

Ancient Greek Civilization

Tuesday/Thursday 10:00-11:20; Hill Hall 101

Instructor: Prof. Scott A. Barnard

Office: Conklin Hall 328

Email: sab359@scarletmail.rutgers.edu

Office Hours: T/Th, 1:00-2:00
and by appointment

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS (AVAILABLE AT UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE or ONLINE via BLACKBOARD)

Sarah Pomeroy, et al. *A Brief History of Ancient Greece: Politics, Society, Culture*, 3rd Edition. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2004).

Homer. *The Iliad*. Translated by Stanley Lombardo (Indianapolis: Hackett, 1997).

M. L. West (trans.) *Greek Lyric Poetry*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999).

Aeschylus. *Oresteia*. Translated by Peter Meineck. (Indianapolis: Hackett, 1998).

Herodotus. *On the War for Greek Freedom: Selections from the Histories*. Translated by Samuel Shirley, edited by James Romm (Indianapolis: Hackett, 2003).

Thucydides. *On Justice, Power, and Human Nature: Selections from The History of the Peloponnesian War*. Edited and translated by Paul Woodruff. (Indianapolis: Hackett, 1993).

Thomas West and Grace West. *Four Texts on Socrates: Plato's Euthyphro, Apology, and Crito and Aristophanes' Clouds*. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1998).

ADDITIONAL ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Aristophanes: *Lysistrata* and *Thesmophoriazusae*

Gorgias, *Encomium of Helen*

Lysias, *On the Murder of Eratosthenes*

Pindar, *Isthmian Ode 2, Nemian Ode 2*

Sophocles, *Philoctetes*

Xenophanes, Heraclitus, Parmenides (Presocratic philosophy)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to introduce students to the history, literature, and art of archaic and classical Greece and to trace its influence on western civilization. The class will emphasize Greek culture as manifested in various genres of primary literary sources, including epic, lyric, tragedy, comedy, history, philosophy, rhetoric, and legal speeches. In addition, we

will look at Greek vase painting, sculpture, and architecture and discuss the historical and cultural context of these works of art.

The course will consist of lectures based on readings of primary texts and slide presentations, along with in-class discussion. Success in this course will require the close reading and analysis of a variety of primary texts and active participation in our discussions of them. Your reward for these efforts is nothing less than access to some of the greatest works ever written. These texts are full of innumerable riches and they form the very basis of what makes Western civilization what it is today. By learning to read and think about Classical history, literature, and art in a critical way, students in this course add a link to a chain of scholarship that extends all the way back into the murky beginnings of recorded history.

The overall success of this course will be evaluated on the completion of the following learning objectives:

Learning Objective #1: Students will gain a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual/cultural activity of ancient Greece (art, literature, etc.).

Learning Objective #2: Students will gain factual knowledge about the history and culture of ancient Greece.

Learning Objective #3: Students will develop skill in expressing their critical ideas in writing.

EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE

Although obvious, I must stress how important it is that you come to every class prepared. Lectures cover material not available in the course textbooks and which will be covered in exams, so if you miss class, you will miss valuable information. I will not post lectures or slides online nor email them to you. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting lecture notes from a classmate.

The Rutgers catalog states that "the recognized grounds for absence are illness requiring medical attention, curricular or extracurricular activities approved by the faculty, personal obligations claimed by the student and recognized as valid, recognized religious holidays, and severe inclement weather causing dangerous traveling conditions (http://catalogs.rutgers.edu/generated/nwk-ug_0608/pg23613.html)."

After **four** *unexcused* absences the course grade will be lowered by ½ a letter for each additional missed class. Any student who misses **eight** or more sessions **through any combination** of excused and unexcused absences *will not earn credit in this class*. Such students should withdraw from the course to avoid receiving an F.

PREPARATION and PARTICIPATION

You are expected to come to class prepared for each lecture by reading the entire assignment for that day. In discussions all students will have the opportunity to respond to both the texts in question and the topics covered in the lecture.

ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

The use of laptop computers, cell phones, mp3 players, and any other technology that can possibly distract you or your classmates is prohibited in this class. Private conversations (even in whispers), working on assignments for other classes, arriving late, and leaving early are also prohibited. These and any other behaviors that might be disruptive to other students, making it difficult for them to hear or distracting them from the lecture, or in any way intimidates them from participating in class, is prohibited and will be counted against the participation grade – and if I have to stop the class to ask you to stop a private conversation, **you will receive an F for your participation grade for the course.**

COURSE WEBSITE

The course website is accessible through the Blackboard homepage.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

You may only use the texts assigned in this syllabus to complete the quizzes and exams. Resist the urge to cut and paste (either literally or figuratively) by using other people's ideas. If I find that you have used other people's ideas (ex: Wikipedia, Amazon reviews, book jacket descriptions, etc.), I will not accept the assignment because I will not be able to consider it your own work. **You will receive zero credit for that assignment and will not be able to make it up.**

A full description of the University policy on Academic Integrity is available at: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/policy-on-academic-integrity>. All students are required to sign the Rutgers Honor Pledge. Students must print this pledge on exams and any written assignment: "On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination."

EQUAL ACCESS

Students with disabilities at Rutgers are entitled to the same benefits, the same quality of student life, and are subject to the same academic requirements as other students. Rutgers is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to meet the needs of eligible students. Any student who believes that s/he may need an accommodation in this class due to a disability should contact the Paul Robeson Campus Center Office of Student Life and Leadership, services for students with disabilities to provide documentation of the disability and to complete the appropriate paperwork (<http://robeson.rutgers.edu/studentlife/disability.html>). Students must have a letter of accommodation from Disability Services in order to receive accommodations. If you have

emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me immediately. Please see me privately after class, or at my office.

If you are a university athlete, please let me know within the first week of class.

CAVEAT LECTOR: A STATEMENT ABOUT COURSE CONTENT

The study of Greek literature involves stories and images of violence and sexuality. Further, some of the texts we will read for this course contain profane language and treat adult themes. Indeed, violence, sexuality, and the use of obscene language constitute an important portion of ancient Greek 'culture' as it is represented in art and literature. However, if any student feels that he or she may be offended by the course content or texts used in this classroom and wants to drop the course, I encourage that he or she do so immediately. By enrolling in this course, the student acknowledges that he or she has read this advisory, and agrees that the material presented in class is appropriate to the study of ancient Greek culture.

GRADING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Students will be graded on the following criteria:

Attendance & Active Participation: 10%

Students will be evaluated on their attendance based on the policies noted above, as well as their active and attentive participation in class or group discussions.

Weekly Quizzes: 20%

Each week a quiz will be given testing comprehension of both the assigned readings and material covered/discussed in class. These short answer responses will likely be between 3 and 5 sentences each. **There will be no make-up quizzes given and your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.**

2 Essay Exams: 40% (= 20% each)

Students will have one class period to respond to their choice of two out of five essay questions on any aspect of the course covered to date. Each written response will likely be between 3 and 5 handwritten pages. These exams will be graded both on the clarity of their writing and on the quality of their critical response.

Final Exam: 30%

The final exam will be very similar in format to the previous two exams, though students will be asked to respond to three out of six questions. This exam is cumulative and will include content covered throughout the semester.

There will be no late or make-up examinations given. You must take all three exams in order to pass the class.

SYLLABUS: ASSIGNMENTS WEEK-BY-WEEK

***Please Note:** Assignments listed are due on the day on which they are listed. Assignments are listed by author, work, book number, and verse number. Hence, “Homer *Iliad* I.1-7” means verses 1-7 of the first book of Homer’s *Iliad*. Reading assignments from texts not ordered for this course are available for download in PDF format from Blackboard.

