

## Advanced Greek — Plutarch's *Life of Antony*

ICCS – Rome, Fall 2009

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Open to students with at least two years of college Greek or equivalent.

### Course Description

The *Life of Antony*, in addition to being the primary inspiration for Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, is one of the most exciting and elaborate of Plutarch's *Lives*. We will read as much of this work as we are able in the excellent edition by Christopher Pelling. You will receive a schedule of reading assignments for the term as soon as we have established the pace at which we can expect to proceed. In addition, we will discuss Plutarch's views on Roman history and politics, as well as the scope and purpose of his "Comparative Lives" of Greek and Roman statesmen and generals.

This course should increase your fluency in reading Greek prose, introduce you to one of the most significant Greek authors of the Roman period, and enhance your knowledge of the last years of the Roman Republic.

In addition to regular reading assignments, each student will give a brief oral report on an aspect of the *Life of Antony* or its background, of which a written outline is to be handed in. There will be brief translation quizzes, a midterm test and a final examination. Grades will be based on class translation, participation in discussion, the report, the quizzes, tests and examination.

Students planning to take this course should bring a copy of the Pelling edition (available in paperback) to Rome. You would also be well advised to bring our own Greek dictionary; the most suitable is Liddell and Scott's *Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon*. You may also wish to bring your own Greek grammar book, but material for grammar review is available in the Centro library and online.

### Books

*Required:* Liddell and Scott, *Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon* (Oxford University Press, 1889, often reprinted; ISBN 0-19-910206-6)

*Strongly Recommended:* Plutarch, *Life of Antony*, edited by C. B. R. Pelling (Cambridge University Press, 1988; ISBN 0-521-28418-x).

Both of these books should be available, both new and used, from Amazon or other retailers.

