

FW22 AP/HIST 2100 6.0A Ancient Greece and Rome



Additional Contact Details:

Course Directors

Fall Term: Dr. Ryan Wei, [ryanwei@yorku.ca](mailto:ryanwei@yorku.ca)

Winter Term: Professor Jonathan Edmondson, [jedmond@yorku.ca](mailto:jedmond@yorku.ca)

Expanded Course Description (expanded from course calendar description):

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the historical development and political circumstances of the Ancient Greek and Roman worlds. Besides just the historical narrative, students will also be exposed to the society and culture of the two civilizations, with specific emphasis on such topics as women and gender, slavery, sport and entertainment, religion, and economy. The course will also help students develop important skills of critical reading and analysis, by utilizing a wide range of primary source material, including literary, epigraphic, artistic and material evidence, as well as scholarly studies on key subjects.

The course is divided into two halves. The Fall Term explores Greek civilization from the Bronze Age to the Hellenistic Kingdoms that flourished after the death of Alexander the Great. The Winter Term is devoted to Roman history, from the development of early Rome and its neighbours, the Roman Republic, the Principate, and the Later Roman Empire.

Required Course Text/Readings:

1. Sarah B. Pomeroy, Stanley M. Burstein, Walter Donlan, Jennifer Tolbert Roberts and David W. Tandy, *A Brief History of Ancient Greece: Politics, Society and Culture*. 4th ed. Oxford University Press
2. Mary T. Boatwright, Daniel J. Gargola and Richard Talbert, *A Brief History of the Romans*. 2nd ed. Oxford University Press
3. Homer, *The Odyssey* (tr. A. Verity). Oxford World's Classics: Oxford University Press
4. Plutarch, *Roman Lives* (tr. R. Waterfield). Oxford World's Classics: Oxford University Press
5. Tacitus, *Annals: The Reigns of Tiberius, Claudius and Nero* (tr. J. C. Yardley). Oxford World's Classics: Oxford University Press

The course regularly employs eClass for further shorter readings.

Weighting of Course:

**\*TENTATIVE Grade Breakdown\***

Academic Integrity Checklist	0%
2 In-class essays	20% (10% each)
2 Formal essays	30% (15% each)
2 Examinations	30% (15% each)
Tutorial Participation	10%
Quizzes (5 per term, administered on eClass)	10%

Organization of the Course:

There will be two one-hour lectures per week and one one-hour tutorial (groups of 25) per week. All lectures and tutorials will meet in a face-to-face format. In the tutorials, students will have the opportunity to discuss further matters raised in the lectures, to discuss the previously assigned readings from the ancient sources for each tutorial, and to work on the skills of how to write a good paper and how to prepare effectively for examinations and quizzes.

Course Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- identify and describe the key figures, terms, and topics of Greek and Roman history;
- identify, discuss and explain key historical events;
- identify, describe and discuss the various methodological and theoretical approaches to the interpretation of historical sources;
- read critically and evaluate (review and interpret) information from both primary sources and scholarly secondary sources, and explore the limited and contested nature of historical knowledge about Ancient Greece and Rome;
- discuss issues related to course material with coherent and logical arguments, clearly and correctly expressed both in writing and orally in tutorial.
- learn to write a clear and effective essay, making use of different sources and following appropriate standards of presentation.