



Digital Humanities Initiative at Buffalo
Textual Analysis Working Group
Lecture Miniseries



Lucan's Vergil: The Tesserae Project

The Tesserae Project team has created a free online tool to identify similar phrases in Latin texts for the purposes of studying intertextual connections as a linguistic phenomenon and matter of literary artistry. In this presentation, team members will discuss the goals of the project and how the search functions. They will also present the results of an analysis of two classical Latin epic poems, Vergil's *Aeneid* and Lucan's *Bellum Civile*, showing that the tool can identify meaningfully parallel phrases in a comprehensive way not found in existing commentaries. They also show notable patterns in Lucan's use of Vergil's epic in the first book of the *Bellum Civile*. These results suggest the possibility for a broad and systematic view of intertextual interaction between classical Latin texts that could potentially be applied to any set of texts.

Dionysus Inscriptions: Epigraphica Dionysiaca

The goal of this project is to provide platform-independent electronic transcriptions of Greek texts. Translation and commentaries are in English. We will demonstrate the process of conversion of these texts. Familiarity with these texts demonstrates that the worship of Dionysos was integrated into the public life of the Greek city. People worshipped this god in groups, generally segregated by gender. Evidence for both official (or public) groups and free-range (or private) groups indicate that the god's influence was greatest when political structures were most tightly organized. In myth Dionysos seems to be a god of the wild, uncultivated landscapes at the margins of the city's territory, but in fact Dionysiac texts and Dionysiac imagery of viticulture and wild plants—grapevine, ivy, and fennel—flourished most widely during periods of most intense urbanization.

*Results from the Textual Analysis Working Group
Presented by Dr. Neil Coffee and Dr. Susan Cole, Classics*

**830 Clemens
Friday April 23, 3:00 PM**

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