

GREEK CULTURE

CLAS 1000; Fall 2008 (90-952)

Park Hall 115

Period 77: TR 5:00-6:15

Instructor

Ms. Christine L. Albright

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Office Hours

Tuesdays, 2:00-3:00 or by appointment

Course Description

This course strives for a general understanding of ancient Greek culture. Because it is a 1000-level introductory course, it will survey a wide range of material. Students should not interpret its 1000-level designation to mean that the work load is easier than in upper-level classes; the 1000-level designation simply indicates that the course covers a wide range of material rather than a specific subject. Upon completing this course, students may expect to have elementary knowledge of ancient Greek history, to be generally familiar with several ancient Greek writers, and to have a basic understanding of Athenian politics.

Students should expect several performative activities throughout the course of the semester, including dramatic readings of poetry, productions of tragedies and comedies in a *Dionysia*, and even possible athletic competition in the *Panathenaic Games*, etc. Participation in general is essential, although some activities will be optional.

There is a heavy reading load in this class. Students should expect several hundred pages of reading per week at times. Plan ahead! Students are expected to have reading assignments completed BEFORE coming to class. We will focus primarily on literature, although our examination of ancient Greek culture also will include art, archaeology, history, philosophy, and religion.

Things That Should Not Have To Be Said At All

This course assumes college-level skills in reading and writing, and all work will be graded according to both content and presentation. Students who do not feel that they are strong writers are encouraged to take advantage of the English Department's Writing Center in the basement of Park Hall, although students who do visit the Writing Center should explain to their tutor that they are enrolled in a classics course, not an English course. Otherwise, students may be encouraged to document papers according to MLA style, which is used in English but not typically in classics. **This course uses Turabian-style documentation.** If you are not familiar with the the **Turabian style**, it is your responsibility to become familiar with it. (The main library has handouts with basic forms as well as Turabian's book. Copies of the book should be available at most bookstores.) Students who take freshman English at UGA learn MLA-style documentation, but this is only one of several styles of academic documentation. **MLA-style is**

not acceptable in this class. This course also assumes a basic understanding of geography, history and western civilization.

Come to class on time and do not leave class early. **Turn cellphones off.** Bring the reading material assigned for each class to class with you. Students who miss class are responsible for material assigned during that class and for collecting notes, etc. **Do not expect the instructor to provide you with copies of notes or handouts, and certainly do not expect private tutoring sessions after missing class.** If you miss class, it is **your** responsibility to collect copies of materials and copy notes. It is a good idea to get the phone numbers and e-mail addresses of several fellow students in case you have to miss class. This class assumes familiarity with the University's libraries, particularly with the main library. It is assumed, of course, that all students have active student IDs and may legitimately make use of UGA libraries and other University facilities.

Teaching Philosophy

I believe that the most effective learning occurs when students are active participants in their own education. I like a course which is based on the traditional lecture system of American universities but which incorporates elements of the tutorial system of universities such as Oxford and Cambridge. In the tutorial system, students are responsible for educating themselves; the instructor acts as a director and guide for the student rather than as the primary means through which the student masters class material. I expect students to have a basic understanding of geography, history and western civilization. If you have no idea when the Roman Empire existed or where Greece is located, you should probably read a history book. **THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** Although I do provide a short overview of Greek and Roman history and culture at the beginning of the course, this lecture will probably not suffice if you have no idea where Greece and Italy are located. We cannot possibly cover everything about classical mythology in class, so students must work to educate themselves outside of class.

The nature of class meetings will vary. There will be lectures, class discussions, videos, and perhaps a few dramatic readings. **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MATERIAL COVERED IN CLASS AND ALL ASSIGNED READINGS, EVEN THOSE WHICH THE INSTRUCTOR ASSIGNS AT THE LAST MINUTE. DO NOT ASK WHETHER OR NOT SOMETHING WILL BE ON THE EXAMS OR IF YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTAIN MATERIAL. THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS "YES."** STUDENTS WHO DO ASK SUCH SILLY QUESTIONS IN CLASS WILL FORFEIT ONE POINT OFF OF THEIR CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADE EVERY TIME THEY ASK.

