



Course Description

The ancient Greeks bequeathed to us the great philosophical, literary, political and historical themes that have dominated the worldview (*Weltanschauung*) of western civilization since ancient times. It is difficult, if not impossible, to find an area of humanity or human relationships with men, nature, and God that was not discovered and then explained by the writers and poets of that little speck of land in the Mediterranean Sea. In this course, we will consider our inheritance from Greece and how it has influenced our own history, language, politics, religion, and culture.

Course Time: MTWThF 1:00PM–4:20PM
Room GHH 206
Instructor: Dr. Anthony Hollingsworth
Office: GHH 112

Office Hours: MTWThF 12:00-1:00
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Course Goals

Through a series of lectures, class discussion and daily readings of Greek historians, philosophers, and poets, students will know:

1. The major events in the history of ancient Greece (dates, people, significance)
2. Approximately twenty English idioms from ancient Greece
3. How to recognize and create sophisticated arguments
4. If might really does make right
5. If man really is the measure of all things
6. How to measure the earth with the sun and a river
7. How to write the Greek alphabet
8. How ancient Greek thought created our perception of the east and west
9. How ancient Greek thought created history, theater, democracy, and college
10. How to tell gold from lead
11. How to measure anything and then move it, no matter the size
12. How to create a laser beam

Grading

Grading is broken into four categories, each worth 25% of your grade as a category: quizzes 25%; three presentations 25%; two “2-minute” papers 25% and an evaluation 25%.

Material For The Course

Adler, Mortimer Jerome. *Aristotle for Everybody: Difficult Thought Made Easy*. New York: Macmillan, 1978.

OR

Adler, Mortimer Jerome, and David Case. *Aristotle for Everybody*. Ashland, OR: Blackstone Audio Books, 1993.

Homer, and Allen Mandelbaum. *The Odyssey of Homer: A New Verse Translation*. New York: Bantam, 1991.

Hamilton, Edith. *The Greek Way*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co, 1993.

Website: www.anthonyhollingsworth.com for all other materials

Syllabus

In each class we will be discussing approximately 20-25 pages of material from the textbooks or from material found on the Internet. Additionally, short excerpts of primary sources will be periodically assigned for analysis. Daily Classroom lectures will be divided into 3 periods, two typically being traditional lectures, one being a class discussion/presentation. Each day's lecture will carry a specific theme (e.g. history of Greece, *Might makes Right*, *Man is the Measure of All Things*, How did Greeks invent philosophy?, etc.). At the end of each lecture, homework (reading, writing, and memorising) will be assigned. Additionally, there will be a daily quiz on the material assigned for the class.

Plagiarism/Cheating

You are encouraged to work and study with your classmates, both in and out of the classroom. However, plagiarism of a fellow student or other source and cheating on testing materials is expressly forbidden (see the University Statement on Plagiarism in the Roger Williams University Undergraduate Catalogue). Using computer Derived or print derived sources excessively for your outlines will be regarded as plagiarism and the University policy on plagiarism will be carried out to its fullest extent.

Absences

Regular attendance is the only exposure you will have to much of the lecture material and the commentary on the texts read for class. Additionally, absences hinder the progress, not only of the individual student, but often of the entire class. For this reason unexcused absences will necessitate a conference with the instructor and will result in lowering the final course grade.

Disabilities

If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disability Act and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office of Academic Development for information on appropriate policies and procedures.

Calendar:

Foundations:

- Topic 1: Introduction
- Topic 2: Alphabet
- Topic 3: Greek History I
- Topic 4: Greek History II
- Topic 5: Homer

Universal vs. Particular

- Topic 6: Plato's Euthyphro
- Topic 7: Thank You For Smoking
- Topic 8: Sophistry

Critical Thinking

- Topic 9: Aristotle
- Topic 10: Thucydides

- Topic 11: Can Virtue Be Taught?
- Topic 12: 300 & Melian Dialogue

Midterm Evaluation

The Greek Ideal

- Topic 13: The Greek Way
- Topic 14: Architecture
- Topic 15: The Aesthetic

Science

- Topic 16: Science & Nature
- Topic 17: Greek Science Presentations

Final Evaluation

Assignments

Assignments/Presentations	Evaluations
Arguments Of The <i>Euthyphro</i>	Alphabet Quiz
Sophistic Arguments From Movie	Historical Events Quiz (x2)
Melos. Who Was Right? Paper.	Euthyphro Summary Quiz
Greek Science Presentations	Homer Quiz
Sophistic Arguments Presentations	Aristotle
Greek Phrase Presentations	Four Causes Quiz
	Greek Way Quiz
	Midterm
	Final