In Class Discussion Questions
Clx 148, Fall 2014, Emma Scioli

As part of the experiment with flipping several of the semester’s lecture periods, I designated 5 days for in-class discussion. For the first 25 minutes of class, students were broken into groups of 4-5 and assigned to either Group A or Group B, to discuss the questions below. For the final 25 minutes of class, individual groups were asked to share the fruits of their discussions with the rest of the class.

Each group picked one scribe who recorded the names of group members and the group’s responses to the discussion questions. These summaries were submitted at the end of the class period. No credit was awarded for these.

This discussion exercise came the day after students were required to post responses to basic reading comprehension questions in online discussion groups, and was meant to encourage students to think closely about the primary source material in preparation for a short writing assignment due a week after the in-class discussion.

GROUP A

• Compare Ovid’s tale of Pygmalion to ONE other story among the songs of Orpheus in book 10, identifying a common theme among them and citing lines from each tale to illustrate your point.
• Compare the story of Pygmalion with ONE other story of your choosing from outside of Book 10 in terms of its emphasis upon describing the physical appearance of the body. Cite lines from both stories to illustrate your point about Ovid’s fascination with physical form.

GROUP B

• Compare Ovid’s tale of Pygmalion to ONE other story among the songs of Orpheus in book 10, identifying a common theme among them and citing lines from each tale to illustrate your point.
• Contrast the story of Pygmalion with ONE other story of your choosing from outside of Book 10 in terms of the theme of hybris and the intervention of the gods in the lives of mortals in the Metamorphoses. Cite lines from both to illustrate your point.