

HIS 3140: Ancient Greece

Fall 2016

Dr. Lee E. Patterson

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Office: Coleman 3781

Office Hours: TTh 9:30-11:00, W 10:00-11:00 and by appointment

Class Meeting Times/Location: Coleman 2741, TTh 11:00-12:15

Texts (translations used for this class are required)

Pomeroy, Burstein, Donlan, Roberts, Tandy, *Ancient Greece: A Political, Social, and Cultural History*, 3rd edition

Herodotus, *The Histories*

Plato, *The Last Days of Socrates*

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*

Additional Materials on D2L

Catalog Description: The course surveys the history, culture, literature, and institutions of Ancient Greece, beginning with the Mycenaean period and finishing with the coming of the Romans. The course will investigate the major political, cultural, and economic changes in the Greek world.

My Description: I put in that catalog description because they made me do it. But let's be clear: this is going to be a fun class! Lots of work, yes, but fun. In addition to the goals mentioned above, one of our objectives is to understand who the ancient Greeks were and what made them tick. It is especially important to engage the Greeks on their own terms, for which the reading of ancient texts is vital. By the end of the term, my hope is that you will see how much the Greeks helped to lay the foundations of the world we live in even while in many ways they were, in some of their perspectives, very removed from modern times.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) identify and describe major figures, events, and developments in Greek history
- 2) examine and analyze primary texts in order to use texts as historical evidence
- 3) apply and synthesize information through presentations, papers, exams, and other assignments in order to draw conclusions about Greek history

Communications: When e-mailing me, please only use Panthermail, not D2L. Please identify yourself and indicate what class you're in. Also, employ correct etiquette by starting your message with a proper salutation, like "Dear Dr. Patterson" or even "Hi, Dr. Patterson." If you e-mail me after 10 p.m., do not expect a response until the next day.

Grading:	Participation:	10%	Exam #1:	10%
	Presentation:	10%	Exam #2:	15%
	Profiles:	10%	Final Exam:	20%
	Term Paper:	25%		

Note: The Term Paper and Profiles will be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L.

Grading Scale: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, 0-59 = F

Participation: Participation consists mainly of regular contributions to class discussions that are prompted by questions I will pose before most classes. These discussions will be intermixed with lectures. I'm not grading on whether you're right or wrong, though regular demonstration of the former is certainly better than that of the latter; rather the grade reflects your level of engagement with the material. In other words, a higher grade usually means that you did the reading, made an honest effort to understand the material, and have demonstrated this in class.

Transferable Skills: This is your class. The working methodology is for you to engage the material as much as you can and employ a set of transferable skills that are essential for your development as a student, a citizen of the world, and a human being. The following skills will be especially important in this class:

Critical Thinking: There is more to reading a text than gaining knowledge. How do you use the text to understand better the civilization you are studying? Critical thinking skills allow you to interpret and evaluate evidence (literary, material, etc.) produced by a culture, to gauge its usefulness for forming historical arguments, and to assess the viability of your interpretations. These texts are generally divided into two categories. **Primary texts** were produced by the civilization under study. As they were not written for us and often reflect a world view very different from our own, they require special care. **Secondary texts** can help in this endeavor. These are generally modern scholarly treatments of the subject matter. But modern scholars are not without their own biases, so you must also apply critical thinking skills to their arguments as well.

Writing Skills: Clear and effective written communication is one of the most important skills to have for professional success and personal fulfillment. In a typical class, students are at different levels in their command of grammar, mechanics, vocabulary, syntax, clarity of expression, and so on. Whatever your level, I hope your writing skills will be enhanced in this class. Your main opportunity will come in the term paper, a 10-12 page research paper examining issues arising from your examination of primary sources, literary and/or material. See also Profiles below.

Visual Literacy: Only some of the evidence we will consider is text-based; for ancient Greece material culture is also an important primary source. It is usually an essential tool for better understanding Greek history and society. Pay special attention to any visuals provided in the book and my PowerPoints.

Presentation and Public Speaking: Built into the structure of this course is a series of presentations. This is the oral counterpart to the writing skill. Again, different students will have varying comfort levels when speaking in front of a group, but this is an important component of your education and, as with the writing skill, is also essential for professional success and personal fulfillment. For this class each student will give two presentations, listed below. Each presentation, lasting about fifteen minutes, should include information taken from the reading assignment, plus any other source you feel would be helpful, including our main textbooks. The grade will be based on clarity and accuracy of the information. Handouts are required. Please do not create fill-in-the-blank handouts. An outline of your presentation will do. Try to make them useful for your fellow students. Material from presentations will be covered on exams.

Presentation Topics

All readings are on D2L. “Sparkes” refers to *Greek Civilization: An Introduction*, edited by Brian A. Sparkes.

