

## **History 502: Ancient Greece**

Professor Elizabeth Ann Pollard  
Fall 2003 TTH 2:00- 3:15 in SS 2532

Course Webpage: [blackboard.sdsu.edu](http://blackboard.sdsu.edu) (then enter SDSU username and password;  
select ANCIENT GREECE from "My Courses")  
e-mail: [epollard@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:epollard@mail.sdsu.edu) Phone: (619) 594-6992  
Office hours: AH 4194, Wednesdays 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
(also by appointment and in Bb virtual chat)

### *Course Description:*

The goal of this course is to familiarize the student with events, people, issues, and sources in Greek History, as well as to provide the student with a basic outline of Greek civilization from the Minoan and Mycenaean periods through the campaigns of Alexander the Great and the spread of Hellenism throughout the Mediterranean world. The course will utilize multiple historiographic approaches, analyzing not only wars and politics, but also social historical issues, such as gender and religion. In order to pursue these approaches, readings from a traditional textbook will be combined with extensive reading of primary and ancient secondary sources ranging from drama to history and from biography to inscriptions. Graded assignments, including exams, papers, reviews of peers' work, and class participation, will help students begin to develop the critical skills required of a Greek historian.

### *Grading:*

Although the work of a historian is sometimes conducted in isolation, his/her work is evaluated and discussed within the wider community of academia. The grading and assignments for this course will reflect that collegiate discourse. Your grade for this course will be determined on the basis of class participation, two exams (a midterm and a final), and two papers. Class participation will be measured on the basis of the value of the contributions you make to discussions both in-class and on-line [including (1) on-line peer review of a small group of students' papers and (2) your 250 word summary of one class meeting posted to Bb]. Regular attendance is vital for consistent and valuable participation. The midterm and the final exam will focus on interpretive skills, asking the student to consider the historical significance of terms, passages from primary source texts, and broader themes. Two papers will help the student learn to construct arguments and to exhibit critical skills in dealing with primary source materials (Paper I, 1250-1500 words) and evaluating and constructing scholarly arguments (Paper II, 2500-3000 words) as they relate to important issues in Greek history.

Graduate Students: Those graduate students taking this course will complete additional work that is consistent with the skills that graduate students should be developing. 1) Once every three weeks through week nine, graduate students will post to a forum in Bb a 600-word critical review of a 10-20 page scholarly article from the past five years relevant to a topic on the syllabus for that three week period. Follow the "Critical Article Review" guidelines posted on Bb concerning such issues as what journals to consult and how to structure your critical review. 2) For paper II, graduate students will incorporate three additional articles and one book length treatment of their topic. To account for this additional scholarship and a fuller expression of ideas, the length of paper II for graduate students will be 4000 words.

### *Grade Distribution:*

#### *Undergraduates:*

Participation (15%), Paper I (20%), Paper II (25%), Midterm Exam (15%), Final Exam (25%)

#### *Graduate Students:*

Participation (10%), Critical Article Reviews (10%), Paper I (20%), Paper II (25%), Midterm Exam (15%), Final Exam (20%)

Attendance at lectures IS REQUIRED. As a general rule, extensions on paper due dates (both draft and final) will **not** be granted. PLAN AHEAD. Late work will result in a lowered grade. Among other uses, Blackboard will be actively employed for the distribution of handouts, peer reviewing of papers, posting of class summaries by students, continuation of classroom discussion, and posting of assignment guidelines and help-sheets.

In your written work and in your classroom involvement (both in person and on-line) you will be expected to adhere

to "acceptable standards of conduct" as discussed on the web page for the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities (<http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/srr/>).

*Readings:*

The following texts are available at KB Books (5187 College Ave. or [www.kbbooks.com](http://www.kbbooks.com)).

(Pomeroy) Pomeroy, Sarah B., Stanley M. Burstein, et al. Editors. *Ancient Greece: A Political, Social, and Cultural History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999. ISBN 0195097432

(PGH) Finley, M.I. *The Portable Greek Historians*. NY: Penguin Books, 1959, reprinted by Viking Press **1977**. ISBN 014015065X

(R) *History 502: Ancient Greece Reader* (KB Books)

**Calendar of Readings and Assignments**

Note: Readings are assigned for the day on which they will be discussed in class. It is especially important to have completed the primary and ancient secondary source readings [from PGH and the Reader (R)] before coming to class, as they will often comprise the basis for class discussions.

