

Prof. B. Currie: Homer, *Odyssey* Books 9-12: lecture prospectus

The lectures will offer both a detailed look at individual books (especially books 9 and 11) and some more wide-ranging thematic approaches to the Odyssey. The subjects of the lectures are as follows:

Week 1: *Odyssey* Book 9: Odysseus and the Cyclops

Week 2: The *Odyssey* in the tradition of poetry on the Trojan War

Week 3: Odysseus and Others: Greek comparanda (Achilles, Jason, Heracles)

Week 4: Odysseus and Others: Non-Greek comparanda (Gilgamesh, the Egyptian 'shipwrecked sailor', Sindbad)