

Course Outline: Early Greek History from the Bronze Age to the Persian Wars

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Note for students: This short course outline is provided for planning purposes only. Course information is tentative and subject to change; the final course syllabus will be available by the first day of classes.

Course Code

AP/HIST/CLST 3150 6.0 Early Greek History

Course Description

This course examines the history of Greece from the Bronze Age (c. 1500 BC) until the end of the Archaic period (479 BC). Starting from Minoan Crete and Mycenaean Greece, it covers the so-called Dark Age of the early first millennium, the Greek renaissance of the Archaic period (8th-6th centuries) and culminates with the Greek victory over the Persians in the Persian Wars. Attention is paid throughout the course to political, social, economic, and intellectual history. Subjects for study include the world of Homer's *Odyssey*, the nature of archaic Greek society, the rise of the *polis* (city-state), colonization, tyranny, and interaction between the Greeks and other peoples of the eastern Mediterranean (such as Phoenicians, Egyptians, Persians). The written sources to be studied include many of the masterpieces of early Greek literature (Homer's *Odyssey*, Hesiod's *Works and Days* and *Theogony*, Sappho, Herodotus). Extensive use is also made of iconographic and archaeological evidence.

Course Delivery

Delivery Mode: LECT

In-person lectures will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-11:20 a.m.

Course Materials

The following required books (to be confirmed) will be available through Bookstore:

Homer, *Odyssey* (tr. A. Verity). (Oxford World Classics)

Herodotus: *Histories* (tr. R. Waterfield). (Oxford World Classics)

J. Hurwit, *The Art and Culture of Early Greece 1100-480 B.C.* (Cornell UP)

J. M. Hall, *A History of the Archaic Greek World, ca. 1200-479 BCE*. 2nd ed. (Blackwell)

A variety of other readings will be available electronically.

Tentative Grade Breakdown and Deadlines

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Participation	10%	In-person	Throughout course
Essay 1	10%	In-person	Early October
Essay 2	15%	Take-home	Mid-November
Essay 3	25%	Take-home	Mid-March
Midterm examination	20%	In-person	December examination period
Final examination	20%	In-person	April examination period
	100%		