

**CLA6895 Athenian law and society  
Fall 2023**



**Time:** Monday 7-9.30PM  
**Venue:** Classics Seminar Room/online (hybrid)

**Instructor:** [Dr Ifigeneia Giannadaki](#)

**Office:** Dauer Hall, 115A (Classics Department)

**Email:** giannadaki [at] ufl.edu

**Office Hours:** TBC

**Course description:** The course focuses on the study and analysis of Athenian law and the intersection of law and society in Classical Athens, in relation to themes such as politics, legal status, gender studies, citizenship, criminal justice, and accountability. The course explores the origins and evolution of Athenian law and how these laws influenced the lives and actions of Athenian citizens and non-citizens, by examining a range of core materials from the Classical period, especially, key orations from the Attic orators, which illustrate the operation of Athenian laws and the justice system in action.

**Course objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:**

*Course specific*

Students will:

- Acquire a specialist knowledge of the evidence for classical Athenian legal institutions and how these operated in action
- Be familiar with theoretical and conceptual issues such as legal status, legal procedure, and democratic institutions
- Be able to analyze core source material, make meaningful comparisons with modern legal systems, and use effectively those as sources for reconstructing the Athenian legal system and its operation.
- Develop presentation skills and communication skills: verbal and written

- Improve their research skills in producing coursework and enhance their writing skills in prose composition, citation style, and the compilation of bibliography
- Develop their problem-solving skills through study of complex issues such as the homicide, sexual abuse, sex and politics, law and religion, law and politics, legal status, and gender.

### *General skills*

Students will

- master their reading skills of core modern literature and core source materials
- develop their analytical and problem-solving skills
- master their written and verbal communication skills
- master oral presentation and discussion skills

### Required readings

**Required reading to be completed by Monday, prior to the classes of each week, as shown in the Weekly Schedule.**

- Carey, C., Giannadaki, I., Griffith-Williams, B. (eds) (2018) *Use and Abuse of law in the Athenian Courts*, Brill.
- Carey, C. (1998) “The Shape of Athenian Laws.” *The Classical Quarterly*, vol. 48, pp. 93–109.
- Cartledge, P. (2015) *Democracy: A Life*, Oxford University Press.
- Cartledge, P. (2009) “The ‘Old Oligarch’: A close reading” in *Ancient Greek Political Thought in Practice*, Cambridge, pp. 140-142.
- Dainow, J. (1966) ‘The Civil Law and the Common Law: Some Points of Comparison’. *The American Journal of Comparative Law*, 15(3), 419-435.
- Gagarin, M. (2011) *Speeches from Athenian Law*, University of Texas Press.
- Giannadaki, I. (2018) ‘(Re)constructing the Athenian legal system’, in Carey, Giannadaki, Griffith-Williams (eds) *Use and Abuse of laws in the Athenian Courts*. Brill, 198-217.
- Giannadaki, I. (2020) *A Commentary on Demosthenes’ Against Androtion*, Oxford University Press.
- Hansen, M. H. (1999) *Athenian Democracy in the Age of Demosthenes*, Bristol.
- Kamen, D. (2013) *Status in Classical Athens*, Princeton.
- Kapparis, K. (2017) *Prostitution in the Ancient Greek World*, Edinburgh University Press.
- Kapparis, K. (2019) *Athenian Law and Society*, Routledge: London.
- Kapparis, K. (2021) ‘Women’s Participation in the Athenian Justice System’, in *Women in the Law courts of Classical Athens*, pp. 105-120.
- Lanni, A. (2005). ‘Relevance in Athenian Courts’. In M. Gagarin & D. Cohen (Eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Greek Law*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 112-128.
- Lanni, A. (2006) ‘Athens and its Legal System’ in *Law and Justice in the Courts of Classical Athens*, Cambridge, pp. 15-40
- MacDowell, D.M. (1978) *The Law of Classical Athens*, Thames and Hudson.
- Parker, R. (2005). ‘Law and Religion’. In M. Gagarin & D. Cohen (Eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Greek Law* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 61-81.

- Todd, S. C. (1993) *The Shape of Athenian Law*, Oxford.  
Todd, S. C. (2000) *Lysias*, University of Texas Press.  
Wolpert, A. (2001) 'Lysias 1 and the Politics of the Oikos', *The Classical Journal* 96, 415–424.

