
Classics 10A (Summer 2001)
MTuWTh 10-12, 306 Wellman
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Office Hours: MW 1-2, 7220 Dwinelle

Introduction to Greek Civilization

What were the ideals and realities, the aspirations and struggles, behind the extraordinary works composed in ancient Greek whose impact is still felt by modern readers and thinkers? Why do the ancient Greeks' traditional poems of mythic heroic exploits, athletic victory celebration, and drinking-party wit have a preeminent place in the Western canons of intellectual and artistic achievement? How did a world of public song and dance rituals and the wisdom of itinerant sages, of highly traditional, illiterate, and aristocratic societies, transform into a world where the often contentious and radical processes of innovation and reorganization in economics, politics, and speculative thought made possible Euripides' "theater of ideas," Socrates' philosophical mission, and Thucydides' searing analysis of power and politics in the crucible of war? How did these two worlds permeate each other to make a civilization strikingly like and unlike our own?

This course is an intensive, six-week survey of the important literary, historical, and philosophical texts that are our primary sources for understanding Archaic and Classical Greek civilization (8th–4th centuries B.C.). A context for these works will be provided by lectures and class discussions exploring the traditions, institutions, and innovations of community life in the ancient Greek city-state. The main works to be read are Homer's *Iliad*, seven tragedies and three comedies originally performed at citizen festivals in Classical Athens, selections from the historians Herodotus and Thucydides, and most of *The Republic* and three other philosophical dialogues by Plato. Together with these major works, we will read a broad variety of shorter selections (including the poems and fragments that remain from such famous authors as Sappho, Pindar, Heraclitus, and the "Sophists") in order to get a fuller sense of the overlapping political, poetic, and intellectual currents of ancient Greek culture.

Grading

Ten 1½- to 2-page Response Papers	70%
Midterm Exam	15%
Attendance and Participation, Quizzes	15%

Required Books

Aeschylus, *The Oresteia*, trans. Grene and O'Flaherty (U of Chicago P, ISBN 0226007723, \$13)
Ancilla to the Pre-Socratic Philosophers, trans. Freeman (Harvard UP, ISBN 0674035011, \$15)
Aristophanes, *Knights; Peace; The Birds; The Assemblywomen; Wealth* (Penguin, ISBN 0140443320, \$11)
Euripides, *Bakkhai*, trans. Gibbons and Segal (Oxford UP, ISBN 0195125983, \$12)
Herodotus, *The Histories*, trans. Waterfield (Oxford UP, ISBN 0192824252, \$10)
Homer, *The Iliad*, trans. Lattimore (U of Chicago P, ISBN 0226469409, \$10)
Plato, *Phaedrus*, trans. Nehamas and Woodruff (Hackett, ISBN 0872202208, \$8)
Plato, *Protagoras*, trans. Lombardo and Bell (Hackett, ISBN, 0872200949, \$6)
Plato, *The Republic*, trans. Griffith and Ferrari (Cambridge UP, ISBN 052148443X, \$11)
Plato, *The Trial and Death of Socrates*, trans. Grube (Hackett, ISBN 0915144158, \$4)
Sophocles, *Oedipus the King; Oedipus at Colonus; Antigone* (U of Chicago P, ISBN 0226307921, \$9)
Thucydides, *On Justice, Power, and Human Nature*, trans. Woodruff (Hackett, ISBN 0872201686, \$8)

Course Reader available at Krishna Copy, 2111 University Ave. at Shattuck, 540-5959

Antony Andrewes, *The Greeks*, pp. 39-47
Hesiod, *Theogony* (lines 1-109) and *Works and Days*, trans. Apostolos Athanassakis
Hymn to Demeter, trans. Helene Foley
The Archaic Lyric and Iambus, *poetry anthology by various translators*
Antony Andrewes, *The Greeks*, Chapter 4 (pp. 52-75)
Plutarch, *Life of Lycurgus*, trans. Robin Waterfield
Aristotle, *The Constitution of Athens*, trans. J.M. Moore
Pseudo-Xenophon, *The Constitution of the Athenians*, trans. J.M. Moore
Hymn to Dionysos, *trans. Apostolos Athanassakis*
Plato, *Letter VII*, trans. Glenn Morrow

Course Requirements

Response papers are graded 1½- to 2-page papers. There may be a suggested theme or question to address, or you may write on a topic of your choosing. Grades will be based on your demonstrating a specific familiarity with the reading through the adept discussion of well-chosen passages. You should fashion an interpretation that is sensitive to the language of the texts and the themes of the course (or a theme of your own). **Plagiarism of any sort will result in failure of the course.** You are not required and not encouraged to use any outside sources for this course. If you do consult any outside sources, including the internet, you must clearly cite any borrowing or use of any words or ideas. I am always available to discuss the appropriate use of secondary sources.

