

## TENTATIVE SYLLABUS

### 26:510:537 Problems in Ancient History: Athenian Democracy (Spring 2016)

*Course Time:* Mondays, 5:30pm – 8:10pm                      *Location:* Conklin Hall 324  
*Instructor:* G. D. Farney (Office = Conklin 312, 973-353-3897; Email = gfarney@rutgers.edu)  
*Office Hours:* Mon. 130pm to 230pm, Wed. 1230pm to 130pm, & by appointment

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine the history and development of the Classical Athenian Democracy (primarily of the fifth and fourth centuries BC). Special attention will be paid to: the origins of Greek democracy; the precise functioning of the Athenian democracy; the relationship between democracy and empire in the Greek world; and Greek intellectual opinion of democracy. We will be examining a variety of ancient sources as our primary sources (in English translation): works of Herodotus, Thucydides, Aristophanes, Euripides, Plutarch, Demosthenes, Plato and Aristotle will be among these.

#### GRADING SYSTEM:

*Class Participation: 20%*

Every student must email me by noon (12:00pm) on the day of class at least three thoughtful questions about the up-coming class-day's readings and topics. We will use some of the questions raised during the course of the class-period. The insightfulness of your questions and your participation in discussion will determine this aspect of your grade. Students should start to do this with the very first day of class (Mon. Jan. 25).

*Three Short Review Papers: 20% Each*

These short papers (ca. 5 pages) will review the readings in the secondary literature. We will discuss these more in depth when they are assigned.

*Take-Home Exam / Essay: 20%*

This will take the form of a cumulative essay paper. On the last day of class, I will give you choices from a few of the themes that we have discussed during the course of the seminar. You will base your argument on our primary source readings and opinions of the secondary literature.

#### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

You will follow the University's Policy on Academic Integrity, which falls under the Code of Student Conduct. **I strictly follow the University's rules regarding plagiarism and other academic irregularities.** Please consult me if you have any questions about what is and is not appropriate regarding the use of sources or citation. The University's policy and the consequences of violating it are outlined here: <http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/office-dean-student-affairs/academic-integrity-policy>.

In addition, all students are required to sign the Rutgers Academic Integrity Pledge and the Rutgers Honor Pledge on each exam: "On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination/assignment."

**COURSE MATERIALS** [other materials will be on the course's Blackboard site]

**You should try to get ahold of the specified edition of the following books:**

**Buckley** = T. Buckley (2010) Aspects of Greek History, 750 – 323 BC. <2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.> Routledge. [an excellent basic history; it's probably best to read him first in a week's reading to understand the other material better; 1<sup>st</sup> edition, 1996, will work, too, but some conversion of page numbers will need to be done]

**Robinson** = Robinson, E. (2004) (Ed.) Ancient Greek Democracy. Blackwell.

**You should also get access to the following works, but the specific editions listed here are not necessary; they will be available in most libraries, and you may find on-line editions:**

**Aristophanes** = Aristophanes: the Complete Plays Ed.by P. Roche. New American Library 2005. [any translation of Aristophanes will do, but this is a good, no-holds-barred translation, and contains all of the plays; but it has terrible footnotes which should be ignored; use MacDowell (as assigned in syllabus) instead]

**Herodotus** = Herodotus: The Histories. Ed. by J. Marincola. Penguin. [in this edition, Marincola has provided an excellent table of the structural outline of Herodotus' work, and useful chronologies to keep events and people straight; also has a great introduction]

**Plato, The Republic** = Plato: The Republic Ed. by D. Lee. Penguin.

**Plutarch, Rise and Fall of Athens** = Plutarch: The Rise and Fall of Athens, Ed. I. Scott-Culvert. Penguin. [Lives of Themistocles, Cimon and Pericles are the ones assigned]

**Thucydides** = Thucydides: History of the Peloponnesian War. Ed. by M. I. Finley. Penguin.

### **SUPPORT MATERIALS:**

The following items may help you in your reading and research. Some can be found in Dana Library, and I have listed their call numbers there with their titles.

**OCD** = Oxford Classical Dictionary <3rd Ed>, Oxford. Dana Reference DE5 .O9 1996 [As the name implies, it is a dictionary of people, places, ideas and terms dealing with the Greek and Roman worlds. It is a very useful tool for scholars of all levels. Dana and the other Rutgers libraries have copies of earlier editions of this which can be checked out of the library.]