### **Primary sources**

Lysias 1, *On the Murder of Eratosthenes*  
Lysias 16, *For Mantiheos*  
Demosthenes 21, *Against Meidias*  
Demosthenes 22, *Against Androtion*  
Demosthenes 35, *Against Lakritos*  
Apollodoros [Dem.] 59, *Against Neaira*  
Plato, *Apology*  
Ps-Xenophon, 'Old Oligarch'

### *Recommended bibliography*

Carey, C. (2012) *Trials from Classical Athens*, London: Routledge.  
Harris, E. and Rubinstein, L. (2004) *The Law and the Courts in Ancient Greece*, Bristol Classical Press.  
Phillips, D. D. (2013) *The Law of Ancient Athens*. University of Michigan Press.

*Further Bibliographical Resources (online data base with updated bibliography on Athenian law)*

<https://www.sfu.ca/nomoi.html>

*Glossary of Athenian legal terms*

[http://www.stoa.org/demos/article\\_law\\_glossary@page=all&greekEncoding=UnicodeC.html](http://www.stoa.org/demos/article_law_glossary@page=all&greekEncoding=UnicodeC.html)

*Classical Studies resources in the UF library*

<https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/classics>

**Required Referencing Style for Writing Assignments:** students must use the APA reference and citation style in their writing assignments. It is students' responsibility to consult the suggested books on style and referencing and familiarize themselves with the required citation style for their assignments. Available here: <https://apastyle.apa.org/instructional-aids/reference-examples.pdf>

### **Recommended Writing Guide and Information about Citations**

Strunk, William and White, E.B. 2014 *The Elements of Style*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Pearson Education Limited.

### **Citation Management Guide from UF Libraries**

<https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/citationsoftware>

## Writing Studio

It is also highly recommended to take advantage of the rich resources offered by the **University Writing Studio**. The writing studio is committed to helping University of Florida students meet their academic and professional goals by becoming better writers. Visit the writing studio online (<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>) or in 302 Tigert Hall for one-on-one consultations and workshops.

## Weekly Schedule

(Subject to adjustment depending on the pace/needs of the class)

### Week 1: 23 Aug.– 25 Aug.

21 Aug. No class. [NB Classes begin 23 Aug.]

Optional reading:

MacDowell, D.M. (1978) 'Magistrates and Juries' in *The Law of Classical Athens*, 24-39.

### Week 2: 28 Aug.-1 Sept.

Class planning and information.

The theme; its limits; sources and problems. Greek law.

Required reading:

Lanni, A. (2006) 'Athens and its Legal System' in *Law and Justice in the Courts of Classical Athens*, Cambridge, pp. 15-40.

### Week 3: 4 Sept. – 8 Sept.

4 Sept.: NO CLASS (Holiday)

### Week 4: 11 Sept. – 15 Sept.

Common law and Civil law. Evolution of Athenian law (Drakon, Solon).

Methods; the administration of justice in the *polis*.

Required reading:

MacDowell, D.M. (1978) *The Law of Classical Athens*, pp.41-52.

Dainow, J. (1966) 'The Civil Law and the Common Law: Some Points of Comparison'. *The American Journal of Comparative Law* 15(3), 419-435.

### Week 5: 18 Sept. – 22 Sept.

Athenian democracy, the rule of law, accountability of officials/individuals before the law. The shape of the laws.

Required reading:

Kapparis, K. (2018), 18-40.

Carey, C. (1998) 'The Shape of Athenian Laws.' *The Classical Quarterly* 48, pp. 93–109.

### **Week 6: 25 Sept. – 29 Sept.**

Dispute resolution: categories of legal action.

The legal process in action: an overview; the 'amateurism' of Athenian law; rules of evidence.

Required reading:

Kapparis, K. (2018), pp.40-61.

Lanni, A. (2005) 'Relevance in Athenian Courts'. In M. Gagarin & D. Cohen (eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Greek Law*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 112-128.

**EXAM 1: 25 Sept., 7-7.50pm**

### **Week 7: 2 Oct. – 6 Oct.**

Status and capacity 1: Athenian male and Athenian female citizens. Legal rights and obligations. Lysias 1 and the Athenian *oikos*: free and non-free members.

Required reading:

**Lysias 1 translated by Todd in Gagarin M. (2011), 75-86**

Kapparis, K. (2021) 'Women's Participation in the Athenian Justice System', in *Women in the Law courts of Classical Athens*, University of Edinburgh Press, pp. 105-120.

Wolpert, A. (2001) 'Lysias 1 and the Politics of the Oikos', *The Classical Journal* 96, 415–424.

