

**CLASSICS 103
HISTORY OF GREECE
FALL 2010**

**T-TH 11:00-12:15
KING 106**

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Office: King 105A

Office Hours: Monday 11-12, Tuesday 12.15-1.15, Thursday 1-2

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REQUIRED TEXTS

Pomeroy, Sarah B., Stanley M. Burstein, Walter Donlan and Jennifer Tolbert Roberts. *Ancient Greece: A Political, Social and Cultural History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. (AncGr)

Crawford, Michael and David Whitehead. *Archaic and Classical Greece*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2002. (C&W)

Osborne, Robin. *Archaic and Classical Greek Art*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. (Osborne)

Books are available at the Oberlin College Bookstore.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys the history of the Greek-speaking world from 3000 to 31 BCE. The ancient Mediterranean between the prehistoric period and the death of the Hellenistic queen Cleopatra VII witnessed the first philosophers, the birth of history, the creation of Iliad and the Olympics, and the construction of stunning monuments such as the Parthenon. At the same time, Greek speaking peoples were responsible for razing the cities of other Greeks and sentencing Socrates to death on a charge of corrupting the youth. The Greeks—however much they seem like us—must be viewed as a foreign people, removed in both time and culture.

Using a variety of original sources, including ancient texts, inscriptions, and archaeological remains, this course will survey the development of Greek political and social history until the Roman conquest of the last Hellenistic kingdom. Special attention will be paid to political and cultural events in Athens.

As part of this course, students will become familiar with the central themes and issues of Greek History, as well as the principle events, figures and places. Students also will learn how to use and interpret ancient sources in translation, thereby gaining a coherent and cogent understanding of the process by which history is created.

COURSE GOALS

This course is intended to assist students in achieving the following goals:

- Students will gain a familiarity with the major people, places and events of Greek history
- Students will gain a better understanding of the sources for the study of ancient history, including inscriptions, archaeology, and literature, as well as the methods used by ancient historians
- Students will learn to read and understand ancient texts in translation, and will be able to use them to analyze and develop theses about historical events

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Mid-Term Exam	25 %
Response Papers	30 % (12.5, 17.5)
Final Exam	30 %
Attendance and Participation	15 %
Total	100 %

Assessment of Learning: Much like the orders of Greek architecture—or the Fates—the grading for the course is divided into three parts: exams, response papers, and participation, which includes blackboard discussions. This is intended to encourage a strong grasp of factual data, such as names, dates and places, the robust analysis of historical sources and a critical understanding of society and culture in the ancient Mediterranean world.

Mid-Term and Final: Exams are largely intended to assess your understanding of geographic places, chronology, historical events, important figures, terms and societal structures. The mid-term exam will be given on **THURSDAY OCTOBER 21**. This exam will cover material discussed in class up to and including the class on TUESDAY OCTOBER 19 (Social Life in the Classical Athens). The final exam will be given at **9:00 AM SUNDAY DECEMBER 19th**. This exam will cover principally (but not exclusively) material discussed after the second hourly exam.

N.B. I do not grant Academic Incompletes for this class.

Response Papers: Two short papers (500-800 words) will be required. Papers must be submitted via Blackboard as a Microsoft Word Document by 10:59 AM (before class) on the date due. If you use Word Perfect or another program, please convert your paper to Word before submission.

Each paper will require you to write a response to a particular, assigned ancient text and to answer a specific question about the text. Papers should be concise and should have a clear thesis that presents the main argument. The first response paper will ask you to summarize a historical text and draw out its main point. This paper will be due on **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30 at 10:59 AM**. The second response paper will ask you to evaluate a historical text. This paper will be due on **THURSDAY NOVEMBER 18 at 10:59 AM**.

Response papers must be turned in on time; if you are unable to turn in a response paper on the due date, you will need to speak to me **BEFORE** it is due. Your chances of receiving an extension are inversely proportional to the amount of time prior to the due date that you speak to me. Otherwise, late papers will be penalized 1/3 letter grade for each day that they are late (at 1 day late, an A becomes an A-). Papers more than 1 week late will not be accepted.

Attendance and Participation: Class attendance and participation are necessary parts of the learning process. I will be taking attendance in class, and excessive absences will affect your final grade in the course. You are responsible for getting notes and determining what occurred during any missed class.

In-Class Discussions and Discussion Board: The class will include both in-class discussions of relevant topics and historical texts and out-of-class interaction through a discussion board. Questions related to the readings will be posted on the discussion board, and students are encouraged to use the discussion board to analyze the historical sources and interact with one another. Discussion boards will be closed before class at 11:00 AM. Posting to a discussion board after class has been held will be considered a violation of the honor code. Over the course of the semester, students are required to post to **EIGHT (8) DIFFERENT** discussion threads on EIGHT different days. FOUR posts must occur before Fall Recess and FOUR posts must occur after Fall Recess.

Assessment of participation is based on attendance, in-class discussion and the discussion board. The discussion board acts as a complement to in-class discussion, and students with extensive posts to the discussion board can counterbalance lesser participation in class and/or receive extra credit.

Honor Code: The Oberlin College Honor Code can be found at

<http://new.oberlin.edu/students/policies/11-Policies-Honor.pdf>.

