

## Seneca, *Medea*

Tuesdays 17.00 to 18.30, Wadham College (Knowles' Room, s/c 5).

After an introductory session, these classes will work through the text of the *Medea*, discussing textual and literary issues as they arise. They are designed for those taking the Latin Textual Criticism option for Schools, the M.St. or the M.Phil., but would be suitable for anyone wishing to read a Senecan tragedy carefully. Subjects to be considered include the rhetorical and philosophical backgrounds, editorial technique, interpolation, and metre. Handouts will be provided. The OCT text of Seneca's tragedies should be brought to each session. The classes will continue in Hilary Term. Those aiming for the examination must also attend the Latin Palaeography classes (Mondays at 12 in Michaelmas Term).

### *Planned programme*

Michaelmas Term: week 1: *Introduction*

Seneca: biography and family  
    chronology of works  
    philosophy  
    rhetoric  
    bibliography

### *Medea*

Manuscripts and stemma

Corruption

Textual criticism

wk 2: 1-55 [+ iambic trimeters]: SJH

wk 3: 56-115 [+ asclepiadeans, glyconics, hexameters]: TR

wk 4: 116-202: SJH

wk 5: 203-300: TR

wk 6: 301-79: SJH [+ anapaests]

wks 7-8: 380-578: TR

HT wks 1-6

wks 1-2: 579-739 [+ sapphics]: SJH

wks 3-4: 740-890 [+ trochaic tetrameters catelectic + iambic dimeters catalectic]: TR [+ student contributions]

wks 5-6: 891-1027: SJH [+ student contributions]