

CLA 3930/EUS 3930
The Greek Experience: Ancient to Modern
Spring 2018
T and Th, Periods 7, 7-8, Florida Gym 0220

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For an updated version of this document please visit the class web site at Canvas.

OFFICE HOURS: 10:45 - 11:30 AM M -Th, and 1:00 - 2:00 T/Th OR BY APPOINTMENT

COURSE CONTENT: The impact of ancient Greek culture and civilization on the Western World is tremendous. Everything from politics, philosophy, science, art, literature and sports was impacted in some way by the ancient Greeks. Therefore it is not surprisingly that the study of ancient Greek civilization and culture is a standard part of our liberal arts education. However, many disregard the cultural and historical continuity of the Greek people and overlook the significance of modern Greece in its contemporary role. From the creation of the Modern Greek state at the beginning of the 19th c. to today, Modern Greek civilization continues to expand upon the ancient traditions representing a uniquely diverse fusion of the old with the new.

This is a broad interdisciplinary course that will attempt to provide an overview of the timeless achievements of the Greeks from the ancient to modern times putting special emphasis on the continuity of the Greek civilization. During the semester we will examine some important aspects of Greek history, science, and politics, in addition to culture, literature and the arts.

The class is taught in English and there are no special requirements.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- To become familiar with the key events in the ancient and modern Greek history.
- To be able to identify what makes ancient Greece a unique and fascinating civilization and to be able to demonstrate the continuity between ancient and modern Greek civilizations.
- To become familiar with the enduring influence and the vast contributions of the Greeks in fields such as politics, science, arts, culture, etc. (eg. The importance of Greek rationalism as the foundation for the Western philosophical tradition, Hippocratic medicine and Greek science, democracy and political organization).
- To be able to demonstrate the impact of modern Greece on contemporary European events and current developments (eg. The victory of the Greeks against Mussolini's forces in WWII, The European Financial Crisis, European integration etc.)

TEXTBOOK: There is no textbook required for this course. The class notes as well as all secondary material (articles, etc.) will be posted on the Canvas web site.

GRADING POLICY:

- First Exam, 20 points (FEBRUARY 16)
- Book review, 15 points (MARCH 1)
Students will submit a 4 page abstract on a text of their choice (consult professor for ideas). Books may be from any genre – literary classics, contemporary works, nonfiction, graphic novels. Use your imagination and be daring! Original abstracts that capture the core of a book’s arguments and the substance of its themes will take full credit. Examples will be provided.
- Group Presentations, 25 points (APRIL 10 – 20)
In order to foster cooperative learning and an in-depth study of a particular topic of interest, students will be responsible for participating in a group presentation on a topic related to the material discussed in class. Each group will consist of 4-5 students and the presentation should last about 15 minutes. Your group is responsible for scheduling an appointment with me *at least one week* before your presentation so that we can discuss ideas.
- Second Exam, 20 points (APRIL 24)
- Attendance, 10 points
- Bi-Weekly quizzes, 10 points

Please note that all readings, written assignments and exams must be completed by or on the date indicated on the syllabus and will not be rescheduled or accepted late. Requests of any special accommodations must be made to the course instructor in writing and in advance of the class or exam time.

You are more than welcome to discuss any of these requirements or assignments with the professor.

ATTENDANCE: Note that class attendance is required for this course and constitutes **10%** of your grade. You will be permitted 2 unexcused absences, after which you lose your attendance points. We will regularly circulate an attendance sheet, which you should sign. Signing for others is considered academic dishonesty. Repeated absences may affect your performance on final exam and quizzes since they will be based on the class lectures. Also missing class means possibly missing quizzes and late submission of homework assignments.

According to the Office of the University Registrar, “acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused.”

For further information about the University of Florida’s attendance policy, please see the current Undergraduate Catalogue

(<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationattendance.html>).

QUIZZES: There will be bi-weekly quizzes during the semester based on course readings and class discussion and lectures. The format will be multiple-choice questions. These will not be difficult, but will be intended to test whether you have done the readings and are prepared for class.

The quizzes constitute **10%** of your grade.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic dishonesty, including cheating on exams and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Any student engaging in such activities will be dealt with in accordance with University policy. It is your responsibility to know what constitutes plagiarism, and what the university policies are. If you have doubts, we would be happy to discuss with you. Please refer to the current Undergraduate Catalog for more information on the Student Honor code

(<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html>). If you have questions about these policies, we would be happy to discuss them with you.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this class, you should contact the Dean of Students Office (www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/) so that special arrangements can be made to accommodate you. It is your responsibility to do so at the beginning of the semester.

GRADING SCALE:

A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	85-89
B	80-84
B-	75-79
C+	70-74
C	65-69
C-	60-64
D+	56-59
D	52-55
D-	48-51
E	47 or below

Course Schedule

Week 1 (January 8 – January 12)

Introduction

1. Syllabus, discussion of course objectives, requirements, exam format, important course dates etc.
2. Introduction, the importance of Greek civilization for the western world. Ancient and modern Greek identity. Continuity in Greek culture and civilization.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Bernard Knox, "The Continuity of Greek Culture" in Bernard Knox "The Oldest Dead White European Males, and Other Reflections on the Classics" Norton 1993

Week 2 (January 15 – January 19)

Greek Identity

1. Who were the ancient Greeks? An overview of ancient Greek history from the Mycenaean Age to the times of Alexander the Great.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Pomeroy, Burstein, Donlan, Roberts, Ancient Greece, Oxford 2011 (Third Edition) pp. 31-49

