



Greek and Roman Civilizations

Part I: Greek History (Prof. Margherita Facella)

1. Introductory Lecture: the lecturers will meet the students and explain the structure and the aim of the course, they will provide the material for the readings and will answer their questions. After that Prof. Facella will talk on the sources and methodology of ancient history, on the periodization of Greek History and on the first civilizations of the Greek World (Minoans, Mycenaeans)
2. Forms of government: monarchy, oligarchy, democracy. The invention of the *polis* and its different expressions: Athens and Sparta. The role of education and the role of the woman. The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture:
 - Aristotle: Politics II.1.1261a18, III.1.1275b20; III.7
 - Xenophon: Oeconomicus VII
3. The Greeks and the others: the Greek colonies in the Mediterranean sea; the expansion in Asia Minor; Greeks and Persians: encounters and clashes. The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture:
 - Herodotus: Prologue
4. Greeks versus Greeks: the Peloponnesian War. The work of Thucydides.
 - Thucydides: Prologue; I.1; II. 36-40.
5. A new era: Philip II, Alexander the Great and the coming of Macedonia.



Part II: Greek Civilization (Prof. Andrea Taddei)

6. Heroes, Warriors and citizens, from Homer to the Polis.

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

- Homer, Iliad, Book I, 1-42; 92-188
- Homer, Odyssey, Book IX 172-6, 261-505
- Tyrtaeus, fragment 10 West
- Thucydides, The Peloponnesian War, II 42.2 - 43.1
- The oath of Ephebes (in Lycurgus, Againsts Leocrates)

7. Laws and justice between archaic and classical age

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

- Homer, Iliad XVIII, 490-508
- Hesiod, Works and days, vv. 1-39; 202-252;
- Plut. Mor. 504c 5-1
- Demosthenes, Against Evergos and Mnesiboulos, 47-71

8. Household and families

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

- Homer, Iliad VI, 359-502
- Homer, Odyssey, XX 152-309
- Sappho, fragments 16 and 31
- Lysias, On the murder of Eratoshenes 6-16; 22-31

9. Gods, Men and prayers

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

- Homer, Iliad I 1-42
- Hesiod, Theogony vv. 507-616
- Eur. Heracleidai, vv. 748-83

10. Dramatic festivals of Athens

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

- Euripides, Iphigeneia among the Taurians, vv. 947-959
- [Demosthenes], Against Neaira 59, 73-78
- Demosthenes, Against Meidias 10
- Aristophanes, Acharnians, vv. 504-6; 237-79



Part III: Roman culture and civilization (Prof. Chiara Tommasi)

11. Periodization issues.

The first lesson will assess some key moments in Roman history, from the archaic age to Late Antiquity, recalling some turning points in the development of Rome from its humble beginnings to the sixth century A.D..

Alongside with the discussion of the different government forms (Kingship; Republic; Empire), the lesson will show how it is possible to reach a definition of an age, analysing different sectors of history, using disparate sources, with the guidance of varied interpretative models.

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

Livy, *Ab urbe condita*, Preface

Tacitus, *Annals and Histories*, Preface

Eutropius, *Breviarium*

12. Daily life in Rome

This lesson will focus on different aspects of daily life in ancient Rome: social classes; family; love; education; daily routine; life in towns and countryside; food and drink; clothes; theatre; sports and other amusements; the arena; art and leisure; death and burial.

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

Juvenal, *Satires*

Petronius, *Satyricon*

13. The Romans and the 'Others'

This lesson will discuss the topic of the so-called Roman imperialism, taking into account the wars and the progressive expansion of Rome, as well as the relationship with barbarian tribes from Northern Europe.

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

Livy, 25

Sallust, *The War of Jugurtha*

Tacitus, *Germania*

14. Religion: pagans

This lesson will discuss the main aspects of Roman polytheism, namely, mythology, sacrifice, rites and festivals. Besides the 'public' dimension of religion, some private aspects will be taken into consideration as well, some of which are not devoid of illicit features, such as magic and necromancy.

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture



Virgil, Aeneid 6 and 8
Lucan, Civil War 6
Cicero, On the Nature of the gods

15. Early Christianity and Late Antiquity

This lesson will focus on the imperial age, which witnessed to a radical change in religious habits, thanks to Christianity and to the so-called Oriental cults. Attention will be paid to the development of Christianity, namely how it became possible that, after being prosecuted, Christianity succeeded in being declared the official religion of the empire.

The following texts will be read and commented during the lecture

Pliny-Trajan, Letters 10,96-7
Ambrose-Symmachus, The controversy on the Altar of Victory
Augustine, Confessions

Final lessons and meetings

16) One lesson (April 10) will take place in the Camposanto Monumentale, where the students will be faced with some Medieval frescoes representing scenes of the life Desert Fathers, and some Roman inscriptions.

17-18) In the two final meetings (April 16-17), the students will present their Assignment to the rest of the class.

Attendance

You are required to attend all the lectures. If you cannot be present to a lecture, please inform your lecturer.

Reading

You are required to complete all reading assignments in time for the meeting with which they are associated, as indicated on the schedule. You are also required to bring with you to lecture/recitation a copy of any reading that has been provided to you by the lecturer. Further information will be given in the Introductory lecture of the course.



Active Participation

You are expected to arrive at your weekly recitations having completed all the reading and prepared to pose questions and actively contribute to the discussion of the material covered that week.

Assignment

Each student is expected to give an oral presentation about a subject agreed with the teacher. The assignment will be object of evaluation.

Evaluation

The students will be evaluated on the base of the Class Partecipation, Assignment and Final exam (see below for the grading).

Bibliography for the final exam

Besides the notes and the texts discussed during the lectures, the students are expected to study:

- J. Carcopino, Daily Life in ancient Rome, (pdf can be read in: <https://archive.org/details/dailylifeinancie035465mbp>)
- Moses Finley, The World of Odysseus, 1951.
- R. Osborne, Greek History: the Basics, London 2014, Routledge.
- Jean-Pierre Vernant, Greek Religion, in M. Eliade (ed), The Encyclopedia of Religion, New York, vol. 6, pp. 99-118



Course Requirements and Grading:

The course is open to everybody who is interested in the ancient Greek and Roman world. The knowledge of ancient Greek and Latin is very welcome, but not required to attend the course (texts will be read in English translation). Emphasis is placed on the use of primary sources in translation.

ACTIVITIES	PERCENTAGES
Class Participation	10%
Assignment	50%
Final Exam	40%