I. What is a Hero?
   A. Outside of the Homeric text—the only good hero is a dead hero
   B. In the Homeric text—a death-centered life style

II. The Heroic Code—the hero and other men
   A. Sarpedon on Heroism
      1. Honor and difference from other men
      2. Mortality, the common denominator
      3. Fame and the remembrance of other men
   B. Time (Sarpedon to Glaucos XII.310-28)
   C. Kleos (Helen to Hector VI.356)
   D. The Economy of Violence, a Zero-Sum Game
   E. The Poet
      1. Spending the body to buy men’s minds
      2. Muses, the daughters of mnemosyne (memory)
   F. The Poet and the Hero as Cultural Performers

III. Achilles and the Embassy
   A. God-like Achilles
      1. Achilles and Zeus
      2. Achilles and women
      3. Life in Achilles’ tent (peace, wealth, power, indifference)
      4. klea andron – Achilles the bard? (Achilles’ singing IX.189)
   B. Achilles’ Reply
      1. The prophecy
      2. The rejection of the contract
      3. The rejection of time
      4. The rejection of kleos
      5. Time from Zeus
      6. The language of Achilles and the impossible choice