

HIS 200: Ancient Mediterranean World

UDM Winter 2005

MW 1:00-2:15

Instructor: Sarah Stever

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Course description

This course is an introduction to ancient history and to the methods of historical research in the field. History is a laboratory for the study of human nature. The readings center on primary source material which illuminate human experience and express the thought and attitudes of people in the past. .

The sources include a broad range of material, writings on many different subjects, as well as a good deal of visual evidence. The expression of culture through art is presented in lectures; regular attendance is essential, as this material cannot be made up. Students learn how to use primary source material in research. Every session a summary of the reading is due that describes the uses of the source and/or conclusions based on source material. The midterm and final essays ask you to put a number of sources together as evidence to make an argument about aspects of ancient culture.

The goals of the course, then, are to teach the ability to do research based on primary evidence and to understand experience in historical perspective.

Readings

Sabatino Moscati, *The Face of the Ancient Orient* (Dover)

Richmond Lattimore, *The Odyssey of Homer* (Harper)

Juvenal, *Satires* (Penguin)

Lattimore, *Greek Tragedies Vol I* (Chicago)

Plutarch, *Makers of Rome*(Penguin)

S Lattimore, *The Peloponnesian War* (Hackett)

Calendar of Classes

- Jan 10 Introduction
- 12 *The Face of the Ancient Orient*, Sumerians, 17-57
- 17 Babylonians and Assyrians, 58-96
- 19 Egyptians, 97-152
- 24 Israel, 224-267, Persians, 271-315
- 26 *Odyssey*, I-IV

- 30 IV-X
- 2 X-XVI
- 7 XVI-XXIV
- 9 *Greek Tragedies, Agamemnon, Prometheus Bound*
- 14 *The Peloponnesian War* Book 1 and 2
- 16 *Greek Tragedies, Antigone*
- 21 *Peloponnesian War* Book 3 and 4
- 23 Book 5 and 6
- 28 Book 7 and 8
- Mar. 2 *Greek Tragedies, Hippolytus*
- 14 Midterm essay due
- 16 *Makers of Rome, Coriolanus and Fabius Maximus*
- 21 *Marcellus and Cato the Elder*
- 23 *Tiberius Gracchus and Gaius Gracchus*
- 28 *Brutus and Mark Antony*
- 30 Pompeii
- Apr. 4 Juvenal *Satires* 1-5
- 6 *Satires* 5-10
- 11 *Satires* 10 to 16
- 13 Later Roman Empire
- 18 Trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts
- 20 Conferences

Grades

A summary is due of every reading on the day it is due. Late summaries will not be accepted. For each day of *The Peloponnesian War*, there will be a quiz on the reading. 60% of the grade is determined by summaries so regular attendance is essential for success in the class. If a student knows that classes will be missed, it is best to let the instructor know as soon as possible.

There will be a midterm and final essay. These are both take-home essays based on the readings. Guidelines will be discussed in class. The trip to the DIA on April 18 is a course requirement.