

## Lucan Reading Group

I hope to read some or all of the following sections:

- Book 1, lines 1- 66 (proem)
- Book 1, lines 67-182 (causes of war)
- Book 2, lines 234-325 (Brutus and Cato)
- Book 2, lines 326-391 (Cato remarries Marcia)
- Book 9, 1-35 (Movements of Pompey's soul; departure of Cato)
- Book 9, 511-562 (Cato at the temple of Jupiter Hammon)
- Book 9, 733-879 (Cato copes with snakes)

Of course this is likely to be too much to do in a week. We'll select by class interest—and I should say that I'm open to reading other sections if there are class members with particular interests. For me, the point is to enjoy reading the language together and to develop some familiarity with Lucan's slightly eccentric style.

I do assume that class members will be in all different places as far as their extent of experience reading Latin. We will try to proceed in such a way that everyone can gain from the experience and contribute in some way.

As for texts, none are actually required--I will provide some materials to you in class. However feel free to whatever books you can get hold of from Amazon or your libraries at home that you would like to use. Below are some suggestions where to start.

### Latin texts:

There is an old Teubner edition that will supply you with the entire poem in Latin, or you could buy the Loeb Classical Library edition to have the facing translation.

A complete Latin text is available online from <http://thelatinlibrary.com>

The Perseus database has a clickable Latin text that gives some translation help, together with a rather antique English translation.

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu>

**Print editions with commentary:**

Book 1 ed. Getty, from Duckworth (originally published 1955, worth having if you can find the paperback but I can't imagine paying \$99 for the hardbound)

Book 2 ed. Fantham from Cambridge (green and yellow)

For Book 9 I am not aware of any commentaries available in print, but there may be an old school text around in your libraries—if you find anything good, do show me and we might copy something for the class.

**Translations:**

Modern English translations are by Susanna Braund or Jane Wilson Joyce or P.F. Widdows or D. Little. Any of these will provide you with a useful short introduction and a good-quality translation.

You can also download an e-text English translation from Project Gutenberg:  
<http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/602>