

Introduction to Classical Studies

Course Goals

This course will provide you with an introduction to ancient Greek and Roman civilizations from approximately 2000 BCE–4th century CE. We will study many facets of the ancient world, including literature, philosophy, art, theatre, politics, oratory, myth and religion, scientific and military developments. You will learn the basic methods and problems that classicists face in reconstructing models of Greek and Roman societies from ancient evidence, and will be able to discuss how the examination of a variety of genres and media (poetry, letters, biographies, histories, inscriptions, coins, works of art and architecture, etc.) can contribute to our understanding of these civilizations. There will also be a brief introduction to the reception of classical culture in later Western societies, and how classical texts and artefacts have been preserved and transmitted across the centuries.

Grading

Class participation (attendance, preparation, participation, incl. Melian Debate)	10%
Midterm exam	20%
Text/object analysis (outline 5%, analysis 30%)	35%
Final exam (date TBA)	<u>35%</u>
Total	100%

Assignments

Attendance, participation, and assigned readings: It is very important that you attend lectures for this class, since there is no assigned textbook (although texts are on hold at the library for reference). Thus, the material that you will be tested on will come primarily from lectures, and you will want to be sure to take thorough notes. Slides will be posted on Blackboard prior to class. Readings should be completed prior to each class session, and will be discussed

Midterm and final examinations: The midterm will be held on Friday, May 29, during the normal class time. The final exam will held during the exam period, June 22–26, at a date to be announced. The questions may consist of short answers, multiple choice, map identification, passage identification and commentary, image identification and commentary, and longer responses.

Melian Debate: On May 20, you will re-enact the debate between the Melians and the Athenians concerning the fate of Melos during the Peloponnesian War. The first hour of class will be a lecture period, and you will be debate in the second half. Prior to class, I will randomly assign you to one of two groups, the Melians or the Athenians; you will have fifteen minutes in class to discuss/prepare your arguments and select people to act as leaders/head speakers (although everyone will be invited to participate), and then the debate will begin. I will act as moderator, and we will come back together at the end to discuss the whole issue as a class. Attendance at this debate will count towards your participation mark; you should carefully read the relevant passage in Thucydides prior to class.

Text/object analysis: For this assignment, you will select a text or object and write about how it can provide us with a greater understanding of the classical world (your argument), discussing its

genre/medium, its historical and social context, its author/creator (if known), and any difficulties that we might have in interpreting it or using it to gain information. You may choose any text or object discussed in class or from the ROM. You will first submit to me an outline of your ideas (approximately 1 page), in which you identify the text/object that you have chosen (title/name of object, date, place of origin, use/original context), provide a thesis for your argument, list the points that you will use to support your argument, and cite a reputable source for your text or image. I will provide you with feedback and suggestions for improvement at this stage. In order to receive any mark for your final analysis, you must turn in this outline. The analysis itself should be approximately 2,000 words in length, submitted in 12-point Times New Roman, with 1-inch margins. The outline is due June 3 at 11:59 pm, and the final analysis is due June 15 at 11:59 pm. Both the outline and the analysis must be submitted to Blackboard and Turnitin.com.

Optional ROM Field Trip: On Tuesday, June 2, from 1–2:30 pm, I will lead a tour of the Greek and Roman collections at the Royal Ontario Museum. Admission is free to all students, so be sure to bring your student ID card. This trip is completely optional; no extra credit is given. One option for your text/object analysis paper is to select an item at the ROM, photograph it, and investigate its background and historical context. You can visit the museum on your own time to do this if you cannot come for the class trip. In either case, you will need discuss your idea with me ahead of time so that we can ensure that it will make a feasible project.

Missed/late assignments and tests: Tests and the document analysis may be excused (but not retaken or handed in late) only in cases of medical or personal emergencies, or for religious obligations. In all cases, proper documentation needs to be provided within one week in order for the instructor to excuse the absence. The weight of the missed assignment or test will be added to the weight of the next such item on the schedule. Assignments turned in late cannot be accepted or graded.

Textbooks and Resources

Website: There is no required textbook for this course. In preparation for each class, you will read translations of ancient texts and observe various images of buildings and objects that will be posted on Blackboard. The text/object analysis outline and paper are to be turned in to the Blackboard course site, as well as to Turnitin.com.

Text for reference (not required, on hold at the Kelly Library):

D. Brendan Nagle (2013) *The Ancient World: A Social and Cultural History*, 8th ed.

(Note: the two most current editions are on hold, but you may use any edition you wish to assist you in your studies. This textbook is only intended to serve as a supplement to lectures, and will not always include the same discussions and information; the midterm and final exam will draw only on material discussed in the lectures or assigned in the readings.)

Important Information

Course email: You must use your university email address for correspondence in this course; the instructor is unable to respond to emails sent from other addresses. (Please be aware that if your U of T email is forwarded to another account, some messages from the instructor may be filtered out as spam or junk.) Please be sure to include your full name and the course title in your email

message. The instructor will aim to reply to emails within forty-eight hours on weekdays, but this may not always be possible.