Week 1

Tues. 1/20 INTRODUCTION: HOW AND WHY TO STUDY CLASSICAL CIVILIZATION

Thurs. 1/22 ON THE ORIGINS OF THE TROJAN WAR

Assignment: Thucydides *The History of the Peloponnesian War* I.1-12 (Woodruff, pp. 1-8); Homer *Iliad* I, II.1-533, 901-997, and III (Lombardo, pp. 1-35, 46-49, 50-64); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 13-25; 50-8. **Quiz 1.**

Week 2

Tues. 1/27 THE HEROIC CODE PART I AND POETIC κλέος (*kleos*, ‘fame’)

Assignment: Homer *Iliad* V-VI, IX (Lombardo, pp. 83-127, 160-179). Excerpts from Greek Lyric Poetry: Callinus 1 (West, pg. 21); Tyrtaeus 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 23a (West, pp. 24-27); Sappho 16, 17, 44 (West, pp. 37-38, 39-40); Alcaeus 42, 44, 283, 298 (West, pp. 58-59); Ibycus 282 (West, pp. 96-97). *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 25-38.

Thurs. 1/29 HOW TO FIGHT AND DIE LIKE A HOMERIC HERO

Assignment: Homer *Iliad* XII-XV (Lombardo, pp. 224-304); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 36-44. **Quiz 2.**

Week 3

Tues. 2/3 ACHILLES’ IMMORTAL ARMOR AND THE THEME OF SUBSTITUTION

Assignment: Homer *Iliad* XVI-XVIII (Lombardo, pp. 305-373); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 58-65.

Thurs. 2/5 REVENGE AND RECONCILIATION: THE HEROIC CODE PART II

Assignment: Homer *Iliad* XIX, XX.371-525, XXII, XXIII.1-278, XXIV (Lombardo, pp. 362-386, 398-402, 422-439; 440-448, 467-492). Excerpts from Greek Lyric Poetry: Tyrtaeus 10 (West, pg. 24). **Quiz 3.**

Week 4

Tues. 2/10 THE ARCHAIC PERIOD AND THE LYRIC AGE

Assignment: Excerpts from Greek Lyric Poetry: Archilochus, all (West, pp. 1-15); Semonides 1-7 (West, pp. 16-19); Alcman 1, 3, 14a, 26, 27, 38, 59a-b (West, pp. 31-35); Alcaeus 401b, 72, 208, 6, 129, 130b, 249, 332, 74, 348, 70, 38, 335, 338, 346, 347, 358, 368 (West, pp. 51-57, 60-62). *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 67-77.

Thurs. 2/12 THE SYMPOSIUM: THE CULTURE OF ATHENIAN ARISTOCRACY

Assignment: Excerpts from Greek Lyric Poetry: Mimnermus 1-6 (West, pg. 28-29); Sappho 1, 2, 22, 31, 47-51, 55, 58, 94, 96, 105a-b, 130 (West, pp. 36-39, 41-47); Anacreon 356a-b, 357-360, 371, 373, 379, 381, 389, 395, 396, 402c, 404, 409, 413, 417, 424, Elegies 2-4 (West, pp. 103-110); Xenophanes 1, 5 (West, pp. 157-158). *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 77-81; **Quiz 4**

Week 5

Tues. 2/17 THE DECLINE OF THE ARISTOCRACY AND FIRST STIRRINGS OF DEMOCRACY

Assignment: Euenus, all (West, pp. 184-186); Anonymous Party Songs 889-890, 893-896, 907-912a (West, pp. 177-179). *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 81-85.

Thurs. 2/19 ARISTOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS: ATHLETICS, PRAISE, AND COMPETITIVE EXPENDITURE

Assignment: Pindar Nemian 2, Isthmian 2 (texts on Blackboard). Xenophanes, fragment 2 (text on Blackboard). Excerpts from Greek Lyric Poetry: Solon 1-7, 9-34, 36-40 (West, pp. 74-83); Theognis, all (West, pp. 64-73); Anonymous Theognidea, all (West, pp. 125-156). *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 93-97. **Quiz 5.**

Week 6

Tues. 2/24 THE RISE AND FALL OF TYRANNY AND THE BEGINNINGS OF PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE

Assignment: Handout on Xenophanes, Heraclitus, and Parmenides (Blackboard); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 92-93; 121-136. **Review for Exam!**

Thurs. 2/26 **ESSAY EXAM #1**

Week 7

Tues. 3/3 ARISTOCRACY TO DEMOCRACY: THE INSTITUTION OF JUSTICE, I

Assignment: Aeschylus *Agamemnon* (all: Meineck, pp. 3-66); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 152-160.