**CAH** = Cambridge Ancient History <2nd Ed.>, Cambridge. Reference D57 .C32 1982 [A multi-volume work covering the history of the Ancient Near East and the Mediterranean. They are arranged in chronological order, and the period and civilization covered should be listed on the spine of the book. They are useful if you need clarification on some points of history of the periods in question (i.e. should Buckley fail you). As with the OCD, older editions can be checked out of the various Rutgers libraries.]

**Landmark Thucydides** = Strassler, R.B. & Hanson, V.D. (Edd.) (1996) The Landmark Thucydides: a comprehensive guide to the Peloponnesian War, New York. Camden DF229 T55 C7 1996. [A useful tool for research on Thucydides and the War. If you want more, see Gomme, A.W. (1959) A Historical Commentary on Thucydides, Oxford; Dana has a set of Gomme at PA4461 .G6 1959 vol. 1-5.]

**Loeb Classical Library**: A modern collection of ancient Greek and Latin texts that have the ancient language on the left and an English translation on the right. Green-bound books are Greek texts and red-bound are Latin. The series, put out by Harvard University since the early 1900s, covers all major ancient authors and many of the lesser known. Dana Library 2nd Floor Stacks has many volumes of these: Greek begins at call number PA3612 and Latin at PA6156, and authors are in alphabetical order; duplicate volumes are also scattered in the PA stacks. A great research tool, especially if you don't know the ancient languages well.]

**DAILY SCHEDULE**: Assignments are to be completed by class-time on the date they are listed. Primary sources are listed first under each day's readings; the non-page numbers listed for these are the ancient citation numbers consistent to every text of that author.

### **For continuous reference throughout the course:**

E-Reading: Brennan's Outline of Athenian Political System

### **I. Mon 25 Jan: Introduction; Origins of Greek Democracy**

Buckley, p. 1-39

\*Robinson, p. 1-75

### **II. Mon 1 Feb: Archaic Greece and Athens; the Solonic Reforms**

Herodotus I 1-94 [Herodotus' introduction; King Croesus and Solon the Athenian]

Thucydides I 1-23 [Thucydides' introduction]

Herodotus V 70-71 and Thucydides I 126 [Cylon's attempt to become tyrant at Athens]

E-Reading: Plutarch, "Life of Solon"

E-Reading: Moore, Aristotle & Xenophon: Aristotle, Athenian Constitution 1-13 = p. 141-157 [read with notes to these sections from p. 208-227]

E-Reading: Moore, Aristotle & Xenophon: p. 67-121, 135-137 [Xenophon, Politeia of the Spartans, and Herodotus' "Persian Government Debate"—for other Greek governmental forms]

### III. Mon 8 Feb: The Peisistratid Tyranny; Cleisthenic Constitution; Marathon Campaign

Herodotus, V 28-VII 4 [Ionian Revolt; Peisistratids; Cleisthenic Constitution; Marathon Campaign]

Thucydides, I 20 and VI 53-59 [his take on the expulsion of the Peisistratids]

E-Reading: Moore, Aristotle & Xenophon: Aristotle, Athenian Constitution 14-24 [= p. 157-168 with 227-251]

Buckley, p. 101-146

\*Robinson, p. 76-122

\*E-Reading: Anderson, "Before *turannoi* were tyrants"

### IV. Mon 15 Feb: The Continuation of the Persian Wars; the Establishment of Athenian Empire and the Radical Democracy

Herodotus, VII 5-60, 100-105, 138-144, 175-239 [Xerxes & Thermopylae Campaign]

Herodotus, VIII 40-144 [Salamis Campaign] and IX 19-85 [Plataea Campaign]

Thucydides, I 89-117, 126-138 ["Pentacontaetia" and stories of Pausanias & Themistocles]

E-Reading: Moore, Aristotle & Xenophon: Aristotle, Athenian Constitution 25-28, 42-69 [= p. 168-172 with 251-257; p. 183-205 with 274-310]

Plutarch, Rise & Fall of Athens: Lives of "Themistocles" and "Cimon"

Buckley, p. 147-265

\*Robinson, p. 152-184

### V. Mon 22 Feb: Athenian Court System; Political Participation by Common Athenians; Drama and Democracy

#### Review Paper #1 Due

E-Reading: Aeschylus, Eumenides

E-Reading: Aristophanes, The Wasps

E-Reading: MacDowell on Aristophanes, The Wasps

\*Robinson, p. 185-247

\*E-Reading: Henderson, "Drama and democracy"

