

**Druids, Germans, and the Wonders of the Wild:  
The Ethnography of Caesar (LAT 401)**

**Fall 2012**

**TR 6:00-7:00**

**Instructor:** Dr. Christopher Bungard  
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**Office Hours:** MTF 12:15-1pm

**Required Text (1):**

Kennedy. *Caesar: De Bello Gallico VI*

**Recommended Text (1):**

Traupmann. *The New College Latin and English Dictionary.*

**Optional Text (1):**

Pontet. OCT. *C. Iuli Caesaris Commentariorum Libri VIII de Bello Gallico*

**Course Objective:** In this course we will be exploring Julius Caesar's own accounts of his activities in ancient Gaul, modern day France. What it meant to be Roman was always up for debate. Unlike the Athenians who made claims that they were autochthonous (sprung from the earth), the Romans long recognized the diverse nature of their population. Though primarily Italic, the Romans of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE found themselves confronted with the possibility that Romanness could be extended to communities outside of the Italian peninsula (Greeks, Gauls, North Africans, etc.). We will be examining Book 6 of Caesar's *De Bello Gallico* in which Caesar reflects upon the customs and nature of the ancient Gauls and Germans. As we explore Caesar's ethnographic accounts of his non-Roman opponents, we will ask questions about the role that ethnography plays in the politics of empire. How does Caesar justify his involvement in Gallic affairs? How does ethnography get used to support the "rightness" of Caesar's actions? How can Caesar's discussion of non-Romans help us to better understand the Romans? Can we extend these ideas into modern discussions about our own country in the world?

**Classical Studies Student Learning Objectives**

1. Identify key figures, historical events, and concepts from Roman antiquity.
2. Interpret, analyze, and compare significant works from antiquity.
3. Develop an ability to read Latin texts proficiently.
4. Appreciate how Latin helps in the understanding of modern languages.
5. Recognize and appreciate cultural diversity by comparing current values and practices to those of the Romans.
6. Effectively research and write expository and/or argumentative papers.

**Participation/Attendance:** Daily attendance and participation are necessary for success in this class. After 3 unexcused absences, your grade will suffer one letter grade for each additional three absences.

**Exams:** We will have three exams over the course of the semester. Each exam will cover all of the Latin that we have read since the last exam. Each exam will be composed of translation passages (seen and sight) as well as an interpretative element.

**Caesar Tweets:** Throughout the semester, you will be asked to respond using 140 characters or less to what Caesar is up to. You will be asked to take on the persona of a prominent Roman of Caesar's own day in order to frame the way that you compose your responses.

**Ethnography Project:** You will be asked to compose an ethnography in English in the style of Caesar (1250-2000 words). An important part of this project will be how well you can capture the purpose of ethnography as justification for a potentially extra-legal action. You can write your

ethnography on any group of your choosing (Arabs, Jews, Chinese, Southerners, Appalachians, Freshmen Boys, etc.)

**Research Paper:** As a final project for this course, you will be asked to write a research paper (2500-3000 words).

**Grade Calculation:**

Participation	5%
Caesar Tweets	10%
Ethnography Project	10%
Exams (3)	60% (20%each)
Research Paper	15%

**Grade Scale:**

100-93	A	79-77	C+
90-92	A-	76-73	C
89-87	B+	72-70	C-
86-83	B	69-67	D+
82-80	B-	66-60	D
	59 or Below	F	

**Academic Dishonesty:** Students should refer to the *Butler University Student Handbook* (available online at the [www.butler.edu](http://www.butler.edu) website) for a full discussion of student rights and responsibilities regarding “Academic Integrity.”

**Disabilities:** It is the policy and practice of Butler University to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification from Student Disability Services is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with me and allow one week advance notice. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be received on a timely basis. Students who have questions about Student Disability Services or who have, or think they may have, a disability (psychiatric, attentional, learning, vision, hearing, physical, medical, etc.) are invited to contact Student Disability Services for a confidential discussion in Jordan Hall 136 or by phone at extension 9308.

**Schedule:** This schedule is tentative and may change at any time. We will aim to sight read any lines indicated (in parentheses).

Week 1	R	August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	What is a Roman?; Introduction to Caesar; BG 1.1
Week 2	T	August 28 <sup>th</sup>	BG 6.1-2
	R	August 30 <sup>th</sup>	BG 6.3; Torigian. <i>Logos of Caesar's BG</i>
Week 3	T	September 4 <sup>th</sup>	BG 6.4-6; Riggsby. Where was Gallic War?
	R	September 6 <sup>th</sup>	BG 6.7-8
Week 4	T	September 11 <sup>th</sup>	BG 6.9-10
	R	September 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Exam 1</b>

Week 5	T	September 18 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.11</i>
	R	September 20 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.12-13.2; Riggsby. The Other.</i>
Week 6	T	September 25 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.13.3-13.11</i>
	R	September 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Bungard in Italy</b>
Week 7	T	October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>BG 6.14-16</i>
	R	October 4 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.17-18</i>
Week 8	T	October 9 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.19-20</i>
	R	October 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Reading Break (NO CLASS)</b>
Week 9	T	October 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Exam 2</b>
	R	October 18 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.21-22; Barlow. Noble Gauls.</i>
Week 10	T	October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>BG 6.23-24; Wells. Roman Conquests.</i>
	R	October 25 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.25-26</i>
Week 11	T	October 30 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.27-28</i>
	R	November 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Research Topic Proposals due</b> <i>BG 6.29-30</i>
Week 12	T	November 6 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.31-32; Riggsby. New and Improved.</i>
	R	November 8 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.33-34</i>
Week 13	T	November 13 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.35-37</i>
	R	November 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Exam 3</b>
<b>Thanksgiving Break (NO CLASS)</b>			
Week 14	T	November 27 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.38-39; Goldsworthy. Instinctive Genius.</i>
	R	November 29 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.40</i>
Week 15	T	December 4 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.41-43</i>
	R	December 6 <sup>th</sup>	<i>BG 6.44; Concluding Remarks</i>

**December 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm      Research Paper Due**

This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be given in written and oral format.