2. Who are the modern Greeks? Racial origins, Fallmerayer and Paparrigopoulos. An overview of the Greek state from its origins in 1821 to now.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Mango, C. (1965). Byzantinism and Romantic Hellenism. Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes, 28, 29-43

Week 3 (January 22 – January 26)

Greek Religion

1. Religion and Identity. Polytheism and religious syncretism in ancient Greece. From ancient paganism to Orthodox Christianity.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Paredes, A. (1965). [Review of Modern Greek Folklore and Ancient Greek Religion: A Study in Survivals]. The Journal of American Folklore, 78(310), 356-356

2. Church and the Modern Greek state. The Politicization of the Greek Church Discourse. Reasons and Consequences.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Buckler, F. W. (1942). Barbarian and Greek, -- And Church History. Church History, 11(1), 3-32

Week 4 (January 29 – February 2)

Greek Politics

1. The concept of polis as a political environment. Solon and the rise of democracy in Athens. Democracy at the age of Pericles. How was Athenian democracy different from our modern democracy?

Readings: Lecture Notes

Sheldon S. Wolin, Democracy: Electoral and Athenian, PS: Political Science and Politics, Vol. 26, No. 3. (Sep., 1993), pp. 475-477

2. Politics in modern Greece. The Greek constitution. Euroscepticism, European Integration and the Modern Greek identity.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Janning, J. (2005). Leadership Coalitions and Change: The Role of States in the European Union. International Affairs (royal Institute of International Affairs 1944-), 81(4), 821-833

Week 5 (February 5 –February 9)

Greek Art

1. An overview of ancient Greek art and architecture. The classical ideal. Important monuments and artifacts. Art and religion in ancient Greece.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Winter, F. E. (1984). The Study of Greek Architecture. American Journal of Archaeology, 88(2), 103-106

2. Philhellenism and the classical revival. The impact of neoclassicism on the establishment of modern Greece. Art in contemporary Greece, an overview.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Philhellenism in England (1821-1827). (1936). Philhellenism in England (1821-1827). The Slavonic and East European Review, 14(41), 363-371

Week 6 (February 12 –February 16)

Review

First Exam (February 16)

Week 7 (February 19 –February 23)

Greek Wars

1. Wars in ancient Greece. The Persian Wars. The Peloponnesian War. Alexander the Great and Greek expansion.

Readings: Lecture notes

Vasunia, P. (2009). Herodotus and the Greco-Persian Wars. PMLA, 124(5), 1834-1837

2. Wars in modern Greece. The Greek war of Independence. WWI and the Asia Minor Catastrophe. WWII and the Greek Civil War.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Parker, J. S. F. (1997). [Review of The Origins of the Greek Civil War]. The English Historical Review, 112(448), 1020–1021

Week 8 (February 26-March 2)

Greek Culture and Folklore

1. Aspects of Greek Culture from ancient to modern. The Living tradition and Folklore. Folk religion at the core of Greek social life.

Readings: Lecture Notes

2. Greek folk music and dance. Superstitions and Proverbs. The Greek Shadow Theater.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Week 9 (March 12 – March 16)

Greek Sports

1. Greek Identity and the Olympic Games. The Origins of the Olympic Games. Greece's Dual Identity, Ancient and Modern.

Readings: Lecture Notes

2. Sports in modern Greece. Athens 2004, Not Just Games. Fusion between Greece's ancient legacy and that of a modern European country.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Traganou, J. (2009). National and Post-National Dynamics in the Olympic Design: The Case of the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. Design Issues, 25(3), 76–91

Week 10 (March 19 – March 23)

Greek Language

1. Greek Language and Identity. History of Greek, from ancient to modern. How similar to ancient Greek is Modern Greek?

Readings: Lecture Notes

2. Language and politics in modern Greece. The Language Controversy. Katharevousa and Demotic Greek.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Week 11 (March 26 – March 30)

Greek Science

1. An Overview of Greek Science. Sophists, Philosophers and Mathematicians. Greek medicine and its influence. Hippocrates and Galen.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Greek Science And Modern Science. (1920). Greek Science And Modern Science. The British Medical Journal, 1(3100), 748-749

2. The Modern Greek educational system. The importance of education for the Greek Society.

Readings: Lecture Notes

Heath, T. L. (1948). Greek Mathematics and Science. The Mathematical Gazette, 32(300), 120-133.

Week 12 (April 2-April 6)

Greek Theater, Music, Cinema

1. The origins of Theater in Greece. Ancient Greek Tragedy and Comedy. Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides. Aristophanes and the birth of political comedy.

Readings: Lecture Notes,

Easterling, Patricia, editor. 1998. The Cambridge Companion to Greek Tragedy. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press pp 35-45

2. Folk songs and poetry in modern Greece. Music in the 20th c. Greece. Rebetika, Theodorakis and Hadjidakis. Greek cinema.

Readings: Lecture notes,

Roderick Beaton, Folk Poetry of Modern Greece, pp. 1-34

Herzfeld, "Past Glories, Present Politics" and, "The Creation of a Discipline," in Ours Once More, pp. 3-23, 97-122

Week 13 (April 9-April 13)

Conclusion

Group Presentations

Week 14 (April 16-April 20)

Conclusion

Group Presentations

Week 15 (April 24)

Second Exam (April 24)

