

HIS 490: Ancient Greece and Rome

MWF 12:00 – 12:50

3 Credit Hours

Jeffery Tyler Syck, Ph.D.

Office: Armington 419

Email: tylersyck@upike.edu

Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 10:00 – 11:00 AM (Zoom)

Tuesday and Thursday: 12:00 – 1:00 PM

***“To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain
always a child.”***

-Marcus Tullius Cicero

This course covers the history and politics of the Hellenic World from the founding of the Greek City States to the early days of the Roman Empire. More superficially it will focus on religious practices in the ancient world, the rise of ancient democracy, and the rise and fall of the Roman Republic.

Late Policy

Papers will drop 3 points every day they are late. Extensions are only granted for sudden emergencies or other university-approved excuses.

Use of Technology

Students are **not** permitted to use laptops phones, or recording devices to take notes. Students are also not permitted to text or have their cell phones out in class. Continuous violation of this policy may detrimentally affect the student’s participation grade.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

Academic dishonesty is defined by passing of someone (or something) else’s work as your own. This could mean something as small as paraphrasing another writer’s ideas without giving them attribution or copying and pasting from another source into your paper. Likewise, the use of Artificial Intelligence is considered plagiarism in this class. Please do not use AI to write any portion of your paper, to check your grammar, or anything else. Grammarly Premium counts as AI (and is honestly really bad at giving writing guidance anyway).

Violation of the academic dishonesty policy can result in a zero on the assignment or a zero in the entire class depending on the severity of the violation.

Required Texts

A selection of readings will be posted online for the students. They can be found in the Files tab of Canvas under “Readings.”

I highly recommend the purchase of a hard copy of Plutarch’s Lives Volume I and II which can be found cheap on Amazon.

Evaluation

Grade Distribution

A: 90 – 100
B: 80-89
C: 70-79
D: 60-69
F: 0-59

Course Requirements

Participation and Attendance – 10%
Essay 1 – 20%
Essay 2 – 25%
Midterm Exam – 20%
Final Exam – 25%

Class Participation and Attendance

This course requires that each student complete the readings each week to participate actively in class discussions. Students should read the material and review the reading questions prior to every class. Students will be called to answer questions if there are no volunteers. To ensure students are doing the readings, they will periodically be given reading quizzes at the start of class to test their knowledge of the subject.

Perfect attendance is expected. If a student must miss due to an illness, death in the family, school function, or some other understandable reason they should get in touch with the professor to work out an alternative assignment. Students are required to contact the professor within 48 hours of an excused absence or it will be unexcused. Students who fail to attend 25% or more of the course are subject to the University FN policy (see below). Students who are late for more than four classes will from then on be counted as absent from the class when late.

Essay 1

Athens and Sparta seem almost as if they are designed to foil one another. What are their differences and what are their similarities (if any)? Which is the superior civilization? Defend your position with specific evidence from the readings.

Essay 2

Though many of you are naturally inclined to defend the Roman Republic that shares our model of government, many people (including Thomas Jefferson) question the health and vitality of the Roman Republic in its final days. They argue that the republic was in such a state of moral and political decay that it was beyond saving. Choose a position.

Are they right? If so what makes you think the republic could not be saved? Does its decline make the actions of the Caesars acceptable?

Or

If the republic could be saved, what makes you think so? What steps could have been taken to save the republic?

Midterm Exam

Students will be given a midterm exam that tests their knowledge of the concepts covered in class. The exam will consist of true and false and short answer questions.

Final Exam

Students will be given a final exam that tests their knowledge of the concepts covered in class. The exam will consist of true and false, short answer questions, and an extended essay.

Schedule of Readings and Class Topics

January 8th –Syllabus

January 10th – Why The Classics Matters

Required Viewing:

Greece vs Rome, With Boris Johnson and Mary Beard [On YouTube]

January 12 – The Art of Greece and Rome I

Required Readings:

Susan Woolford, *The Art of Greece and Rome*, Introduction

January 17th – The Art of Greece and Rome II

Excursion:

Meet at the Foot of the 99 steps NOT in the classroom

PART I – ANCIENT GREECE

January 19th - Greek Mythology: The Origins of the World and the Rise of the Olympians

Required Readings:

Hesiod, *The Theogony*

January 22nd – Greek Mythology: The Age of Heroes

Required Readings:

Hesiod, *The Theogony*

January 24th – Greek Geography and City States

Required Readings:

Anthony Everitt, *The Rise of Athens*, Introduction

January 26th – The Founding of Athens

Required Readings:

Xenophon, “The Regime of the Athenians,” Trans. Gregory McBrayer

Suggested Readings:

Plutarch, “The Life of Solon”

January 29th – The Founding of Sparta

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “*The Life of Lycurgus*”