Optional Reading:

Kapparis, K. (2019), 70-88.

**Presentations 1**

### **Week 8: 9 Oct. – 13 Oct.**

Status and capacity 2: Metics and slaves in Athenian law and society

The case *Against Lakritos* (Dem. 35): metics and Athenian commerce

Required reading:

Kapparis, K. (2019), pp. 88-107.

*Against Lakritos*, Dem. 35 translation by D. M. MacDowell, in Gagarin, M. (2011), pp. 368-386.

### Presentations 2

#### Week 9: 16 Oct. – 20 Oct.

Prostitution and the law. Disputes around citizenship; the case *Against Neaira*.

Required reading:

**[Dem.] 59 in translation by Victor Bers in Gagarin, M. (2011), 144-182.**

Kapparis, K. (2017) 'The prostitute and the law', in *Prostitution in the Ancient Greek World*, Berlin/Boston: Walter de Gruyter, pp.153-71.

### Presentations 3

#### Week 10: 23 Oct. – 27 Oct.

Accountability and the role of the volunteer.

Lys. 16 and the role of the volunteer in the Athenian legal system and democracy.

Required reading:

**Lysias 16 (in translation) translated by Todd 2000, 177-184.**

Hansen, M. H. (1999), *Athenian Democracy in the Age of Demosthenes*, Bristol, pp. 203-218 (political trials and accountability procedures).

**PAPER: FIRST SUBMISSION due 23 Oct., 11.59PM**

#### Week 11: 30 Oct. – 4 Nov.

Criminal Justice: battery and other offences.

Required reading:

**Dem. 54 in translation by Victor Bers, in Gagarin 2011, pp. 87-99.**

Giannadaki, I. (2018) '(Re)constructing the Athenian legal system', in Carey, Giannadaki, Griffith-Williams (eds) *Use and Abuse of laws in the Athenian Courts*. Brill, 198-217.

#### Week 12: 6 Nov. – 10 Nov.

Assault, *hybris* and the Athenian law.

Required reading:

***Against Meidias* (Dem. 21) with Harris, E. M. (2007), 75-166.**

Kapparis, K. (2019), pp. 207-229.

#### Week 13: 13 Nov. – 17 Nov.

Public offences and political trials. The case of the *graphe paranomon* and the Athenian public speakers.

Required reading:

**Dem. 22, translation from Giannadaki (2020), *A Commentary on Demosthenes' Against Androtion*, Oxford University Press, pp. 61ff. (Note: ignore the Greek text).**  
Giannadaki, I. (2020), pp. 10-26 (*Introduction*).

**EXAM 2: 13 Nov. 7-7.50pm**

**Week 14: 20 Nov. – 24 Nov.**

Public suits against public speakers in Athenian law: intersections between private and public life. *Dokimasia rhetoron*

Required reading:

**Aesch. 1 translated by Carey in Gagarin, M. (2011), pp. 183-243**

Optional reading:

Kapparis, K. (2017), 187-208.

**Week 15: 27 Nov. – 1 Dec.**

Religion and the polis; prosecutions on religious grounds. The *Apology* by Plato.

Required reading:

**Plato, *Apology***

Parker, R. (2005). 'Law and Religion'. In M. Gagarin & D. Cohen (Eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Greek Law* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 61-81.

Optional Reading:

Cartledge, P. (2009) 'The trial of Socrates, 399 BCE', in *Ancient Greek Political Thought in Practice*, Cambridge, pp. 76-90.

**PAPER: SECOND SUBMISSION due 27 Nov. 11.59PM**

**Week 16: 4 Dec. – 8 Dec.**

The jury, its composition and behaviour; the juror's decision. Conclusions: Athenian law as the voice of the Democracy.

Required reading:

Todd, S. C. (1993) *The Shape of Athenian Law*, pp. 77-97  
Kapparis, K. (2019), 309-314.



