

Title of lecture: PT II (9) The Sequence from its Beginning

Response from: Sam Barrett (09/03/2018)

I am glad to see that this course was rated highly by almost all respondents. The students seemed to have enjoyed the intellectual challenge of coming to terms with a new area, and particularly seem to have appreciated the handouts and other materials supplied in support of the course, especially given the need for Latin translations to be provided for all examples. The most common response was that at times the lectures/seminars moved at fast pace, which is perhaps to be expected at Part II. Even so, should the course run again I will find ways to cut down the scope in one or two areas, which should alleviate this issue as well as the odd complaint that the workload was heavy for a single term course. I also note that one respondent wanted more reading in advance of the lectures/seminars towards the end of the course. This is an understandable request, albeit as the course developed it was harder to find introductory material that could be understood in advance. Another way to approach this issue may be to set different kinds of preparatory material, including listening and singing to specific examples circulated in advance as the basis for class discussion. Now that the course has run for the first time, I should be able to identify ways of diversifying in this area.

I wish the students well in their preparations for the exam. Their willingness to engage with issues often thought to lie beyond teaching at this level has been encouraging throughout.