

Ovid, *Amores*, and *Metamorphoses*

In this series of lectures we will be looking at Ovid's *Amores* and *Metamorphoses*. We will begin with an examination of some key general aspects, such as the importance of genre and our preconceptions regarding the poetic 'I', before turning to the texts themselves. The lectures will for the most part focus on close reading of particular key passages, to get a sense of the intricate mechanics of Ovidian poetry – the idea being that you can then apply this reading practice elsewhere and know what questions to ask of the text. We will combine this close reading with some wider perspectives, exploring the different approaches that scholars have taken towards these texts.

Week 1: Introduction to Ovid: on genre, love poetry, and the poetic 'I'

Week 2: *Amores* 2.1. Superman Mr Lover Lover vs sad losers Propertius and Tibullus.

Week 3: *Amores* 2. Is Ovid really Superman? Ovid as lover, loser, misogynist, feminist

Week 4: *Metamorphoses*. Novelty, Genre and the Return of Superman

Week 5: *Metamorphoses*. Newness in action: Apollo and Daphne

Week 6: *Metamorphoses*. Narrative and Book 3

Week 7: *Metamorphoses*. Politics, and The End.

Week 8: *Amores* and *Metamorphoses* – thoughts and themes