the internet, please review the MLA Guidelines https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_general_for_mat.html

Netiquette

Please maintain a professional demeanor when posting online. You can be respectful even when you have a difference of opinion. Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself. Refrain from typing in all caps, as that is the online equivalent of shouting. If you need to emphasize a word or phrase, use italics.

Statement on Student Wellness

As a student, you may experience a range of challenges that can interfere with learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, substance use, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may diminish your academic performance and/or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. QC services are available free of charge. You can learn more about confidential mental health services available on campus at: <https://www.qc.cuny.edu/sl/counseling-health-wellness-center/>

Use of Student Work

All programs in New York State undergo periodic reviews by accreditation agencies. For these purposes, samples of student work are occasionally made available to those professionals conducting the review. Anonymity is assured under these circumstances. If you do not wish to have your work made available for these purposes, please let the professor know before the start of the second class. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Course Evaluations

During the final four weeks of the semester, you will be asked to complete an evaluation for this course by filling out an online questionnaire. Please remember to participate in these course evaluations. Your comments are highly valued, and these evaluations are an important service to fellow students and to the institution, since your responses will be pooled with those of other students and made available online, at <https://apps.qc.cuny.edu/courses/>. All responses are completely anonymous; no identifying information is retained once the evaluation has been submitted.