The midterm exam will consist mainly of identifying and commenting on passages from the reading, and questions to be answered in short paragraphs.

Attendance and participation are crucial to the success of the course. If you must be absent for medical reasons or a family emergency, let me know as soon as possible (preferably in advance), and provide me with any documentation you can. It is your responsibility to contact a classmate to find out what you have missed. More than one absence will affect your grade. There will be a variety of opportunities to make your voice heard in class discussions—make sure to contribute your ideas, perspectives, and questions. And post your ideas and ask questions of your fellow students on the course discussion board at webct.berkeley.edu! *Quizzes* are unannounced. They will consist of a few simple questions to test whether you have been keeping up with the reading.

Reading Schedule

The reading schedule should not be confused with a schedule of lectures and discussions. The reading schedule calls for you to do fully half of the week's reading for Monday, since you have a lot more time to read over the weekend (from Thursday to Monday) than in the 22 hours separating the other class meetings! Our actual treatment of the material, on the other hand, is more evenly spread out over the week. So, expect to discuss Monday's readings in class on Monday and Tuesday, and expect to discuss the readings for Tuesday through Thursday in the second half of the week.

Week One

Tu 7/10 *Iliad* 1-4
W 7/11 *Iliad* 5-8
Th 7/12 *Iliad* 9-12

Response Paper due

Week Two

M 7/16 **Response Paper due**
Andrewes, *The Greeks*, pp. 39-47 [Reader]
Iliad 12-22
Tu 7/17 *Iliad* 23-24
Hesiod, lines 1-109 of *Theogony* and all of *Works and Days* [Reader]
W 7/18 *Hymn to Demeter* [Reader]
Poetry Anthology: from Archilochus to Simonides [Reader]
Th 7/19 Poetry Anthology: from Pindar to Praxilla [Reader]
Andrewes, *The Greeks*, Ch. 4 [Reader]
Plutarch, *Life of Lycurgus* [Reader, notes follow]

Response Paper due

Week Three

M 7/23 Aristotle, *The Constitution of the Athenians* (with glossary) [Reader]
Pseudo-Xenophon, *The Constitution of the Athenians* [Reader]
Aeschylus, *The Oresteia*
Tu 7/24 Herodotus, Books 1-3 (1.1-95, 2.15-28, 2.121-123, 3.27-66, 3.80-82, 3.118-127)
W 7/25 Herodotus, Books 5-7 (5.55-97, 6.56-60, 6.100-136, 7.1-57, 7.100-105)
Th 7/26 Herodotus, Books 7-8 (7.136-145, 7.152-end, 8.35-112, 9.122)

Midterm Exam

Week Four

M 7/30 Sophocles, *Oedipus the King* and *Antigone*
Ancilla to the Pre-Socratic Philosophers (pp. 18-86)

Response Paper due

- Tu 7/31 *Ancilla to the Pre-Socratic Philosophers* (pp. 87-125)
 Plato, *Protagoras*, pp. 1-30
 W 8/1 Plato, *Protagoras*, pp. 30-59
Ancilla to the Pre-Socratic Philosophers (pp. 125-162)
 Th 8/2 Thucydides, *On Justice, Power, and Human Nature* (Introduction and Chapters 1-2)
Response Paper due

Week Five

- M 8/6 Thucydides, *On Justice, Power, and Human Nature* (Chapters 3-8)
 Plato, *The Trial and Death of Socrates* (pp. 21-58)
 Aristophanes, *Knights* (with intro)
Response Paper due
 Tu 8/7 Charles Segal, Introduction to *Bakkhai*
Hymn to Dionysos [Reader, notes follow]
 Euripides, *Bakkhai*, pp. 44-80
 W 8/8 Euripides, *Bakkhai*, pp. 81-98
 Plato, *Phaedrus*, pp. 1-50
 Th 8/9 Plato, *Phaedrus*, pp. 50-86
 Plato, *Letter VII* [Reader]
Response Paper due

Week Six

- M 8/13 Aristophanes, *The Birds*
 Plato, *Republic* (Books 1-4)
 Tu 8/14 Plato, *Republic* (Books 5-6)
Response Paper due
 W 8/15 Plato, *Republic* (Book 7)
 Aristophanes, *The Assemblywomen*
 Th 8/16 Sophocles, *Oedipus at Colonus*
Response Paper due
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