A History of Greek Civilization II

The main themes of this course are: (i) the decline of Athens as the center of Classical Civilization; (ii) the rise of Macedonia; (iii) the conquests of Alexander the Great; (iv) Greek culture, especially in the world created by Alexander’s accomplishments.

Lectures: 1/week and one discussion section

Exams: 6 week, 12 week, and final exams; they will be essay style. Emphasis on the course will be on understanding what ancient writers tell us about their history and culture. The course requires a careful reading of the texts, and this approach will be stressed in the examinations. Students missing the examination are expected to provide written medical excuses.

Papers: Four-credit students must write a paper or do some other project. You must have a topic or subject approved by the T.A. of the instructor by March 18. If you cannot think of a topic, it is suggested that you compare and contrast the works of two ancient authors read in this course. Discuss the periods in which they wrote, the literary forms and themes which they adopted and how they reflected and influenced their particular societies. All papers and projects are due April 29.

Very Important: If you register for 4 credits, you MUST do the required written work. If, after having signed up for the fourth credit, you decide that you don’t want to complete the written work, you MUST formally drop the credit with the Registrar by the ninth week. Otherwise, you must be held responsible for that credit's work.

Grading: 3-credit students: 10% participation in sections; 25% for both 6 and 12 week exams; 40% for final. Strong consideration will be given for improvement. 4-credit students: 10% participation in sections; 20% for 6 and 12 week exams and for the paper; 30% for the final. Strong consideration will be given for improvement.

Books to be purchased

Aristophanes, The Complete Plays of Aristophanes
Arrian, The Campaigns of Alexander
Menander, The Dyskolos
Plato, The Last Days of Socrates
Plutarch, The Age of Alexander
Thucydides, The Peloponnesian War
F. W. Walbank, The Hellenistic World
Reader for 304: available at Kinkos’s
LECTURES

Jan. 21: Introduction and Geographical Background

   The Greek World to 432
   Thucydides I, Chapters 22-24, 68-69

Jan. 28: The Peloponnesian War: Archidamus War, 431-421
   Thucydides IV 1-41; V 1-24

   Folly and Disaster, 415-403:
   Thucydides VI 1-32; VII 42-87

Feb. 4: Social Changes in Athenian Society
   Thucydides II 14-16; VI 16
   Aristophanes, The Congresswomen (The Ecclesiazusae)
   Reader, 1-17

Feb. 11: Athens and Socrates
   The Death of Socrates
   Aristophanes, The Clouds
   Plato, The Apology

   Platonic Philosophy:
   Plato, The Phaedo

Feb. 18: Short-lived Empires: Sparta and Thebes
   Plutarch, Agesilaus
   Plutarch, Pelopidas
   Reader, 18-32

   Rise of Philip II of Macedon:
   Plutarch, Demosthenes 3-16
   Reader, 33-37

Feb. 25: The Triumph of Philip
   Plutarch, Demosthenes 17-22
   Reader, 38-46

   Alexander: The Early Years
   Begin reading Plutarch, Alexander

Mar. 4: EXAMINATION on all but Alexander

Mar. 18: Alexander the Great
& Mar. 25: Plutarch, Alexander
   Plutarch, Demosthenes 23-31
   Arrian, Anabasis
   Walbank, 29-45
Apr. 1: The Successors of Alexander
   Plutarch, Demetrius
   Walbank, 46-59

   The Three Kingdoms:
   Walbank, 60-140

Apr. 8: Hellenistic Society
   Menander, The Dyskolos
   Walbank, 159-175

   Hellenistic Philosophy and Religion
   Walbank, 176-197, 209-221
   Reader, 104-113

Apr. 15: Athletes and Athletic Festivals
   Thucydides vi 16
   Reader, 70-96

   Homosexuality:
   Thucydides vi 54-59
   Plutarch, Pelopidas 18-19
   Reader, 97-103

April 22: EXAMINATION of all materials beginning on Feb. 25, through April 15

April 29: Judaism and Hellenism
   Walbank, 221-226
   Reader, 114-144

May 6: The Coming of Rome
   Walbank, 227-251
   Reader, 145-152

May 13, 7:25 p.m.: FINAL EXAMINATION: There will be no alternative test date