

HONORS GREEK CULTURE

CLAS 1000H; Fall 2008 (36-993)

Park Hall 114

Period 74: TR 12:30-1:45

Instructor

Ms. Christine L. Albright

242 Park Hall

706-542-9264 (Classics Dept.)

calbrigh@uga.edu

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 ancient Greek writers, and to have a basic understanding of fifth-century Athenian politics.

This course will be taught primarily as a seminar, but it will include an embedded game which is set in Athens in 403 B.C.E. and which will last approximately 5 weeks. Students will be assigned roles for the game early in the semester and will often be required to approach the reading material in character. Participation is essential, and students should expect several performative activities throughout the course of the semester, including dramatic readings of poetry, productions of tragedies and comedies in the *Dionysia*, competition in the *Panathenaic Games*, etc. There will even be an official class *symposium* at the end of the semester.

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.

What to Expect

I believe that the most effective learning occurs when students are active participants in their own education, and I have chosen to teach this course using the "Reacting to the Past" pedagogy. The nature of class meetings will vary. There will be some traditional lectures, class discussions, and videos, but in general the entire course will be framed in terms of the game. The game is basically a dramatic reenactment of Athenian politics in 403 B.C.E. in which students explore relevant issues and compete for political power in the Athenian Assembly. After Drop/Add, the instructor will assign specific roles for students, and students will "play" these roles for the entire semester.

There will be several competitive activities outside of the Game itself, and winners of these competitions will receive victory crowns as well as points toward their final class grade.

The actual Game will last for about 5 weeks. Students will experience Athenian culture by portraying different characters from 403 B.C.E. and by acting in the Assembly. (There will be 8-10 meetings of the Athenian Assembly.) The instructor will serve as Gamemaster and will determine who wins the game at the end of the semester. Winning the game is important, because those who win will receive 5 bonus points for their final course grade!

I will collect e-mail addresses early in the term, and our class should have a blog up and running early in the semester. I will e-mail students about specific assignments and general information about the course. It is your responsibility to check your e-mail account frequently and to notify the instructor of any changes to your e-mail account.

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.

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.

1. *The Iliad of Homer* (Translator: Lattimore) ISBN: 0226469409
2. *Athenian Democracy* 2nd edition (John Thorley) ISBN: 041531934X
3. *The Naked Olympics: The True Story of the Ancient Games* by Tony Perrottet ISBN: 081296991X
4. *The Greek Tragedies, Vols. 1 and 3* (Translators: Grene and Lattimore)
ISBN: 0226307905, 0226307913
5. *Three Plays by Aristophanes* (Translator: Henderson) ISBN: 0415907446
6. *The Threshold of Democracy: Athens in 406 B.C.* Carnes and Ober. ISBN: 0321333039
7. *Great Dialogues of Plato* (Translator: Rouse) ISBN: 0451527453
8. *A Brief History of Ancient Greece* (Authors Pomeroy et al) ISBN: 0195156811
9. *Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian War* transl. Rex Warner ISBN: 0140440399

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. Students will be graded according to the following scale:

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=	59.99999999 and below

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. **Speeches:** All students must present a formal speech to the Assembly 2 times during the course of the game. Students may choose when they would like to present their speeches but should be aware that there are only about EIGHT Assemblies in which to make speeches. (Thus, students should not wait until the last two Assemblies to make their required speeches as they might not have the opportunity.) All formal speeches should be turned in to the instructor in hard copy at the end of the Assembly at which they are delivered. They should be typed and double-spaced. Speeches will be graded with both preparation (research, composition, “political” strategy) and presentation (writing, actual delivery) in mind. **25%**

4. Papers: There will be 3 short papers during the semester.

For the first paper, students will approach Homer’s *Iliad* from the perspective of their character in the Reacting game, considering how that character would relate to the heroic ideal and to the political implication of a heroic class.

The second paper will focus on the panhellenic sanctuaries; students will consider how the heroic ideal plays out in both athletic and poetic competitions.

The third paper will focus on Fifth-century Athenian culture. Students will consider whether or not the heroic ideal still functions in the politically dynamic environment of this society.

All papers should be at least 1500 words, typed and double-spaced. Any outside research (secondary material) should be documented using Turabian format. Primary

material may be documented internally. Papers should have clear theses and be well-organized.

Late papers will be penalized. 30% total

3. **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. Students are also expected to participate fully in the Athenian Assembly. **15%**
4. **Final exam:** There will be a take-home, essay-style final exam. **30%**

Schedule*

August 19:	Introduction to Course
August 21:	Reading: BHG Chapters 1, 2
August 26:	Reading: Homer's <i>Iliad</i> Books 1-5
August 28:	Reading: Homer's <i>Iliad</i> Books 6-10
September 2:	Reading: Homer's <i>Iliad</i> Books 11-15
September 4:	Reading: Homer's <i>Iliad</i> Books 16-20
September 9:	Reading: Homer's <i>Iliad</i> Books 21-24
September 11:	RHAPSODE CONTEST. Reading: BHG Chapters 3, 4
September 16:	Reading: <i>The Naked Olympics</i> ; BHG Chapter 5
September 18:	Reading: Selections from Pindar's <i>Odes</i> ; BHG Chapter 6, 7
September 20: (Saturday)	THE PANATHENAIA: FESTIVAL AND GAMES
September 23:	EPINICIAN ODE CONTEST; Reading: BHG Chapters 8-10
September 25:	Reading: <i>Athenian Democracy</i>
September 30:	Reading: Thucydides' <i>History of the Peloponnesian War</i> Books 2, 3, and 6

October 2: Reading: *Agamemnon, Eumenides*

October 7: Reading: *Bacchae; Hippolytus*

October 9: Reading: *Lysistrata, Women of the Assembly*

October 14: Reading: Plato's *Republic* Books 1-3

October 16: Reading: Plato's *Republic* Books 4-7

October 21: Reading: Plato's *Republic* Books 8-10

October 23: GAME SET UP

October 28: GAME

October 30: GAME

November 4: GAME

November 6: GAME

November 11: GAME

November 13: GAME

November 18: GAME

November 20: GAME

November 24-28: Thanksgiving Break

December 2: GAME WRAP-UP

December 4: SYMPOSIUM. Reading: Plato's *Symposium*; BHG Chapters 11, 12

December 16: (Final Exam Time) 12:00-3:00 CLASS DIONYSIA Take-home finals due by 5:00 pm via email on Wednesday, December 17th.

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