- Pre-Socratics (G. S. Kirk, *The Nature of Greek Myths*, pp. 286-303), Sept 8
- Agriculture (Lin Foxhall, “The Greek Countryside” = Sparkes, Ch. 6), Sept 8
- Warfare (Victor Davis Hanson, *The Western Way of War*, Ch. 4), Sept 13
- Religion (Robert Parker, “Greek Religious Practices” = Sparkes, Ch. 8), Sept 15
- Political Uses of Myth (Lee E. Patterson, *Kinship Myth in Ancient Greece*, pp. 22-38), Sept 29
- Political Life in Athens (Nick Fisher, “Politics and Public Life: The Urban Scene” = Sparkes Ch. 7), Oct 18
- Women in Athens (Sue Blundell, “Women in Classical Athens” = Sparkes, Ch. 14), Oct 20
- Attitudes toward Sex (Brian Sparkes, “Sex in Classical Athens” = Sparkes, Ch. 15), Oct 20
- Trades and Crafts (Alison Burford, “Trades and Crafts” = Sparkes Ch. 11), Nov 1
- Slaves (M. I. Finley, *Economy and Society in Ancient Greece*, Ch. 6), Nov 15

Profiles: Let’s face it, there are a lot of names in this course that will sound exotic to our ears. To help keep them straight, students will write profiles of selected individuals that will outline such basic information, as much as the evidence will allow, as where they lived or were active, their life dates or approximate chronological position, main accomplishments (and dates for them when possible), and so on. These profiles must be typed but can be written in bullet form. I recommend that you indicate the page numbers of the texts from which you got your information to help your review for exams. Each profile will generally run half a page to a full page, but not exceeding two pages in each case. Figures to be profiled are indicated in the schedule *in italics* at the appropriate assignment. These figures will also be indicated by asterisks in the Names and Questions handouts. Profiles will be turned in in sets, whose due dates are also indicated in the schedule. These due dates will be strictly enforced, with a 10% penalty for every day the assignment is turned in late. All profiles will be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L.

Term Papers: Information about term papers will be provided soon in a separate document.

Attendance and Make-Up Policy: Regular attendance should be considered a top priority. Roll will be taken at the start of each class, and late arrivals may count as absences. Make-ups for exams are only possible if your absence on that day was absolutely unavoidable (e.g., a serious medical condition, a serious accident, etc.), and you will need to provide written documentation. Make-ups are not possible unless these two conditions are met. No exceptions! (Believe me when I say this: if you are not totally committed to the class and do not attend regularly, chances are you will not get the grade you want.)

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU’s Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards. Additionally, serious violations such as plagiarism and cheating may result in a course grade of F.

Student Success Center: Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by 9th Street Hall, Room 2006, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment. *Waiting to the last minute to make requests is strongly discouraged.*

In-Class Protocols: Do not start to put away your notes, books, etc. until class is properly finished. It is disruptive in the last few minutes of class, not to mention disrespectful. Do not have smart phones and other portable devices out during class. If you're more interested in what's on your little screen than what's going on in the classroom, don't take my class! During exams, all phones and other portable devices must be turned off and stowed away at all times. When taking exams, always remember to bring a blue book, which can be purchased in the book store. Blue books will always be required for exams in this class. Each blue book you bring must be fresh with no writing in it.

D2L: All students are required to access the course web page on D2L regularly. I will be using this resource to post key names and questions (*which are required viewing before each class*), lecture outlines (PowerPoints), assigned readings, and other materials. You will also submit written assignments to the Dropbox and will be able to check your grades regularly. This syllabus will also be posted on the web site, disallowing any excuse for losing the syllabus.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change):

You are responsible for keeping track of all assignments, test dates, and due dates. Any changes will be announced ahead of time.

Abbreviations: P = Pomeroy et al.; Hdt. = Herodotus; Plat. = Plato; Thuc. = Thucydides

Week 1

T Aug 23: Introduction

Th Aug 25: Bronze Age; Minoans and Mycenaeans (P pp. 12-55)

Week 2

T Aug 30: The Trojan War: the Archaeological Evidence (Eric Cline pp. 71-110, on D2L)

Th Sept 1: Homer and the Dark Ages (P pp. 56-101)

Week 3

T Sept 6: Homer II (*Iliad* Bks 1,6, on D2L)

Th Sept 8: Archaic Period I (P pp. 102-30, 143-53); **Presentations:** Pre-Socratics, Agriculture
Profiles (Set 1): Pheidon

Week 4

T Sept 13: Archaic Period II; **Presentation:** Warfare

Th Sept 15: Archaic Period III; **Presentation:** Religion

Week 5

T Sept 20: **Exam #1**

Th Sept 22: Early Sparta (P pp. 154-85)

Week 6

T Sept 27: Early Athens (P pp. 186-207)