Optional reading:  
**Pseudo-Xenophon, *Constitution of the Athenians***

### Exam Dates

Exam 1: **25 Sept. (7-7.50PM)**

Exam 2: **13 Nov. (7-7.50PM)**

### Assignments

i) Exam 1: **25 Sept, 7.00-7.50 PM. On Canvas, Word file submission.**

ii) Exam 2: **13 Nov., 7.00-7.50PM. On Canvas, Word file submission.**

iii) Oral presentations (PowerPoint presentations 10-15 slides). **In class**, PowerPoint presentation and submission of the PowerPoint presentation via Canvas. Tentative dates: **2, 9, 16 October.**

iv) Essay submissions:

- A) First submission – essay plan (One A4 page, 12 size fonts, Times New Roman, include working bibliography): **On Canvas, Word file submission. 23 Oct. 11.59PM**
- B) Second submission – full essay 1,500 words: **On Canvas, Word file submission. 27 Nov. 11.59PM**

### Grading

Exam 1=25%

Exam 2= 25%

Presentation: 15%

Participation in class: 15%

Essay submission 1: 10%

Essay submission 2: 10%

### Grading Scale

I record your points on all assignments over the course of the semester in the Canvas gradebook, which translates total points into a letter grade using a standard grading scale:

A	100 %	to 94.0%
A-	< 94.0 %	to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 %	to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 %	to 84.0%
B-	< 84.0 %	to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 %	to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 %	to 74.0%
C-	< 74.0 %	to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 %	to 67.0%
D	< 67.0 %	to 64.0%
D-	< 64.0 %	to 61.0%



E	< 61.0 %	to 0.0%
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More information on UF grading policy is [available here](#).

### UF student honor code, original work, and plagiarism

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: ‘On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment’.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class. Original thought, writing, and discussion is critical for core questions about our place in the natural world and for meaningful discussions about culture and nature. Please be thoughtful and meticulous in your citations. This video offers useful information for how to avoid plagiarism and cite appropriately:

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/adaa44500eaf460a84f238e6b9a558f9>

If you have any questions, please ask your instructor.

**Plagiarism on any assignment will result in a 0 for that assignment. A second incident of plagiarism will result in a failing grade (E) for the course.**

### Class Attendance and Make-up Policy

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

### Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

### Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction as they perceive it in this course—**considering their attendance and participation levels and opportunities they actively took to engage in the learning process and fulfil the course requirements**—by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give **feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at**

<https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they **receive from GatorEvals**, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>.

## Important Student Wellness Resources

*U Matter, We Care:*

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:*

<https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department:392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

*Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)*

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161. University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

## Materials and Supplies Fees

There are no additional fees for this course.

## Course Policies

*(it is students' responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Course Policies and comply with them)*

1. It is responsibility of the students to consult the Canvas shell of the class ahead of each session and complete the required work.
2. Students are expected to check their email correspondence regularly to ensure that they receive critical correspondence, updates, etc communicated by the instructor.
3. Email queries are typically answered within 48 hours, but it might take longer ahead of examination times and busy academic periods. Emails are handled over business hours, during the weekday. Emails over the weekend will be addressed the following week, as per guidelines above. Please avoid last-minute emails about time-sensitive matters.
4. If a student misses a lecture or seminar, it is the student's responsibility to find out the material taught from the Canvas shell, ask their classmates for any notes, and cover the material of the lecture/seminar missed during a given absence.
5. There will be no make-up work except in **extraordinary and documented cases**. I must have written documentation **within 24 hours** for any medical or other emergencies which result in a missed test or late essay. Late submission for any non-legitimate reason beyond reasons that the university recognizes as legitimate (e.g. sudden illness, family emergencies etc) will be penalized by deducting 30% of the grade of the late assignment, i.e. submission within 24 hours from the missed deadline: e.g. if a student submits an assignment from a minute passing the deadline until 24 hours after the deadline, and their assignment was granted a 70%, their final mark after penalty is 40% (70-30%). Submissions beyond the 24 hours will be marked with a 'zero'.
6. Any disruptive behaviour which affects the delivery of the lecture by the instructor or the attention or performance of students in group-work will not be tolerated. The University strives to protect and to guide the educational community by establishing a **Student**

**Honor Code, a Student Conduct Code, and a Student conduct system.** These codes and systems promote **individual and social responsibility and are enforced through University Regulations. By becoming a member of the University of Florida community, a Student agrees to adhere to its Student Honor Code and its Student Conduct Code.** Students acting as individuals or as members of Student Organizations are expected to follow all applicable Laws and Regulations. University Regulations have been designed to promote the safety of people and the campus community, to create an environment conducive to learning, and to achieve the mission of the Institution. The **Orange Book** with all these regulations can be found at: <https://housing.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/The-Orange-Book-Web.pdf> It is students' responsibility to familiarize themselves with the content and follow University regulations and policies.

7. If you are experiencing difficulties which have an impact on your academic performance in the course—for example, if you fail the first exam—you must arrange for an appointment with the instructor, at your earliest convenience.