You will be expected to abide by the honor code for all written assignments. All work that is turned in should include the signed honor pledge “I affirm that I have adhered to the Honor Code in this assignment.” Grades will not be recorded for work that lacks the honor pledge (though work will be corrected); students will be asked to resubmit such work with the signed honor pledge.

Classroom and testing accommodations: Students needing accommodation for tests or assignments (i.e., time and a half) should contact the Student Academics Services Office. Please contact this office (<http://new.oberlin.edu/office/disability-services/>) at the start of the semester to ensure that the appropriate documentation and classroom accommodation can be provided in a timely fashion. I would also encourage you to speak to me about the accommodation that is worked out with SAS; these discussions will be held in the strictest confidence.

Changes to the Syllabus: Minor changes may be made to the syllabus in the course of the semester. In this case, all students will be informed of these changes via email and through an announcement on Blackboard. Significant changes to the syllabus (such as due dates) will be discussed and approved by the full class.

E-Mail: I will check email on multiple occasions during weekdays. Please include the course name in the subject field of your email. All email correspondence must be conducted through your Oberlin account.

Mobile Phones: Please turn off phones during class. If a phone rings, there may be a pop quiz.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Readings are listed for the class in which they will be discussed.

Reading in normal typeface are PAGE NUMBERS

Readings in bold italic typeface are TEXT NUMBERS in C&W and AUSTIN

Tue Sep 7 Introductions, Review of Syllabus, Defining History

Thu Sep 9 The Bronze Age: Early Greek Societies
AncGr 1-50; Osborne 1-23

Tue Sep 14 The Dark Ages & Greek Religion
AncGr 41-84; C&W **5-6**

****** THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 16 - Last Day for Add/Drop******

Thu Sep 16 The End of the Dark Age / Polis Formation / Law codes
AncGr 84-105; C&W **7-9, 37-39**; Osborne 23-38

Tue Sep 21 Colonization / Social Structures in the Early Polis
AncGr 106-126; C&W **14-16, 23, 25, 81**

Thu Sep 23 Intercity Competition: The Olympic Games, Delphi, Hoplite Warfare
AncGr 126-149; C&W **11-12, 22**, Osborne 69-85

Tue Sep 28 Sparta
AncGr 150-179; C&W **45, 47-56**

Thu Sep 30 Athens and Early Democracy
AncGr 180-200; C&W **64-67, 69-70, 72-75**

*****THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30 - RESPONSE PAPER # 1 DUE, 10:59 AM*****

Tue Oct. 5 Persia and the Persian Wars
AncGr 201-214; C&W **90-92, 95-97, 102-108**

Thu Oct 7 The Persian Wars (The Sequel)
AncGr 214-224; C&W **109-118**

Tue Oct 12 The Development of the Athenian Empire
AncGr 225-237; C&W **129-137, 159, 166-170, 173**

Thu Oct 14 The Fifth Century: Athenian Democracy
AncGr 237-242; C&W **120-123, 125-128, 144-145**

Tue Oct 19 Social Life in Classical Athens
AncGr 253-271; C&W **160, 162, 163**; Osborne 189-203.

Thu Oct 21 Mid-Term Exam

Tue Oct 26 Fall Recess – No Class

Thu Oct 28 Fall Recess – No Class

Tue Nov 2 Intellectual Life in the Fifth Century
AncGr 242-247; 284-301; C&W *153, 155*; Osborne 133-155

Thu Nov 4 Art and Imperialism
AncGr 247-253; 301-313; C&W *138, 151, 154*; Osborne 157-187

Tue Nov 9 The Outbreak of the Peloponnesian War
AncGr 272-284; C&W *176-181*

Thu Nov 11 The Archidamian War
AncGr 316-332; C&W *182-186, 190-198, 210*. The Funeral Oration of Perikles
(Available on Blackboard – Course Documents)

Tue Nov 16 The Sicilian Fiasco and the Last Years of the Peloponnesian War
AncGr 332-345; C&W *202-206, 213-215, 219-227*

Thu Nov 18 The Defeat of Athens and the Aftermath of the Peloponnesian War
AncGr 345-360; C&W *233-234; 237-240, 244-246, 248*

*****THURSDAY NOVEMBER 18 - RESPONSE PAPER # 2 DUE, 10:59 AM*****

Tue Nov 23 The Fourth Century
AncGr 361-403; C&W *259-262, 271-274*; Osborne 205-223

Thu Nov 25 No Class - Thanksgiving

Tue Nov 30 Philip of Macedon
AncGr 404-428; C&W *321-323; 341-350*

Thu Dec 2 Alexander the Great
AncGr 429-445; Plutarch, *The Life of Alexander* (Posted on Blackboard)

Tue Dec 7 Alexander in the East
AncGr 445-461; Additional readings posted on Blackboard

Thu Dec 9 The Successors of Alexander
AncGr 462-486; Additional readings posted on Blackboard

Tue Dec 14 Life in the Hellenistic Period
AncGr 483-510; Additional readings posted on Blackboard

SUNDAY DECEMBER 19 @ 9:00 AM -- FINAL EXAM