

HIS 351/History of Greece, 2000-31 B.C.

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This course surveys Greek history and civilization from the early second millennium (2000 B.C.) through the first century B.C. The textbook and lectures will furnish a narrative framework, but we will devote a great amount of time to reading and discussing a variety of primary sources ranging from Mycenaean tablets to Plato's writings. It is vital that you complete the reading assignments by the time of the class meeting for which they are assigned. Begin reading the longer assignments well before we are scheduled to discuss them.

Course requirements include attendance and participation; a midterm examination and a final examination, and five papers on topics to be assigned.

Books Required

I. Morris and B. B. Powell, The Greeks (G)
Homer, Iliad (trans. R. Lattimore)
Homer, Odyssey (trans. R. Lattimore)

SCHEDULE

8/15 Introduction:Greece, Greeks, and Greek History G 1-11, 531-534

Bronze Age to Dark Age

8/17 Bronze Age Civilizations

G 42-59

8/22 Bronze Age Greece

G 60-67; Mycenaean documents
Paper #1 due*

8/24 From Bronze Age to Dark Age

G 67-71

8/29 Reading Homer

G 93-116; Lattimore, Iliad, Introduction, 12-40; Iliad, Books 13-16
Iliad, Books 1-4

8/31 Iliad

9/5 Labor Day Holiday

9/7 Iliad

Iliad, Books 18-24

9/12 Dark Age Society

G 72-86; Odyssey, Books 1-4

9/14 Dark Age Stories

Odyssey, Books 5-12

9/19 Dark Age Economy

Odyssey, Books 13-24

9/21 Writing and Religion

G 86-91, 117-147; Paper #2 Due

*Paper #1: Using the information from the 8/15 reading assignment, write a synopsis of Greek history from the Bronze Age through the Hellenistic Period, noting the distinctive features of each period. As your last paragraph discuss briefly how the story of Greek history might be labeled “the rise and fall of the *polis* [city-state]”.

Archaic Period

| | | |
|------|---|-------------------------|
| 9/23 | Archaic Revolutions: Warfare and Government | G 148-156, 164-170 |
| 9/26 | Aristocratic Culture | G 156-164 |
| 9/30 | Archaic Revolutions: Thought | G 171-192 |
| 10/3 | Sparta | G 193-204 |
| 10/5 | Athens | G 204-220; Paper #3 Due |
| 10/7 | EXAM | |

Classical Period

| | | |
|--------|---|---|
| 10/12 | Persian Empire | G 221-237 |
| 10/14 | Ionian Revolt/Marathon | G 237-247 |
| 10/17 | Persian War 480-479 | G 248-267 |
| 10/19 | Persian War 478-469 | G 271-276 |
| 10/21 | Athenian Imperialism | Thucydides |
| 10/24 | Athenian Democracy | G 278-287; <i>Old Oligarch</i> |
| 10/26 | Athens, Sparta, Persia 464-446 | G 276-278 |
| 10/28 | Ideas in the 5 th century B.C. | G 288-301 |
| 10/31 | Forms in the 5 th century B.C. | G 314-333 |
| 11/2 | Parthenon | G 301-313 |
| 11/4 | Peloponnesian War | G 284-287, 334-343 |
| 11/7 | Peloponnesian War | G 343-354 |
| 11/9 | Peloponnesian War | G 356-359 |
| 11/11 | Peace and Revolution | G 359-364 |
| -11/14 | 4 th -century Politics | G 365-380; Paper #4 due |
| 11/16 | 4 th -century Culture | G 391-400; Plato, <i>Apology of Socrates</i> |
| 11/18 | Macedon | G 401-412 |
| 11/21 | Alexander | G 412-437 |

Hellenistic Period

| | | |
|-------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 11/28 | Hellenistic Kingdoms | G 438-467 |
| 11/30 | Hellenistic Culture | G 467-486 |
| 12/2 | Hellenistic Philosophies | G 487-499 |
| 12/5 | Romans and Greeks | G 500-534 |