Week One Introduction and Earliest Greece

9/2 Introduction: Scope, Sources, and Methods for Greek History  
Pomeroy 1-8, PGH 1-23

9/4 The Bronze Age and Minoan Civilization  
Pomeroy 8-18

Week Two The Mycenaean Period

9/9 Mycenaean Civilization  
Pomeroy 18-40

9/11 The Trojan War and the "Dark Ages"  
Pomeroy 41-81, PGH 74-79 (from Herodotus Bk 2)

Week Three Myth and History

9/16 Homer and History  
(R) Homer *Odyssey*. Stanley Lombardo, Translator. Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., 2000, 256-364.

9/18 Hesiod and Cosmology  
(R) Hesiod "Theogony" in *Works & Days and Theogony*. Stanley Lombardo, Translator. Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., 1993, 61-103.

**Graduate students: Critical Article Review due (post to Bb)**

Week Four The Archaic Period of Greece

9/23 Formation of City States and Greek Identity  
Pomeroy 82-130, (R) Plutarch "Theseus" in *The Rise and Fall of Athens*. Ian Scott-Kilvert, Translator. Viking Penguin Inc., 1960, 13-41.

9/25 Trade and Colonization

**Draft of Paper I due to Bb by midnight (Thursday, 9/25)**

Week Five Sparta and Athens

9/30 Sparta  
Pomeroy 131-158, PGH 493-95 (from Polybius Bk 6.48-50)

**Peer Response of Paper I due to Bb by midnight (Wednesday, 10/1)**

10/2 Solon, Peisistratus, and the Reforms of Cleisthenes  
Pomeroy 159-178, (R) The "Old Oligarch." "The Constitution of the Athenians" and Aristotle *Politics* 1265b, 33-42" in *Ancient Greece: Documentary Perspectives*. Stylianos V. Spyridakis and Bradley P. Nystrom, Translators and Editors. Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., 1985, 20-29.

Week Six West meets East- The Persian Wars

10/7 Persian Empire

Pomeroy 178-181, PGH 29-62 (from Herodotus Bk 1)

**Paper I Due in Class (Tuesday, 10/7)**

10/9 War and Response

Pomeroy 181-200, PGH 81-215 (from Herodotus Bks 7-8)

**Graduate students: Critical Article Review due (post to Bb)**

Week Seven Evaluation

10/14 Catch-up and Review of weeks 1-6

10/16 **EXAM I**

Week Eight Fifth Century Athens

10/21 Library Session (Vital part of Preparation for Paper II)

10/23 Pentakontaetia and Delian League

Pomeroy 201-245; PGH 218-265 (from Thucydides Bk 1), (R) Sophocles "Antigone" in *Greek Drama*. Moses Hadas, Editor. New York: Bantam Books, 1965, 80-110.

Week Nine Fifth Century Athens (continued)

10/28 Peloponnesian War: Causes

Pomeroy 246-286

10/30 Greek Religion: State Religion and the Mysteries

(R) Meyer, Marvin W., Editor. "The Greek Mysteries of the Grain Mother and Daughter, and Related Mysteries." in *The Ancient Mysteries: A Sourcebook- Sacred Texts of the Mystery Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean World*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1987, 17-38.

(R) Cartledge, Paul "The Greek Religious Festivals" in *Greek Religion and Society* P.E. Easterling and J.V. Muir, Editors. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985, 98-127.

(R) Fornara, Charles W., Editor and Translator. "Athenian Regulation of the Eleusinian Mysteries (460 BC)," "Reassessment of the Tribute of the Athenian Empire (425/4 BC)," "Payment to the Priest of Athena Nike (424/3 BC)," "Athenian Decree Regulating the Offering of First-Fruits at Eleusis (425/4 or about 422 or 416/15 B.C.)," "Inventory of the Treasures in the Parthenon (422/1 BC)" *Translated Documents of Greece and Rome, Volume 1: Archaic Times to the End of the Peloponnesian War*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1983, 76, 154-157, 160-64.

**Graduate students: Critical Article Review due (post to Bb)**

Week Ten The Peloponnesian War

11/4 Peloponnesian War continued: Archidamian War to the Peace of Nicias (431-21 BCE)

Pomeroy 287-311, PGH 265-298 (from Thucydides Bks 2-3), (R) Fornara, Charles W., Editor and Translator. "Athenian Tribute Quota List (418 BC)," "Inventory of Treasures in the Hekatompedon (418/17 BC)," and "Payments from Athena's Treasury for Public Purposes (418/17- 417/16 BC)" *Translated Documents of Greece and Rome, Volume 1: Archaic Times to the End of the Peloponnesian War*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1983, 164-68.