Profiles (Set 1): Solon, Pisistratus, Cleisthenes

Th Sept 29: Early Athens II; **Presentation:** Political Uses of Myth

Week 7

T Oct 4: Persian Wars I: Herodotus, Preliminaries (P pp. 207-14, 291-94; Hdt. 1.1-92 = pp. 3-44);
Profile Set #1 Due (in the Dropbox on D2L)

Profiles (Set 2): Croesus

Th Oct 6: Persian Wars II: From Marathon to Thermopylae (P pp. 214-26; Hdt. 7.172-239 = pp. 476-500)

Profiles (Set 2): Darius, Miltiades, Xerxes, Aristides, Mardonius, Leonidas

Profiles (Set 3): Themistocles

Week 8

T Oct 11: Persian Wars III: Salamis, Plataea (P pp. 226-31; Hdt. 8.40-103 = pp. 513-36)

Profiles (Set 3): Artemisia, Pausanias

Th Oct 13: Golden Age of Athens (P pp. 232-49); Profile Set #2 Due (in the Dropbox on D2L)

Profiles (Set 3): Cimon, Pericles

Week 9

T Oct 18: Life in Periclean Athens (P pp. 258-76, 296-302); **Presentation:** Political Life in Athens

Th Oct 20: Life in Periclean Athens II; **Presentations:** Women in Athens, Attitudes toward Sex;
Profile Set #3 Due (in the Dropbox on D2L)

Week 10

T Oct 25: **Film:** *Engineering an Empire: Greece*

Th Oct 27: **Exam #2**

Week 11

T Nov 1: Eve of the Peloponnesian War (P pp. 277-88, 294-96); **Presentation:** Trades and Crafts;
Thesis Statements due (in the Dropbox on D2L)

Profiles (Set 4): Thucydides

Th Nov 3: Peloponnesian War I: To Mytilenian Debate (P pp. 324-33; Thuc. 2.34-65 = pp. 143-64, Thuc. 3.36-50 = pp. 212-23)

Profiles (Set 4): Cleon

Week 12

T Nov 8: Peloponnesian War II: From Corcyraean Civil War to Destruction of Melos (P pp. 333-43; Thuc. 3.69-85 = pp. 236-45); **Bibliographies due** (in the Dropbox on D2L)

Profiles (Set 4): Demosthenes, Nicias, Brasidas, Alcibiades

Th Nov 10: Peloponnesian War III: From Sicilian Expedition to Fall of Athens (P pp. 343-58, 364-68; Thuc. 7.31-87 = pp. 496-537)

Profiles (Set 5): Thrasybulus, Theramenes

Profiles (Set 6): Lysander, Conon

Week 13

T Nov 15: Aftermath of the Peloponnesian War (P pp. 302-09, 358-64, 395-402); **Presentation:** Slaves; Profile Set #4 Due (in the Dropbox on D2L)

Profiles (Set 5): Critias, Socrates

Th Nov 17: Trial of Socrates (Plat. Apology = pp. 39-70)

F Nov 18: **Rough Drafts due** (in the Dropbox by midnight)

Note: This deadline is not binding but is highly recommended. However, a rough draft is required. Failure to submit a rough draft will result in a 20-point penalty on the final term paper grade.

Thanksgiving Break: Nov 21-25

Week 14

T Nov 29: Fourth Century; Philip of Macedon (P pp. 369-79, 409-24)

Profiles (Set 6): Agesilaus, Epaminondas, Philip, Demosthenes, Aeschines

Th Dec 1: Philip II; Alexander the Great (P pp. 424-54; Plutarch, *Alexander* 1-38 = pp. 252-95, D2L); Profile Set #5 Due (in the Dropbox on D2L)

Profiles (Set 7): Alexander, Olympias, Parmenion, Darius III

Week 15

T Dec 6: Alexander the Great II; Hellenistic Period (P pp. 455-83; Plutarch, *Alexander* 39-77 = pp. 296-334, D2L); Profile Set #6 Due (in the Dropbox on D2L)

Th Dec 8: Hellenistic Period II (P pp. 483-512); Profile Set #7 Due (in the Dropbox on D2L)

F Dec 9: **Final Drafts due** (in the Dropbox by midnight)

Note: This deadline is binding. The grade will be reduced 10% for each day the paper is late.

Final Exam: Monday, December 12, 10:15-12:15

This last page of the syllabus is to be returned to me. Please fill out the following questionnaire and return to me by Thursday, August 25.

Name (please print or type) _____

Major _____

Minor(s) _____

This course is about ancient Greek history. Please indicate how familiar you are with it as you begin this class, whether through study in high school, previous college courses, popular media (films, TV, etc.), and so on.

I am very interested in knowing what your goals are as you come into this class. Why did you choose HIS 3140 and what do you hope to get out of it?

I appreciate your taking the time to fill out this questionnaire. Please sign below to indicate that you have read the syllabus completely, including all policies and requirements.

Signature _____