\*E-Reading: Rhodes, "Nothing to do with democracy"

\*E-Reading: MacDowell, Law [operation of Athenian courts]

\*E-Reading: Hanson, "Hoplites into democrats"

\*E-Reading: Strauss, "Trireme as school of democracy"

\*E-Reading: Vanderpool, "Ostracism at Athens" [be sure to look at shards at end]

### VI. Mon 29 Feb: Athenian Empire and Democracy I: Athens' Self-Image and Exploitation of the Delian League

E-Reading: Euripides, Ion

Thucydides, II 34-46 "Pericles' Funeral Oration"

E-Reading: Moore, Aristotle & Xenophon: [Xenophon], Constitution of the Athenians, p. 19-59

Plutarch, Rise & Fall of Athens: "Life of Pericles"

Buckley, 266-298

### VII. Mon 7 Mar: Athenian Empire and Democracy II: The Peloponnesian War

Thucydides, V 84-116 ["The Melian Dialogue"]

E-Reading: Euripides, Trojan Women

Aristophanes, Acharnians

Aristophanes, Peace

E-Reading: MacDowell on Aristophanes, Acharnians

E-Reading: MacDowell on Aristophanes, Peace

Buckley, 299-398

### VIII. Mon 8 Mar: No Class: SPRING BREAK

**IX. Mon 21 Mar: No Class**

**X. Mon 28 Mar: Politicians After Pericles: Cleon, Nicias and Alcibiades**

**Review Paper #2 Due**

Thucydides, III 1-50 [Cleon and the revolt of Mytilene and the "Mytilenian Debate"]

Thucydides, IV 1-41 [Cleon and the capture of Pylos]

Thucydides, IV 117-V 24 [Cleon vs. Brasidas; the Peace of Nicias]

Thucydides, V 25-83 [Alcibiades' first activities]

Thucydides, VI 1, 8-32, 42-53, 60-72, 88-VII 87 [Sicilian Expedition: years 415-413 BC]

E-Reading: Aristophanes, Knights

E-Reading: MacDowell on Aristophanes, Knights

\*E-Reading: Connor, New Politicians p. 185-236

**XI. Mon 4 Apr: Athenian Women and Democracy; Revolutions of 411/10 and 404/03 BC**

Thucydides VIII 1-109 [Revolutions of 411/10 BC]

E-Reading: Xenophon, Hellenica [the "30 Tyrants"]

E-Reading: Moore, Aristotle & Xenophon: Aristotle, Athenian Constitution 29-41 [= p. 172-183 with 257-274]

Aristophanes, Lysistrata

E-Reading: MacDowell on Aristophanes, Lysistrata

Buckley, p. 399-429

E-Reading: MacDowell, Law p. 84-108 [women and family in Athenian law]

\*E-Reading: Keuls, Reign of the Phallus, p. 1-32, 381-403

\*Robinson, p. 248-312

**XII. Mon 11 Apr: Athenian Democracy in Fourth Century BC I: Democracy with Diminished Empire**

Aristophanes, Assemblywomen

Aristophanes, Wealth

E-Reading: MacDowell on Aristophanes, Assemblywomen

E-Reading: MacDowell on Aristophanes, Wealth

Buckley, p. 430-450

\*E-Reading: Burke, "The habit of subsidization in Classical Athens: towards a thetic ideology"

**XIII. Mon 18 Apr: Athenian Democracy in Fourth Century BC II: Athens and Macedonia**

E-Reading: Plutarch, "Life Demosthenes"

Buckley, p. 451-471

E-Reading: Bosworth, Conquest & Empire [for Athens under Alexander]

**XIV. Mon 25 Apr: The Philosopher and Democracy I**

Plato, The Republic [first half]

E-Reading: Ostwald & Lynch, "The growth of schools and the advance of knowledge"

**XV. Mon 2 May: The Philosopher and Democracy II**

**Review Paper #3 Due**

Plato, The Republic [second half]

**FINAL EXAM/ESSAY DUE: Wednesday, May 11, by 5:00pm, to me by email attachment in .doc, .docx or .pdf format (gfarney@rutgers.edu); more details to follow**