

GREK 4040 / 6040
Herodotus & Thucydides
Fall 200, MWF 2:30-3:20 p.m., Park Hall 225

Professor: Dr. Naomi J. Norman
Office Hours, MW 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. & by appt

email: norman@uga.edu
Park Hall 227; 542-2187

Required Texts:

Michael A. Flower and John Marincola (eds.). *Herodotus: Histories, Book IX*. Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002. (pb.). ISBN 0-521-59650-5

Kenneth J. Dover, *Thucydides: Book VI*. Duckworth Publishing; New Ed (January 2001) (pb). ISBN 1-85399-587-8

Recommended Texts:

Herodotus: The Histories. Translated by Aubrey De Selincourt. Penguin Classics. Reprint edition (September 1, 1996) (pb). ISBN 9780140449082

The Peloponnesian War: Thucydides. Translated by S. Lattimore. Hackett Publishing Co. (pb) ISBN 0-87220-394-8

Recommended Websites:

- Perseus (<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>): an evolving digital library that includes the Herodotus and Thucydides texts we will translate this semester
 - Lost Trails (www.lostrails.com): an educational multi-media web site that includes a new translation of Herodotus along with extensive photography of the locations and artifacts mentioned in the book so that students can explore the text visually while reading it
- Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War* (<http://ablemedia.com/ctcweb/netshots/thucydes.htm>); an online study guide with links to multiple resources discussing the war and beginnings of genre of history

General Information:

In many respects, for the Greeks, history writing began with the epic poems of Homer, for they recorded a kind of history of the very distant past. In the fifth century BCE, however, Herodotus and Thucydides created a new kind of literary genre by writing history of more recent events and by writing in prose. Both wrote a similar kind of history, one which narrated the events of recent human past, that is to say events which were still within the living memory of the authors and their sources or which were otherwise verifiable. Both wrote about a monumental political event of their lifetimes: for Herodotus, it was the Persian War (ca. 490 - 479 BCE); for Thucydides, it was the Peloponnesian War (ca. 431 - 404 BCE). Both claimed to be writing for posterity and to be preserving the memory and fame of the events and those who participated in those events. Both said that they were interested in accuracy, and, though their methodologies differ, both acknowledged how difficult it was to determine the truth of the events they narrated. Both were also exiles, a fact which may have shaped their histories by removing both authors from the context of daily politics. For Herodotus, exile led to a more global perspective; for

Thucydides it gave him direct access to anti-Athenian perspectives.

But each historian approaches his narrative from a different context of composition and from a different authorial stance. Herodotus is still attached to the oral tradition and performance, while Thucydides is composing a written text meant to be read and re-read by his readers. Herodotus, it has been suggested, is on the cusp between oral tradition and the written text; Thucydides is firmly within the written tradition. Cicero credited Herodotus with being the “father of history” and Plutarch remarked that “Thucydides . . . all but makes the reader an actual spectator and listener at the marvelous and dreadful events he describes.” Together the two represent the “best” of the Greek tradition of history writing.

This course is designed to introduce students to the texts of these two important figures, to place the texts within their historical, social, cultural and political contexts and, most importantly, to improve students’ translation skills.

Students will be expected to translate quite a bit of Greek each week and to supplement their work in Greek by reading translations of the complete texts and some secondary literature.

Course Requirements:

Course requirements for students at the 4000-level include translation and class discussion, supplementary readings in English, a paper (ca. 10 pp.) and two exams (a midterm and a final).

Course requirements for students at the 6000-level (or Honors Option) include translation and class discussion, supplementary readings in English, a paper (ca. 15-20 pp.) and class presentation on their paper and two exams (a midterm and a final).

Papers are due at class time on Monday, Nov. 19th.

I will pass out additional information about the paper later, along with some tips for writing in Classics. Late papers will NOT be accepted.

Testing:

There will be a middle of the term exam on **Wednesday, October 10th**. Your final will be given on **Monday, December 10th** at 3:30 p.m.

Exams will include 1) homework passages for identification only (i.e., you will be asked to answer grammatical questions on the passage and to comment on its literary, historical, and/or cultural significance) and 2) passages to translate at sight. You will be allowed to use your dictionary on the translation portions of the exams. The final exam will also include an essay.