I occasionally e-mail students about specific assignments, etc. It is your responsibility to check your UGA e-mail account frequently and to notify the instructor of any changes to your e-mail account.

The grading scale is as follows:

A=	94-100
A-=	90-93.99999999
B+=	87-89.99999999
B=	84-86.99999999
B-=	80-83.99999999
C+=	77-79.99999999
C=	74-76.99999999
C-=	70-73.99999999
D=	60-69.99999999
F=	59.9999999 and below

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONVINCING THE INSTRUCTOR TO CHANGE YOUR GRADE AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER. STUDENTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT, IN MORE THAN TEN YEARS OF TEACHING AT UGA, THE INSTRUCTOR HAS ONLY CHANGED GRADES TO REMOVE INCOMPLETES OR BECAUSE OF MISCALCULATION, WHICH IS EXTREMELY RARE (ONCE). WHILE THE INSTRUCTOR IS ALWAYS SORRY TO HEAR THAT STUDENTS STAND TO LOSE SCHOLARSHIPS BECAUSE OF GRADES, THE INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT LET SUCH A SITUATION INFLUENCE HER JUDGMENT. IT IS SIMPLY NOT FAIR TO THE OTHER STUDENTS IN A CLASS. SO, DON'T EVEN ASK.

Required Texts

Many of the primary texts also will be available at the Perseus Project Website - www.perseus.tufts.edu - although these translations will differ from those selected below for the course. Please make every effort to get these exact translations.

1. *The Iliad of Homer* (Translator: Lattimore) ISBN: 0226469409
2. *The Greek Tragedies, Vols. 1 and 3* (Translators: Grene and Lattimore)
ISBN: 0226307905, 0226307913
3. *Great Dialogues of Plato* (Translator: Rouse) ISBN: 0451527453
4. *A Brief History of Ancient Greece* (Authors Pomeroy et al) ISBN: 0195156811
5. Hesiod. *Theogony, Works and Days, Shield* (Translator: Athanassakis) ISBN: 0801829992

Study Tools

The instructor urges students to be circumspect about which websites they use for general supplementary material or for researching papers. Not all websites are created equal, and it can be extremely difficult for students to discriminate between a scholarly website and one which is not academic in nature. In general, websites that end in "edu" tend to be scholarly, but in the end even this measure cannot serve as an absolute litmus test.

I have listed the web address for the Department of Classics' website below, which has links to several academic websites which are excellent resources and also a list of useful databases and indices. You should familiarize yourself with the CLAS 1000 Website early on in the term. It contains valuable information about Greek history, mythology, and literature. There is also a specific guide for writing papers in classics courses and information about helpful websites, bibliographies, and databases. **Remember that material you use from websites must be documented in papers just like material you use from books and articles.** There is a link to our specific class under the general CLAS 1000 website; look for material posted there.

Department of Classics Website
<http://classics.uga.edu/overview.html>

Links:

<http://helios.classics.uga.edu/courses/clas1000/links/links.htm>

AGAIN: BEWARE OF WEBSITES OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED ON THE DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS WEBSITE. STUDENTS WHO USE MATERIAL FROM OTHER WEBSITES TEND TO SCORE BELOW STUDENTS WHO USE MATERIAL FROM THESE RECOMMENDED WEBSITES. IN

GENERAL, THE INSTRUCTOR RECOMMENDS THAT STUDENTS RELY ON BOOKS AND ARTICLES RATHER THAN ON THE INTERNET FOR RESEARCH.

