

DEPARTMENT OF GREEK AND ROMAN STUDIES
GRST 339: HISTORY OF CLASSICAL GREECE
FALL 2011: COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR	Dr Noreen Humble	
OFFICE	SS 514	
OFFICE HOURS	open door/by appointment	
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TIME & PLACE	Tu/Th 12:30-13:45	EDC 386

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND AIMS:

This course will cover the chronological period stretching from c. 500 BC to 360 BC. Within this period we see the rise and fall of two Greek states, Athens and Sparta, whose impact upon the subsequent history and intellectual thought of the Western world has been and continues to be central. The period, though one of intense and almost constant warfare, encompasses the birth and flowering of historical writing, philosophical and scientific thought, rhetoric and rhetorical training, as well as providing the setting for what are regarded as the finest Greek tragedies and comedies and works of art and architecture, the remains of which continue to inspire. The course has two main aims: a) to give you an overview of the main historical events of the time period, introducing you to important cultural developments where relevant; b) to increase your critical abilities through careful reading and analysis of the primary source material for the period.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Herodotus, *The Histories* (Penguin edition 1996, revised by J. Marincola)
Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War* (Penguin revised edition, 2003)
Xenophon, *A History of My Times* (Penguin edition, 2004)

We will be spending approximately 4 weeks on each author. Ideally I would like you to read Herodotus from 5.30 (p.320-end), and all of Thucydides and Xenophon. Some of you will manage this, others will not. For those who will not I will be assigning shorter portions of reading for each class. The more you can read, however, the more you will get out of the course. Read them as if you are reading a novel. I will highlight important events and concepts in class which you should linger on for purposes of studying.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

One in-class mid-term exam, October 25	30%
Three in-class group assignments (see below) (3 @ 5%)	15%
One solo assignment, due December 6 (see below)	15%
One final exam (time and date set by the registrar)	40%

NOTE: there are no deferrals of term-work unless justified by illness or domestic affliction.

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS (3 x 5%)

3 classes during the term (one each in Week 3, Week 8 and Week 11) will be devoted to a group exercise in source criticism. During these classes you will be put into groups of 5 and given a specific assignment to do during the class, with each group writing up and handing in its findings. Each exercise will be worth 5% of your final mark. So, for example, you might be asked to compare three different sources on one event and analyze the similarities and differences

between them and how persuasive they are (or aren't) and why. Or, you may be asked to create your own account of an historical event from a different point of view.

SOLO ASSIGNMENT (1 x 15%)

This will be a similar assignment to the group assignments but one in which you do not have to compromise with others! It will be an exercise in source criticism which will involve you comparing and analysing different accounts of a certain event, composing your own account, and explaining your approach. The assignment will be handed out on November 24, after the three in-class assignments are completed, and you will hand it in on December 6.

NOTE: late assignments will be penalised by 5% a day.

GRADING SCALE

A+: 95-100	B+: 80-84	C+: 65-69	D+: 50-54
A: 90-94	B: 75-79	C: 60-64	D: 45-49
A-: 85-89	B-: 70-74	C-: 55-59	F: 0-44

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. The withdrawal deadline for this course is **December 9, 2011**. The instructor will inform students of their grades currently earned in the course for four weeks before this deadline. **The last day to withdraw without a refund of fees is September 23, 2011.**
2. **Students should observe the regulations on student misconduct (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) in the Student Misconduct section of the 2011-2012 University Calendar.** If you need guidance about these issues, consult your course instructor.
3. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.