Thurs. 3/5 ARISTOCRACY TO DEMOCRACY: THE INSTITUTION OF JUSTICE, II

Assignment: Aeschylus *The Libation Bearers* (all: Meineck, pp. 69-113); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 160-170. **Quiz 6.**

Week 8

Tues. 3/10 ARISTOCRACY TO DEMOCRACY: THE INSTITUTION OF JUSTICE, III

Assignment: Aeschylus *The Furies* (all: Meineck, pp. 117-160) ; *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 152-160.

Thurs. 3/12 THIS IS SPARTA?

Assignment: *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 99-119. **Quiz 7**

Week 9

SPRING BREAK: NO CLASSES

Week 10

Tues. 3/24 PERSIAN IMPERIALISM AND IMMODERATE DESIRES

Assignment: Herodotus *Histories* I.1-216 (pp. 1-50), II.35-III.26 (pp. 54-60); III.65-82 (pp. 66-70); IV.46-V.21 (pp. 82-89); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 129-136.

Thurs. 3/26 **NO CLASS** (PROFESSOR AT CONFERENCE)

Week 11

Tues. 3/31 THE PERSIAN WARS: DARIUS AND XERXES VERSUS THE GREEKS

Assignment: Herodotus *Histories* V.35-VI.131 (pp. 90-118), VII.5-VIII.112 (pp. 119-164); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 138-151. **Review for Exam!**

Thurs. 4/2 **Essay Exam #2**

Week 12

Tues. 4/7 THE BIRTH OF ATHENIAN IMPERIALISM

Assignment: Herodotus *Histories* VIII.140-9.122 (pp. 165-189); Simonides *The Battle of Plataea* (10-16) [Excerpts from Greek Lyric Poetry, pp. 168-170]; Timocreon 727, 729 [Excerpts from Greek Lyric Poetry, pp. 182-183]; Thucydides *The History of the Peloponnesian War* I.1-II.8 (pp. 1-37); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 152-160.

Thurs. 4/9 PERICLEAN ATHENS AND THE OUTBREAK OF WAR

Assignment: Thucydides *The History of the Peloponnesian War* II.35-III.68 (pp. 39-87); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 160-180. **Quiz 8.**

Week 13

Tues. 4/14 RHETORIC, DEMOCRACY, AND THE COSTS OF CIVIL WAR

Assignment: Thucydides *The History of the Peloponnesian War* III.81-V.116 (pp. 89-109); Gorgias *Encomium of Helen* (Blackboard); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 182-216.

Thurs. 4/16 ATHENIAN DISASTER: THE SICILIAN EXPEDITION

Assignment: Thucydides *The History of the Peloponnesian War* VI.2-VIII.1 (pp. 111-154); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 218-228; 234-239. **Quiz 9.**

Week 14

Tues. 4/21 THE COLLAPSE OF THE ATHENIAN EMPIRE AND THE POLITICAL FALLOUT

Assignment: Sophocles' *Philoctetes* (on Blackboard); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 239-245.

Thurs. 4/23 THE CRISIS OF THE POLIS: CAN THE LAW SURVIVE POLITICS?

Assignment: Lysias, *On the Murder of Eratosthenes* (Blackboard); *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 247-249. **Quiz 10.**

Week 15

Tues. 4/28 COMIC INVERSIONS: RETHINKING THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR

Assignment: Aristophanes *Lysistrata* and *Thesmophoriazusae* (Blackboard).

Thurs. 4/30 THE DEATH OF SOCRATES: COMEDY VS. PHILOSOPHY

Assignment: Aristophanes *Clouds*, Plato *Apology* (both in *Four Texts on Socrates*, on Blackboard). *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 249-253. **Quiz 11.**

Week 16

Tues. 5/5 PHILIP II AND ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Assignment: *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 283-324.

Thurs. 5/7 THE HELLENISTIC PERIOD; CONCLUSIONS & REVIEW

Assignment: *Brief History of Ancient Greece*, pp. 326-359. **Quiz 12.**

Exam Week (5/11-5/16)

Thurs. 5/12, 8:30-11:30 AM **FINAL EXAM**