

## INSTRUCTOR

James Bradley Wells  
Department of Classics  
Office: Couper 106  
Email: [jwells@hamilton.edu](mailto:jwells@hamilton.edu)  
Office Phone: 315.859.4053  
Office Hours: 2.30–4.00 T & Th and by appointment

## MEETING TIME AND PLACE

2.30–3.45 Monday & Wednesday  
Benedict 207

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the legacy of ancient Greece and the Near East through the study of history, literature, philosophy and art.

## COURSE POLICY STATEMENTS

### Accessibility

Hamilton College will make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. If you are eligible to receive such accommodation(s) and would like to make a formal request for this course, please discuss it with your course instructor and allow two weeks notice. You will need to provide Allen Harrison, Associate Dean of Students (Elihu Root House; ext. 4021) with appropriate documentation of your disability.

### Honor Code

The Hamilton College Honor Code is the students' charter to shared responsibility for ensuring the highest standards of integrity. This course's policy is that the Honor Code defines academic dishonesty and the measures to be taken in the event of an occurrence of academic dishonesty.

### Attendance Policy

Class attendance is mandatory. Absences and tardiness will be factored into the class participation evaluation. Excessive lateness, non-participation during class (e.g. sleeping or using laptops for reasons not related to class), and disruptive behavior (e.g. cell phones or side-conversations) may be documented as an absence.

### Blackboard

Blackboard may be used in this course for assignments, to modify the course calendar, to distribute course announcements, to provide study guides and other resources, and to advise students about course performance. Students are responsible for assignments distributed via Blackboard.

### REQUIRED TEXTS

- Anne Carson. 2003. *If Not, Winter: Fragments of Sappho*. New York: Vintage. ISBN 0375724516/978-0375724510
- Thomas R. Martin. 2000. *Ancient Greece: From Prehistoric to Hellenistic Times*. New Haven: Yale University Press. ISBN 0300084935/78-0300084931
- Peter Meineck and Paul Woodruff. 2003. *Sophocles: Theban Plays*. Indianapolis and Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. ISBN 087220586X/978-0872205864
- C. D. C. Reeve, ed. 2006. *Plato on Love: Lysis, Symposium, Phaedrus, Alcibiades, with Selections from Republic and Laws*. Indianapolis and Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. ISBN 0872207889/9780872207882
- James Romm, ed. 2003. *Herodotus: On the War for Greek Freedom. Selections from The Histories*. Indianapolis and Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. ISBN. 087220667X/9780872206670
- Sarah Ruden. 2003. *Aristophanes: Lysistrata*. Indianapolis and Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. ISBN 0872206033/9780872206038
- Paul Woodruff, trans. 1994. *Thucydides: On Justice, Power, and Human Nature. Selections from The History of the Peloponnesian War*. Indianapolis and Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company, Inc. ISBN 0872201686/9780872201682

### ASSESSMENT

#### Grading “Philosophy”

Fulfillment of grading criteria is a “good” performance. Performance above and beyond fulfillment of grading criteria is “superior.” Student work that does not quite satisfy all grading criteria is an “average” performance. Minimum fulfillment of grading criteria is a “below average” performance. Fulfilling no grading criteria results in a “failing” performance. To clarify the difference between “good” and “superior” performance, consider the following example scenarios:

In this course we will seldom discuss all of each day’s reading assignment; whereas a “good” performance displays knowledge of the reading material discussed in class, a “superior” performance displays knowledge of the reading material discussed in class and that not discussed in class.

Class presentations will regularly involve instruction about strategies for interpretation and such strategies will be applied to sample passages from the reading; whereas a “good” performance will involve displaying the ability to apply strategies of interpretation to the same sample passages used in class

presentations, a “superior” performance will involve displaying the ability to apply strategies of interpretation to passages not used in class presentations.

Thinking in descriptive terms, whereas “good” performances are characterized by accuracy, competence, straightforwardness, and facility, “superior” performances are characterized by synthesis, mastery, complexity, and creativity.

This grading philosophy can be represented in terms of the following grading schema:

- “Superior” Performance = A
- “Good” Performance = B
- “Average” Performance = C
- “Below Average” Performance = D
- “Failing” Performance = F

Categories of Assessment

Class Participation	30%
• Attendance	
• Discussion	
• Quizzes	
Midterm Essay	35%
Final Essay	35%

COURSE CALENDAR

Date	Topics & Assignments
	<b>All assignments and readings are due on the date given (by 9.00 AM for Blackboard assignments), unless otherwise indicated.</b>
01.19	Course Introduction
01.21	Read Martin Chapters 1 & 2
01.26	Read Martin Chapters 3 & 4 Quiz 1
01.28	Read Carson/Sappho ix–xiii, 1–199, plus notes
02.02	Read Carson/Sappho 200–355, plus notes
02.04	Read Martin Chapter 5 Quiz 2
02.09	Read Pindar <i>Olympian 1</i> and <i>Pythian 1</i> (Blackboard Course Documents Page)
02.11	Read Martin Chapter 6
02.16	Read Herodotus/Romm pp. vii–xxvii & 1–27 Quiz 3
02.18	Read Herodotus/Romm pp. 28–89
02.23	Read Herodotus/Romm pp. 90–151
02.25	Read Herodotus/Romm pp. 152–189 Quiz 4
03.02	Read Martin Chapter 7, Sophocles/Meineck/Woodruff pp. v–xvi, Handout on Aristotles’ <i>Poetics</i> (Blackboard Course Documents Page) Midterm Essay Due

Date	<b>Topics &amp; Assignments</b> All assignments and readings are due on the date given (by 9.00 AM for Blackboard assignments), unless otherwise indicated.
03.04	Read Sophocles/Meineck/Woodruff pp. 62-108
03.09	Read Sophocles/Meineck/Woodruff pp. 108-124 and 1-18
03.11	Read Sophocles/Meineck/Woodruff pp. 18-60
	Quiz 5
<b>Spring Recess 03.14-03.29</b>	
03.30	Read Sophocles/Meineck/Woodruff pp. 126-177
04.01	Read Sophocles/Meineck/Woodruff pp. 177-207
04.06	Read Martin Chapter 8
	Quiz 6
04.08	Read Thucydides/Woodruff pp. vii-xxxiii & 1-13
04.13	Read Thucydides/Woodruff pp. 15-95
04.15	Read Thucydides/Woodruff pp. 97-154
	Quiz 7
04.20	Read Aristophanes/Ruden pp. vi-x (& 75-118, optional) & 1-25
04.22	Read Aristophanes/Ruden pp. 25-73
04.27	Read Plato/Reeve pp. 26-61
	Quiz 8
04.29	Read Plato/Reeve pp. 61-107
05.04	Read Plato/Reeve pp. 108-153
05.06	Read Martin Chapter 9
	Quiz 9
<b>Final Examination: Tuesday May 12 2.00-5.00 PM</b>	