January 31st – Other City States

No Readings

February 2nd – Greek Mythology: The Trojan War

Readings TBA

February 5th – War With Persia

No Readings

February 7th – The Peloponnesian War I

Required Readings:

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, Part 1

Essay 1 Due at Midnight February 2nd

February 9th – The Peloponnesian War II

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “Life of Pericles”

Plutarch, “Life of Alcibiades”

Suggested Readings:

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, Part 2

February 12th – The Pre-Socratic Philosophy

Required Readings:

Leo Strauss, *Natural Right and History*, Chapter 1: Pre-Socratic Natural Right

February 14th – Socratic Philosophy

Required Readings:

Plato, “The Apology of Socrates”

Recommended Readings:

Aristotle, *Politics*
Aristotle, *Ethics*

February 16th – The Macedonian Empire I

Required Readings:

Plutarch “The Life of Alexander.”

Plutarch, “The Life of Demosthenes”

February 19th – The Macedonian Empire II

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “The Life of Alexander” [Review]

February 21st – Hellenic Egypt

No Readings

February 23rd – Midterm Exam

PART II – ANCIENT ROMAN HISTORY

February 26th – The Mythic Origins of Rome

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “The Life of Romulus”

February 28th – The Geography and Culture of Rome

Required Readings:

Anthony Everitt, *Cicero*, Introduction

March 1st – No Class

March 4th – March 8th – No Class Spring Break

March 11th – The Roman Kings

Required Reading:

Mary Beard, *SPQR*, Chapter 3: The Kings of Rome

March 13th – The Establishment of the Roman Republic

No Readings

March 15th – The Roman Constitution

Required Readings:

Polybius, *The Roman Constitution* [Selections]

Suggested Readings:

Cicero, *The Republic*

March 18th – War With Carthage

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “Life of Scipio Africanus”

March 20th – The Roman Empire

Required Readings:

Polybius, TBA

March 22nd – Roman Philosophy

Required Readings:

Cicero, *On Moral Ends* [Selections]

Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations* [Selections]

March 25th - Roman Philosophy Cont.

Review Readings, Class Debate

March 27th - The Populares and the Optimates

No Readings

March 29th – Sulla versus Marius

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “Life of Marius”

Plutarch, “Life of Sulla”

April 1st – The Rise of Pompey and the Defeat of Spartacus

No Readings

April 3rd – The Conspiracy of Catalina

Required Readings:

Cicero, “Against Catalina”

Sallust, *History of the Cataline Conspiracy*

Recommended Readings:

Plutarch, “Life of Cicero”

April 5th – The First Triumvirate

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “Life of Pompey”

Plutarch, “Life of Crassus”

April 8th – Caesar’s Civil War

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “Life of Caesar”

Plutarch, “Life of Cato the Younger”

April 10th – The Reign of the Dictator

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “Life of Brutus”

Plutarch, “Life of Caesar” [Review]

April 12th – The Rise of the Second Triumvirate

Required Reading:

April 15th – Civil War (Again)

Required Readings:

Plutarch, “Life of Mark Antony”

April 19th – No Class

April 22nd – The Age of Augustus

Required Readings:

Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*, Part 1

April 24th – The Reign of the Caesars: Consolidating the Empire

Required Readings:

Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*, Part 2

April 26th – The Reign of the Caesars: Rule and Ruin

No Readings

Essay 2 Due at Midnight April 24th at midnight

April 29th – Final Exam

MENTAL & EMOTIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS AT UPIKE

The Thrive Counseling center is located in the Record building and is a free service for students at UPIKE. From one-time meetings to be encouraged or long-term mental health support, the Thrive Counseling Center is for you. To set up an appointment please email counseling@upike.edu.

Students can access online support and a personalized counselor who can meet with you at a time/date convenient to you. This program allows you to seek out a counselor who may specifically connect with your desired preferences for gender, race, religion, sexuality, nationality, etc. This offering is called *Uwill*. Link for

UWILL: <https://app.uwill.com/register/y5qtyN00usnLozqFQAnAA>

We have another online resource called *Kooth* which gives great resources and provides you someone to immediately text if needed.

Link for Kooth: www.kooth.com/upike

Students can meet with the chaplain to journey in spiritual direction, be offered supportive listening, or prayer. Chaplain Rob Musick can be reached at robertmusick@upike.edu or 419-560-6381.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University of Pikeville respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds and abilities. The institution is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities to

make all learning experiences accessible. If you feel you may need accommodations based on the impact of a disability or health condition, please contact **Misty Asbury (DRC – Disability Resource Center, 204 Administration Building, (606) 218-4484, MistyAsbury@upike.edu)** to initiate a conversation about your options. Accommodations are not retroactive, so please avoid any delays in starting the process. Additional information can be found on the DRC website: <https://www.upike.edu/undergraduate/student-success/disability-resource-center/>.

