

Aeneid Lecture Prospectus
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HT 2024

This series continues the provision for students studying Mods, although those at other stages or on other courses are very welcome to attend if interested. The lectures cover a range of themes and ways of approaching the *Aeneid*:

Week 1: Close Encounters: Reading and Re-reading the *Aeneid* – a practical demonstration of the joys (hopefully) of looking in detail at a relatively short, multi-layered section of the poem.

Week 2: Shock and Awe: Violence and the Grotesque – looks at some of the monsters of the *Aeneid*, together with some graphic battle-scene violence. NB DUE TO DIFFICULTY FINDING ROOMS THIS LECTURE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON CANVAS ONLY

Week 3: Nature in the *Aeneid* – an ecocritical glance at various aspects of the natural world in the poem, including seas, rivers and forests.

Week 4: Lines and Limits of Comparison: exploring Vergilian similes as well as some of the broader comparisons achieved via structure and intertextuality.

Week 5: *Encyclopaedia Romana*: the *Aeneid* and Roman Knowledge – sets out some of the ways in which the poem acts as a repository of the contemporary state of culture and science.

Week 6: Stiff Upper Lips? The Emotions in the *Aeneid* – reflections on love, pride, anger and grief.

Week 7: Time in the *Aeneid* – sets out some ways in which the poem interacts with ancient views of time on both grand and smaller scales.

Week 8: In the Shadow of Olympus: Divine Authorities in the *Aeneid* – assessing the divine-political frameworks both adumbrated and directly presented in the poem, as well as offering some insight into the ‘small gods’ overshadowed by the Olympians.