11/6 Peloponnesian War continued: The Sicilian Expedition (415-413 BCE)

PGH 298-379 (from Thucydides Bk 6-7)

Week Eleven The End of Athenian Dominion and the Rise of Greek Philosophy

11/11 The Thirty Tyrants and the End of the Peloponnesian War

Pomeroy 311-323, (R) Aristophanes "Lysistrata" in *The Complete Plays of Aristophanes*. Moses Hadas, Editor. New York: Bantam Books, 1962, 288-328.

11/13 Socrates and Plato: Greek Philosophy

Pomeroy 323-329, 355-364, (R) Plato "Apology of Socrates" in *Four Texts on Socrates*. Thomas G. West and Grace Starry West, Translators. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1984, 63-97.

Week Twelve Fourth Century Greece: Sparta, Athens, and Thebes

11/18 Greece after the Peloponnesian War

Pomeroy 330-353, 364-370

11/20 Xenophon and the *Anabasis*

PGH 381-439 (from Xenophon *Anabasis* 1-4)

Week Thirteen The Rise of Philip II of Macedon

11/25 Macedonia, Philip, and Greek Response

Pomeroy 371-394, (R) Demosthenes "Philippic I" in *Greek Political Oratory*. A.N.W. Saunders,  
Translator. Viking Penguin Inc., 1987, 188-198.

**Draft of Paper II due to Bb by midnight (Tuesday, 11/25)**

11/27 No Class- Thanksgiving Day

Week Fourteen: Alexander the Great

12/2 Campaigns of Alexander

Pomeroy 395-426, (R) Arrian "Book Seven" *The Campaigns of Alexander*. Aubrey de Selincourt,  
Translator. New York: Penguin Putnam, Inc., 1971, 348-398.

**Peer Response of Paper II due to Bb by midnight (Wednesday, 12/3)**

12/4 The legend of Alexander

(R) Plutarch "Life of Alexander" in *Age of Alexander*. Ian Scott-Kilvert, Translator. New York: Penguin  
Books USA Inc., 1973, 252-334.

Week Fifteen: The Successors of Alexander and the Survival of Hellenism

12/9 Alexander's Successors and the Hellenistic Kingdoms

Pomeroy 427-470

**Paper II Due in Class (Tuesday, 12/9)**

12/11 Conclusions

Pomeroy 471-475

Week 16: FINALS

Final Exam Tuesday, December 16 1300-1500

## **Guidelines for Reading Primary and Ancient Secondary Sources:**

When reading primary and ancient secondary sources in preparation for our class meetings, consider the following questions concerning the authorship and historical value of the source. Some questions will be more useful than others when evaluating particular sources. In class each week, I will also pose other questions you might explore about the sources we are reading, but the following questions should always be able to get you started.

### 1) Authorship:

Who wrote the source you have chosen to consider?

If you do not know who wrote the source, whence does the source come?

What authority does the author have to write about the issue at hand?

What biases might the author have?

How do the author's biases impact or contribute to his/her value as a source of information?

(In order to help you answer these questions, you might start with the brief introduction to each author in PGH and with the references in the index of Pomeroy. The *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, 3rd Edition, DE5 .09 in the Reference section of Love Library is also a great resource. You might also perform a web search to learn more about the source. When incorporating on-line resources into your evaluation of a primary source, always keep in mind the authority, accuracy, bias, currency, and coverage of the web site you are using.)

### 2) Historical Value:

What is the historical value of the source? What kind of source is it?

What sorts of historical questions might the source help you to answer?

What questions could you pose to this source?

How does the source fit into (or not) the over-arching themes in Greek History which we are covering in this class?

How does the source fit into the themes we were covering the week that the source was read?

Be ready to ASSERT A POSITION in response to these questions as they relate to the primary and ancient secondary sources you are reading. Select one source (or group of sources) per week to which you will apply these questions. Use evidence from the source itself to support your assertions. Be able to identify lines, chapters, verses, or page numbers (whichever applies to the source you have chosen to explicate). This will allow you to be more specific and thus more convincing in your argumentation.

Apply the steps for critical reading of secondary/scholarly arguments (below) to your own response to your chosen primary source.

## **Guidelines for Critical Reading of Secondary/Scholarly Arguments**

1) Identify the argument. 2) Identify the evidence on which the argument is based. 3) Evaluate how well the evidence provided supports the argument. 4) Suggest a counter-argument. 5) Suggest evidence to support that counter-argument. 6) Evaluate how well the evidence for the suggested counter-argument supports the counter-argument. 7) Repeat steps 4-6 as necessary or possible. 8) Decide whether to "buy" the initial argument or to support a counter-argument, or some combination of the two.



