

General Term Paper Instructions for All Upper Division Classics Courses

The Classics Faculty wants you to feel proud of every term paper that you produce in a classics course. Experience has shown that these general instructions will help you achieve that goal. You should follow these instructions *in addition to* any other instructions that your instructor gives.

BODY TEXT

- 1) Your first paragraph must state a single thesis that is both arguable and worth arguing. You must have your professor approve your entire thesis paragraph (not just your thesis statement) before you write your paper.
- 2) Either in your first paragraph or in a dedicated second paragraph, explain to the reader the sources of the evidence you will use and the steps of your argument.
- 3) Primary sources are the gold standard. References to them should be put in parentheses in the body text using the citation style of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* or of the *Oxford Latin Dictionary* or of the *LSJ Greek-Lexicon*. In advanced Greek and Latin classes, papers focused on classical texts must include either in body text or in an appendix quotation of the Greek or Latin text or the pertinent passages in the Greek or Latin text *in the original language*. If an appendix is used, it should not be counted towards any word limit.
- 4) If a primary source is quoted by a modern scholar, cite the primary source and note that it is quoted in the secondary source. Do NOT just cite the secondary source.
- 5) For all quotations from Latin or Greek that are one or more sentences long, give the English translation, either in body text or in a footnote. Be sure to specify the source of the translation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 6) List the editions of the principal primary sources that you consult and/or quote.
- 7) In your bibliography, whatever style sheet you use, specify the original copyright date of any work that is reprinted.
- 8) When citing material accessed through JSTOR or other online collections, cite author, title, journal, volume (number), and page numbers.
- 9) For all online resources, cite the date on which you accessed the resource.

GENERAL

- 10) Specify the style sheet you are using, and follow it.
- 11) Paginate.
- 12) Proofread.

Happy Writing!