Meetings: Everyone is welcome to meet with the instructor during office hours or contact her through email to discuss any questions or concerns. If you are encountering difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the instructor for assistance. The instructor is unable to give private tutorials to individuals.

Accessibility Services: Information on accommodations for disabilities or accessibility concerns is available from Accessibility Services at accessibility.utoronto.ca.

Course Schedule

Class	Date	Lecture topic	Assigned reading/object for study (to be completed before class)
Week 1			
1	5/11	Uses of primary sources Indo-Europeans migrations Minoans Mycenaeans	ROM's "Minoan Goddess" Minoan wall paintings Linear A tablets "Mask of Agamemnon" Cyclopean masonry Linear B tablets
2	5/13	Dark Ages Oral tradition and the invention of the alphabet Development of the polis Tyranny, rise of democracy Ionian Enlightenment	Homer: <i>Odyssey</i> 9.105–end Hesiod: <i>Works and Days</i> lines 47–201 Sappho: Fr. 31, "Brothers Poem" Pindar: <i>Olympian Ode</i> 1 <i>Oath of Hippocrates</i>
3	5/15	Persian Wars	Herodotus: 7.8, 30–40, 138–144; 206–228, 8.68–70, 83–97 Aeschylus: <i>The Persians</i> lines 249–330
Week 2			
	5/18	Victoria Day: No class	
4	5/20	Athenian Empire Peloponnesian War Melian Debate	Thucydides: 2.34–46; 5.84–116; 6.1, 6, 8, 24–26, 30–32; 7.84–87
5	5/22	Athenian society and culture (philosophy, theatre, religion and choral performances, politics, slavery, women and children, art and architecture)	Plato: <i>Republic</i> 514a–521b <i>Athenian Constitution</i> Sophocles: <i>Antigone</i> (excerpts) Parthenon
Week 3			
6	5/25	Greece in the 4th century Alexander the Great	Lysias: <i>On the Murder of Eratosthenes</i> Plutarch: <i>Life of Alexander</i> 1–9, 14–16, 27–29, 46–47, 59–66
7	5/27	Hellenistic period	Hellenistic rulers depicted on coinage

		Ancient libraries and scholarship	Callimachus <i>Aitia</i> 1, <i>Epigram</i> 54
8	5/29	Midterm Exam	
Week 4			
9	6/1	Early Italy Monarchy at Rome	Livy, Book 1.1–10, 18–21 Vergil, <i>Aeneid</i> 4.319–545, 806–971; 6.994–1137 Ennius (excerpts) Lapis Niger
	6/2	Optional: ROM Field Trip, 1–2:30 pm	*Please RSVP to me and bring your student ID card.
10	6/3	Roman Republic Voting in assemblies at Rome Greeks in Italy	Ceramics from southern Italy Plautus: <i>Persa</i> (excerpts) Roman copies of Greek sculpture Text Analysis outline due online by 11:59 pm through Blackboard and Turnitin.com.
11	6/5	Roman conquests: Italy, Mediterranean Punic Wars Roman military developments	Polybius 3.50–55, 107–118
Week 5			
12	6/8	Gracchi Brothers Decline of the Republic Marius and Sulla Julius Caesar	Cicero: <i>Against Catiline</i> , <i>Letters to Atticus</i> (excerpts) Catullus 5, 7, 51 Coinage of Julius Caesar Horace, <i>Odes</i> 1.37
13	6/10	Augustus Julio-Claudians Deification of emperors	Ara Pacis <i>Res Gestae</i> of Augustus Tacitus, <i>Annales</i> 14.1–16, 31–38
14	6/12	Flavians Nervan-Antoninans Roman influence on provinces	Pliny the Younger: <i>Epistle</i> 6.16 Martial: excerpts from <i>Liber spectaculorum</i> Hadrian's Wall Funerary monuments of freedpersons
Week 6			
15	6/15	Septimius Severus Chaos of the 3rd century Diocletian and the tetrarchy	Cassius Dio: Epitomes of Books 76, 78, 79 (excerpts) Herodian 4.1–6 Arch of Septimius Severus Text Analysis due online by 11:59 pm through Blackboard and Turnitin.com.
16	6/17	Christianity in the Roman Empire Constantine	<i>Martyrdom of Perpetua</i> Eusebius, <i>Life of Constantine</i> 1.26–32 and <i>History of the Church</i> 9.2–6 Zosimus 2.1–16

			Arch of Constantine
17	6/19	Reception of Classical civilization Fall of Rome and Late Antiquity Middle Ages and manuscripts Renaissance art and editing of texts Grand Tour and museums Reading Herculaneum papyri	Boethius, <i>The Consolation of Philosophy</i> Book 1 Dante, <i>Inferno</i> canto 4 Elgin Marbles
	6/22– 6/26	Exam Period (date of final exam TBA)	