- d) Be consistent with your use of BCE or BC and be aware of what your use suggests.
- e) Be careful with sequence of tenses.
- f) Review proper format for quotations; longer quotations differ in format from short quotations.
- g) Review the proper use of commas, colons, and semi-colons.
- h) Review the proper use of apostrophe s and s apostrophe.
- i) Proofread carefully for errors in spelling that your word-processor will not catch (homophones, Greek names, and transliterated Greek words).
- j) Avoid words with little meaning, such as like, very, really, and basically.
- k) Avoid "I think," "In my opinion," and "I believe."
- l) Watch for unclear antecedents. Make sure that each pronoun has a clear noun to which it refers.
- m) Take care with subject-verb agreement.
- n) Write in COMPLETE sentences. Each sentence should have a subject and a verb.
- o) Avoid run-on sentences. Break them down into more concise points.
- p) Avoid when possible ending sentences with prepositions.
- q) Avoid ending paragraphs with quotations. This often results in not fully articulating the relevance of your quote.
- r) The use of verbs in the passive voice can lead to unclear agency.
- s) Avoid sweeping generalizations, such as "throughout Greek history"...
- t) Avoid contractions in formal prose.

Reader for History 502: Ancient Greece  
Fall 2003

Professor Elizabeth Ann Pollard  
History Department, Adams Humanities 4194  
San Diego State University  
(619) 594-6992  
epollard@mail.sdsu.edu

Table of Contents:

*Week Three:*

Homer *Odyssey*. Stanley Lombardo, Translator. Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., 2000, 256-364.

Hesiod "Theogony" in *Works & Days and Theogony*. Stanley Lombardo, Translator. Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc., 1993, 61-103.

*Week Four:*

Plutarch "Theseus" in *The Rise and Fall of Athens*. Ian Scott-Kilvert, Translator. Viking Penguin Inc., 1960, 13-41.

*Week Five:*

The "Old Oligarch." "The Constitution of the Athenians" and Aristotle "Politics 1265b, 33-42" in *Ancient Greece: Documentary Perspectives*. Stylianos V. Spyridakis and Bradley P. Nystrom, Translators and Editors. Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., 1985, 20-29.

*Week Eight:*

Sophocles "Antigone" in *Greek Drama*. Moses Hadas, Editor New York: Bantam Books, 1965, 80-110.

*Week Nine:*

Meyer, Marvin W., Editor. "The Greek Mysteries of the Grain Mother and Daughter, and Related Mysteries." in *The Ancient Mysteries: A Sourcebook- Sacred Texts of the Mystery Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean World*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1987, 17-38.

Cartledge, Paul "The Greek Religious Festivals" in *Greek Religion and Society* P.E. Easterling and J.V. Muir, Editors. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985, 98-127.

Fornara, Charles W., Editor and Translator. "Athenian Regulation of the Eleusinian Mysteries (460 BC)," "Reassessment of the Tribute of the Athenian Empire (425/4 BC)," "Payment to the Priest of Athena Nike (424/3 BC)," "Athenian Decree Regulating the Offering of First-Fruits at Eleusis (425/4 or about 422 or 416/15 B.C.)," "Inventory of the Treasures in the Parthenon (422/1 BC)," "Athenian Tribute Quota List (418 BC)," "Inventory of Treasures in the Hekatompedon (418/17 BC)," and "Payments from Athena's Treasury for Public Purposes (418/17- 417/16 BC)" *Translated Documents of Greece and Rome, Volume I: Archaic Times to the End of the Peloponnesian War*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1983, 76, 154-157, 160-68.

*Week Eleven:*

Aristophanes "Lysistrata" in *The Complete Plays of Aristophanes*. Moses Hadas, Editor. New York: Bantam Books, 1962, 288-328.

Plato "Apology of Socrates" in *Four Texts on Socrates*. Thomas G. West and Grace Starry West, Translators. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1984, 63-97.

*Week Thirteen:*

Demosthenes "Philippic I" in *Greek Political Oratory*. A.N.W. Saunders, Translator. Viking Penguin Inc., 1987, 188-198.

*Week Fourteen:*

Arrian "Book Seven" *The Campaigns of Alexander*. Aubrey de Selincourt, Translator. New York: Penguin Putnam, Inc., 1971, 348-398.

Plutarch "Life of Alexander" in *Age of Alexander*. Ian Scott-Kilvert, Translator. New York: Penguin Books USA Inc., 1973, 252-334.