Grading:

Class participation and homework preparation	25%
Paper (& presentation for 6000-level, Honors Option students)	25%
Midterm test	25%
Final exam	25%

Make-up tests will only be administered for excused absences and require an excuse signed by a doctor, university official etc. Arrangements must be made in advance. Excessive absences will effect your final grade

Course Mechanics:

Class attendance and participation are *essential*; do not confuse attendance with participation. You must keep up with the assigned homework and be prepared to translate in class. Excessive absences (more than two un-excused absences) may result in your being dropped from the course; please note that it is within my prerogative to assign a grade of WF even to those who drop or are dropped from the course before the midpoint of the semester, depending on the quality of work up to that point. If you enroll in this course, you have made a commitment to attend and to do the work. If you are unwilling to attend and participate, drop the course now.

Things that should not need to be said: do not be late for class and do not leave early; come to class prepared; do all of the assigned homework on time; turn off your cell phone and other electronic devices when you enter the classroom and leave them off until you leave.

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This course syllabus is a general plan for the course; it may be necessary for me on occasion to announce deviations from this plan. You are responsible for all announcements, changes to this syllabus, and any additional assignments made in class. Complete the assignments listed under “Homework Translation Assignment for Today's Class” & “Reading Assignment for Today's Class” BEFORE coming to class.

Today's Date	Homework Translation Assignment for Today's Class	Reading Assignment for Today's Class & Announcements
Fri, Aug 17	Introduction to course	Read an historical account of the Persian War and finish by Friday, Aug. 24 (Bury & Meiggs is good, as is Tom Martin's account on Perseus)
Mon, Aug 20	Introduction to Herodotus	
Wed, Aug 22	Translate 9.1-5	
Fri, Aug 24	9.6-9 class discussion	Read L. Kurke's chapter on Herodotus and Thucydides in O. Taplin, ed., <i>Literature in the Greek World</i>
Mon, Aug 27	9-10-13	Begin reading Herodotus' <i>Histories</i> in English; finish by Friday, Aug 31
Wed, Aug 29	9.14-16	
Fri, Aug 31	9.17-21	
Mon, Sep 3	Labor Day, No Class Read on your own	
Wed, Sep 5	9.22-25	
Fri, Sep 7	9.26-29	
Mon, Sep 10	9.30-33	
Wed, Sep 12	9.34-39	
Fri, Sep 14	9.40-45 class discussion	Read O. Murray's articles on Herodotus and oral poetry from Luraghi's book
Mon, Sep 17	9.46-49	
Wed, Sep 19	9.50-56	
Fri, Sep 22	9.57-62	
Mon, Sep 24	9.63-70	
Wed, Sep 26	9.71-79	
Fri, Sep 28	9.80-88 class discussion	Read C. Dewald's article, "Narrative Surface and Authorial Voice in Herodotus' <i>Histories</i> " from <i>Arethusa</i> (1987)
Mon, Oct 1	9.89-95	
Wed, Oct 3	9.96-102	
Fri, Oct 5	9.103-109	

Mon, Oct 8	9.110-122	
Wed, Oct 10	prepare for test	Midterm Exam
Fri, Oct 12		Withdrawal Deadline Is Today
Mon, Oct 15	class discussion	read Aeschylus' <i>Persians</i> and the new Simonides fragments in translation
Wed, Oct 17	introduction to Thucydides class discussion	Read "Introduction" of W. R. Connor's <i>Thucydides</i>
Fri, Oct 19	translate 6.1-4.4	Begin reading Thucydides' <i>History of the Peloponnesian War</i> in English; finish by Fall Break
Mon, Oct 22	6.4.5-7	
Wed, Oct 24	6.8-11	
Th, Oct 25 - Fri, Oct 26	Fall Break, No Class read on your own & review	
Mon, Oct 29	6.12-16	
Wed, Oct 31	6.17-19	
Fri, Nov 2	6.24-29	
Mon, Nov 5	6.30-32	
Wed, Nov 7	6.33-35	
Fri, Nov 9	6.36-39	
Mon, Nov 12	6.40-44	
Wed, Nov 14	6.45-49	
Fri, Nov 16	6.50-54	
Mon, Nov 19	6.55-59	Turn in your paper.
Wed, Nov 21 – Fri, Nov 23	Thanksgiving Break, No Class read on your own and review	
Mon, Nov 26	6.60-62	
Wed, Nov 28	6.63-67	
Fri, Nov 30	6.68-72 class discussion	Read H.-P. Stahl, "Speeches and Course of Events in Books Six and Seven of Thucydides" from <i>The Speeches in Thucydides</i> , ed. by P. Stadter
Mon, Dec 3	6.73-78	
Tues, Dec 4	6.79-81	
Wed, Dec 5	6.88-89	
Th, Dec 8	Regular Thursday Schedule	Last Day of Classes for fall semester
Mon, Dec 10	Final Exam, 3:30-6:30 p.m.	