



Advanced Greek: Homer's *Odyssey* A

The Lukeion Project

Fall Syllabus

Regan Barr, Advisor

Homeric Greek is an independent study for students who have finished 4 years of Greek and wish to continue their Greek readings. The student is accountable for regular weekly progress but does not meet regularly with the instructor. Instead, the student works independently on translation

assignments that are submitted online, while making use of the resources provided in the commentary on the text, or other available resources which are suggested by the advisor or at the disposal of the student.

Required Textbooks

- **Homer's Odyssey 6-8: Greek Text with Facing Vocabulary and Commentary** by Geoffrey Steadman (Geoffrey Steadman, 2010). ISBN-13: 978-0-9843065-2-7
Steadman has done an excellent job of making many Greek texts accessible for intermediate readers at a very reasonable price. He includes an outline, core vocabulary list, summary of differences between Homeric and Attic Greek, and vocabulary and commentary on the page facing the Greek text. Get it here on [Amazon](#) or download it free [here](#).
- **Homer's Odyssey 9-12: Greek Text with Facing Vocabulary and Commentary**, 2nd ed. By Geoffrey Steadman (Geoffrey Steadman, 2016). ISBN-13: 978-0-9913860-8-6
Get it here on [Amazon](#) or download it free [here](#).

Optional Resources

- **Odyssey by Homer**, translated by Stanley Lombardo (Hackett, 2000) ISBN-13: 978-0872204843
This is one of the best and most readable modern translations of the classic. Get it here on [Amazon](#)
- **A Homeric Dictionary for Schools and Colleges. Based Upon the German of Dr. Georg Autenrieth** by Georg Autenrieth, Robert Porter Keep, and Isaac Flagg (Andesite Press, 2015). ISBN-13: 978-1298603678
An early Homeric dictionary, originally in German, translated into English in the 19th c. Available in both hardcover and paperback. Get it here on [Amazon](#)
- **The Meters of Greek and Latin Poetry, Revised Edition** by Halporn, Ostwald and Rosenmeyer (Hackett, 1980) ISBN-13: 978-0872202436
Although this is a small book, it is still one of the most complete discussions of Greek meter in English. The second text above, however, does have a discussion of scansion and meter. Get it here on [Amazon](#)
- **The Brill Dictionary of Ancient Greek** by Franco Montanari (Brill, 2015) ISBN-13: 978-9004193185
And excellent full lexicon, this recent addition to Greek-English lexica is easier to read and use than Liddell & Scott, but still very complete. Because the layout is less confusing and more intuitive, this is my new go-to lexicon when I want a fairly complete listing for a Greek word. Get it here on [Amazon](#)
- **Greek Grammar** by Herbert Weir Smyth (Harvard University Press, 1984) ISBN-13: 978-0674362505
This grammar, though old (original copyright 1920) is considered by many to be one of the most thorough ever published. It is often referred to in scholarly discussions because of its comprehensiveness, detailed analysis, and extensive examples. Get it here on [Amazon](#)

Class Webpage

<https://www.quia.com/pages/rbarr/odyssey25a>

A Note About the Use of Translations

Your instructor expects you to compare your translation to published translations. However, you should not use English translations as a crutch. Use them before you create your original translation to gain context. Use them after you create your original translation to see you have fundamentally misunderstood anything in the text, and perhaps make revisions before submitting. Do not submit someone else's translation as your own.

Course Methodology

1. This course is a reading course designed to keep the student progressing in their proficiency in reading and understanding ancient Greek and introduce them to one of the most foundational and influential works of Greek literature. The student will translate excerpts from Homer's *Odyssey* and make use of the resources in the book in understanding the idiosyncrasies and nuances of the Greek text.
2. This course does not meet live, but the student is encouraged to contact the instructor with questions.

Schedule of Readings

Translations are due by Friday of each week, but can be submitted early.

Week	Due Date	Topics	Lines	Total Translation Lines
1	8/29	Athena visits Nausicaa in a dream	6.1-47	47
		Nausicaa washes clothes at the river's mouth	6.71-109	39
2	9/5	Odysseus wakes up and speaks with Nausicaa	6.110-197	88
3	9/12	Nausicaa has Odysseus fed and clothed	6.198-250	53
		Athena guides Odysseus	7.1-45	45
4	9/19	Odysseus goes to the palace of Alcinous and Arete	7.81b-133	51
		Odysseus is accepted as a guest	7.134-177	43
5	9/26	Odysseus recalls his past for Alcinous and Arete	7.230-347	118
6	10/3	The Phaeacians convene a council	8.1-45	45
		Odysseus bids farewell to Nausicaa; Demodocus sings about the Trojan horse	8.454-520	67
7	10/10	Alcinous asks Odysseus his name and homeland	8.521-586	66
		Odysseus reveals his identity and begins his tale	9.1-38	38
8	10/17	Odysseus and men find the Cyclops' cave	9.152-192	40
		Polyphemus questions Odysseus and eats 2 men	9.216-293	77
9	10/24	The blinding of Polyphemus	9.318-412	94
		Odysseus and his men arrive on Aeolia	10.1-27	27
10	10/31	Odysseus' men open Aeolus' bag of winds	10.28-132	105
11	11/7	Circe bids Odysseus to visit Tiresias in the Underworld Elpenor dies	10.466-574	109
12	11/14	Odysseus reaches the Underworld and sees Elpenor's ghost	11.1-99	99
13	11/21	Odysseus speaks with the dead seer Tiresias	11.100-149	50
		Odysseus speaks with his dead mother	11.150-224	74
14	11/28	Odysseus buries Elpenor on Circe's island	12.1-30	30
		Odysseus hears the Sirens' song	12.165-221	57
15	12/5	Scylla seizes six men as Odysseus' ship passes	12.222-259	38
		Odysseus escapes from Charybdis to Calypso's island	12.397-453	57

Academic Integrity

The Lukeion Project takes academic integrity very seriously. Participation in our courses implies agreement with our published Honesty Policy. A copy of the policy is available on the class web page. In short, the student agrees to follow all rules and submit only homework or quizzes/exams that follow those rules. Submitting anyone else's work as your own or using any helps on quizzes/exams beyond your own memory, is forbidden. If the instructor discovers that a student has cheated, the student will be dropped from the course without refund or credit. In addition, Lukeion Project instructors will not write college letters of recommendation for students who have cheated on homework, quizzes, or exams in any Lukeion class.

AI Policy

The use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) on any writing assignment is prohibited at The Lukeion Project. All writing assignments will be examined using 2 AI-detector programs. Any assignment where the use of AI is detected will be considered cheating. The assignment will receive a zero, and the student may be subject to expulsion from the class. Consult the document entitled Honesty and AI Policy at The Lukeion Project for specifics.

Contacting Me

Please be aware that I am not usually available on weekends. I try to spend this time with my family.

By email: We prefer contact by email if you have questions or problems: rbarr@lukeion.org.

When using email, ALWAYS observe the following rules of email etiquette:

- Include a **relevant** subject line (example: *Problem with Grammar Quiz 3b*)
- Use your **real name**
- Include your **class & meeting time** (example: *Greek 1a, 10:15am*)
- Include as many **details** as possible (example: *Quia says Quiz 4 is unavailable*)

By phone: We prefer contact by email so that all correspondence is documented. We do **not** answer the phone on class days (Tuesday through Thursday) or weekends.

By mail: If you're vacationing in a sunny or exotic land and would like to send a postcard or gift (☺) to your instructor, you can send it to:

The Lukeion Project
253 Old Beardstown Road
Lobelville, TN 37097