UPIKE faculty are committed to supporting the learning of all students. If you have concerns about barriers to your full-participation in any course, please reach out to your instructor. Conversations, initiated early in the term, can clarify areas of concern and promote open dialogue with faculty. With a desire to learn, together with the support of faculty and campus services, you can successfully navigate your educational experience.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARASSMENT PREVENTION STATEMENT:

The University of Pikeville is committed to providing a supportive learning environment and fostering safe, healthy relationships among our students, faculty and staff. As such, the institution and members of our community will not tolerate the offenses of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, harassment or stalking. To view the UPIKE Sexual Misconduct Policy, please visit:

<http://www.upike.edu/UPike/media/UPike/Documents/Student-Services/Title-IX-Policy-Updated-9-7-16.pdf>

If you have questions or concerns, please immediately contact your Title IX Coordinators listed below.

Beth Kingery
Title IX Coordinator
Exec. Director of Compliance & Legal Affairs
606-218-5344
bethanybowersock@upike.edu

Michael Pacheco
Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Assoc. VP for Operations & HR
606-218-5326
michaelpacheco@upike.edu

Beth's office is HPE 301B and Mike's office is in the Human Resources building (Laughlin Cottage).

TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS POLICY

Effective August 1, 2010, the University of Pikeville campus became completely tobacco-free. Specifically, smoking or use of other tobacco products will not be permitted on any University campus property or in University-owned vehicles.

FAILURE FOR NON-ATTENDANCE/NON-PARTICIPATION GRADE (FN)

Students who begin a course, but at some point in the semester cease attending, and do not provide official notification to withdraw, will be assigned a grade of "FN" (Failure for Non-Attendance), dated to the student's last date of attendance (based on the definition provided

below). A grade of "FN" will be assigned when a student stops attending and/or participating in a class for a period of 25% of the term or longer as measured in calendar days. An "FN" indicates that the student ceased attendance and failed to complete the course objectives. If a student receives all FN's (or failing grades) in a term, he/she is subject to the Unofficial Withdrawal procedure at the end of the term that includes the reduction and/or return of all financial aid. Students are fully responsible for all resulting charges on their student account.

Students receiving all F's or FN's in a term who are currently on probation must appeal to financial aid to receive aid in their next term of enrollment if these grades move the student to a suspension status.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University of Pikeville is an academic community, and like all other communities, it can function properly only if its members adhere to clearly established goals and values. Essential to those goals and values is the commitment to the principles of truth and academic integrity. In order to articulate fully its commitment to academic integrity and to protect members of its community from the results of dishonest conduct, the University of Pikeville has adopted the following policies to address cases of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following acts:

1. **Cheating:** Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise and/or claiming such material as one's own work product. The unauthorized receipt of or attempt to obtain answers or assistance during an examination or other gradable activity or event from another student or from an unauthorized device (phone, tablet, computer, etc.).
2. **Plagiarism:** Intentionally or knowingly taking another's ideas, work, or words as one's own without properly documenting or crediting the original source in any academic exercise and/or using these ideas, words, or statements in a paper or presentation without properly documenting or crediting the original source.
3. **Fabrication:** The deliberate falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
4. **Facilitating Academic Dishonesty:** Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another individual violate any provision of this policy.
5. **Unauthorized Acquisition of Materials:** The unauthorized receipt or attempt to obtain unauthorized examination questions/answers either for personal use or distribution to others.
6. **Unauthorized Assistance:** Attempting to give answers, receive answers, or assistance to another student during an examination or other academic exercise without authorization.

7. **Academic Falsification:** Any attempt to falsify grades and/or data results.
8. **Academic Interference:** Any attempt to interfere with another student's outcome on an academic exercise or clinical performance.
9. **Failure to Report:** Failing to report known violations of the Academic Integrity Policy.
10. **Unapproved Collaboration:** Collaborating on any assignments such as homework, notes, take-home exams, draft papers, or projects in which the instructor does not allow collaboration.

If a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy is determined to have occurred, sanctions will be imposed upon the individual consistent with the nature, circumstances, and severity of the offense. Possible sanctions may include the following actions:

1. A written and/or verbal warning;
2. The requirement of additional academic integrity training;
3. A grade reduction for the academic exercise;
4. The assignment of an "F" or zero for the academic exercise;
5. A failing grade in the course with the inability to withdraw;
6. Dismissal from the university (automatic for repeat substantiated incidents of academic dishonesty); or
7. Other sanctions deemed appropriate by individual colleges.

All cases will be addressed through the procedure outlined in the University Catalog and the Student Handbook.

Inclement Weather Policy

In case of inclement weather, see the link below:

<http://www.upike.edu/Student-Services/inclementweather>

COVID-19 Updates

Regular updates regarding COVID-19 and the impact on class scheduling will be posted on the UPIKE website. Please visit <https://www.upike.edu>.

Updated:
July 2021