

Humanities 510: The Ancient World: An Interdisciplinary Introduction ▼

This course offers an interdisciplinary introduction to the world of the ancient Greeks and Romans. You will learn about the history, art, literature, philosophy, and science of the ancient world from four professors from different disciplines. In addition to lectures, you participate in a discussion section from which you earn a General Education credit appropriate to the expertise of the professor you are studying with.

Lectures: M W 10.10-11.30 (Spaulding Life Sciences, G26)

Instructors:

Professor Patricia Emison (510A)
Professor Jan Golinski (510C)
Professor Petar Ramadanovic (510B & 510D)

Discussion sections:

510A: W 1.10-2.00, Paul Creative Arts Center A204.
510C: W 3.10-4.00, Murkland 203.
510b & 510 D: W 1.10-2.00, Murkland 22.

Required texts (available from the Durham Book Exchange):

Susan Woodford, *The Art of Greece and Rome*, (Cambridge University Press).
Homer, *The Odyssey* (trans. R. Fitzgerald, Vintage Books).
Jonathan Barnes, ed., *Early Greek Philosophy* (Penguin Classics).
M. I. Finley, ed., *The Portable Greek Historians* (Penguin Books).
Richard McKeon, ed., *Introduction to Aristotle* (Modern Library).
Tacitus, *The Annals of Imperial Rome* (trans. Michael Grant, Penguin Classics).
Lucretius, *The Way Things Are* (trans. R. Humphries, Indiana).
Plato, *Five Dialogues* (Hackett).
Sophocles, *The Three Theban Plays* (trans. R. Fagles, Penguin Classics).
Petronius, *Satyricon* (Penguin Classics).

Assignments:

Attendance at discussion sections is required and participation is assessed at the discretion of the instructor. All students complete two papers, assigned and graded by the section instructor, and three tests given in lecture classes. The two papers comprise approximately 50% of the final grade, and the three tests comprise the remaining 50%.

SCHEDULE:

5 Sep Introduction to the course (JG)

I. The Archaic World.

10, 12, 17 Sep Homer, The Odyssey (Prof. Michael Ferber)

19, 24 Sep Archaic art (PE)

26 Sep, 1 Oct The pre-Socratic philosophers (JG)

3 Oct TEST #1

II. Greece in the Classical Era.

8, 10, 17 Oct Sophocles, Antigone and Oedipus the King (PR)
(no class on 15 Oct: Fall Break)

22, 24 Oct The Greek historians: Herodotus and Thucydides (JG)

29, 31 Oct Classical Greek art (PE)

5 Nov Plato, Phaedo (PR)

7, 13 Nov Aristotle's ethics and politics (PR)
(no class on 12 Nov: Veterans' Day; Monday schedule on 13 Nov)

14 Nov Aristotle's physics and cosmology (JG)

19 Nov TEST #2

III. Ancient Rome.

21, 26 Nov Roman art (PE)
(Monday schedule on 21 Nov)

28 Nov, 3, 5 Dec Tacitus, Annals and Lucretius, The Way Things Are (JG)

10, 12 Dec Petronius, Satyricon (PR)

19 Dec TEST #3 (3.30-5.30 p.m)