Students may use the departmental library in room 222, but this is not a circulating library – BOOKS MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM THIS ROOM! There are excellent resources in this library.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected, of course, to adhere to the University's policy on academic honesty. This policy is available on the University's website

(http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/academic_honesty.htm)

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

Course Requirements

ALL WRITTEN WORK IS DUE IN HARD COPY. THE INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT ACCEPT PAPERS VIA E-MAIL UNLESS THIS ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN EXPLICITLY STATED AS PART OF THE ASSIGNMENT.

1. **Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory, and students should come to class prepared. Students will be allowed up to four absences without penalty. Every missed class after the fourth missed class will result in a five-point deduction from the *final course grade*. There are no "excused" or "unexcused" absences, so **please do not bring the instructor notes from Student Health, your family doctor, etc.** Use your absences wisely. If a catastrophic situation (hospitalization, death of close relative, apartment burns down, etc.) develops during the course of the semester, contact the instructor as soon as possible.
2. **Class Participation:** There will be several additional assignments during the course of the semester in which students will be expected to participate fully. Students will make presentations to the class, read aloud dramatically, and act out scenes. **10%**
3. **Midterm exam.** The midterm will cover all reading material assigned as well as material presented in class. It will be both objective and subjective and will consist of three sections. The first section will require identification and explication of specific passages from the primary texts we read; the second will require identification of characters, terms, places, etc.; and the third will require a short essay. Students will need blue books. For students who miss the midterm for any reason, the final exam will count 70%. **30%**
4. **Class Dionysia:** Students will work in groups to offer 30 minute productions of tragedies and comedies. Groups and plays will be assigned early-on in the semester. The instructor will meet with each group to prepare for the production, but groups will decide on their own how to stage their play. Groups will have to consider sets, costumes, props, the role of the chorus, and dialogue, for example. This is designed as a semester-

long project, and students should not expect to do well if they simply throw something together at the last minute. Each group will offer a discussion of their staging to the class after their production and turn in a written analysis of their play. Each student will participate in the composition of this written work. Dates for the productions will be assigned after groups are formed. This project also features a competitive element, and the top three groups will receive bonus points to their final class averages. **20%**

5. **Final exam:** The final exam is cumulative and will be a slightly longer but similar in format to the midterm. **40%**

Schedule*

August 19:	Introduction to Course
August 21:	Reading: BHAG Chapters 1, 2
August 26:	Reading: Hesiod's <i>Theogony</i>
August 28:	Reading: Hesiod's <i>Works and Days</i>
September 2:	Reading: <i>Iliad</i>
September 4:	Reading: <i>Iliad</i>
September 9:	Reading: <i>Iliad</i>
September 11:	Reading: <i>Iliad</i>
September 16:	Reading: <i>Iliad</i>
September 18:	Reading: <i>Iliad</i>
September 23:	
September 25:	Reading: BHAG Chapters 3, 4; <i>Homeric Hymn to Apollo</i> (available at www.perseus.tufts.edu)
September 30:	Reading: BHAG Chapter 5; <i>Homeric Hymn to Demeter</i> (available at www.perseus.tufts.edu)
October 2:	Reading: BHAG Chapter 6

- October 7: Reading: BHAG Chapter 7; Reading: Selections from Thucydides
- October 9: **MIDTERM EXAM.** *Remember blue book!*
- October 14: Reading: Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*
- October 16: Reading: Aeschylus' *Eumenides*
- October 21: Reading: Sophocles' *Oedipus the King*
- October 23: Reading: *Antigone*
- October 28: Reading: Euripides' *Bacchae*
- October 30: Reading: Euripides' *Hippolytus*
- November 4: Reading: Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*
- November 6: Reading: Aristophanes' *Women of the Assembly*
- November 11: DIONYSIA
- November 13: DIONYSIA
- November 18: DIONYSIA
- November 20: Reading: Plato's *Republic*, (*Books to be assigned in class*)
- November 24-28: Thanksgiving Break
- December 2: Reading: Plato's *Symposium*
- December 4: Review for final exam.
- December 16: **FINAL EXAM** 3:30-6:30 *Remember blue book.*

*This is a preliminary schedule only. The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule as necessary.

