

**SCHOOLS OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
AND FINE ART AND MUSIC
Fall Semester 2021
ARTH/CLAS * 2150-01
GREEK ART**



INSTRUCTOR: Martina Meyer, PhD

TIME: Monday & Wednesday meet in class. Friday classes are Zoom.

LOCATION: MacK114

OFFICE HOURS: TBA

Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

From Bronze Age palaces to the Acropolis in Athens and on the trail of Alexander the Great, this course explores the ancient Greek world through archaeology—using art, architecture, and everyday objects to learn about ancient Greek society, from the mysterious to the mundane. We will look at the sites and landscapes the Greeks built and used: their cities, sanctuaries, cemeteries, and the buildings they built, from public buildings such as temples and government buildings to private houses. We will look at different types of Greek material culture, from monumental sculpture and painting to mundane and utilitarian ceramics for household and funerary functions. Simultaneously, students will gain an appreciation of the mutual influences among the functional types of Greek monuments (votive statues, funerary monuments, architectural sculpture, painted vases used in symposia, etc.) and cultural practices such as social and religious institutions, politics, myth and literature. And we will look at the material culture of ancient Greece in its wider perspective: at the relationships between Greeks and their neighbors both in the earliest periods of Greek art in the Geometric and Orientalizing periods, and later as the Greeks come to influence other cultures in the eastern Mediterranean politically and culturally. We will also consider how we experience ancient Greece today, including questions about archaeological practice, the antiquities trade, and cultural heritage.

Learning Objectives

On successful completion of this course students are expected to be able to:

- formally analyze artifacts in terms of material, form/shape, and decoration, and how the results of this stylistic analysis can be used for relative dating
- recognize and evaluate the significance of iconography in various media (painting, sculpture, architecture) in terms of meaning/symbolism
- understand the critical role of context (e.g., domestic, funerary, sacred, public space) in the use of artifacts as evidence for social function, value, and meaning

Learning Outcomes:
Students will be able to:

- Identify and describe the essential characteristics of Greek art from the Cycladic to the Hellenistic periods
- Critique the role of patronage on the development of Greek art
- Evaluate the significance of ancient Greek art within the context of a broader global culture
- Assess the impact of gender, politics, war, and religion on Greek art
- Develop visual analysis and other associated art historical skills
- Formulate original, critical thinking supported by research

Prerequisites: None.

Course requirements: All students are expected to attend class regularly, and complete all of the readings and assignments by the dates outlined in the syllabus.

Grades:

Midterm examination = 25%

Final take home examination = 40% *

Three short written assignments = 15 %

Team Term Project / Individual or Team (20%)

Class presentation & Written Summary, Scheduled the final week of class.

* You can upload your final exam essay to Dropbox on our Courselink. Due date TBA. You will write on ONE question (you'll have two choices). The questions will be available on the last day of class.

You are to use your text, notes, and class materials to compose your response. This is NOT a research paper.

Required text:

Pedley, John G. *Greek Art and Archaeology*. 5th edition, 2012.

You can rent an eBook version: <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/greek-art-and-archaeology-john-g-pedley-v9780205976294>

- If you have or want to purchase an earlier edition of the Pedley book, you may use that instead, but there may be some differences in page numbers and content (the earlier the edition, the bigger the differences).
- Additional enhancement readings will be available on the class CourseLink.

Images Every lecture will be illustrated with images (PowerPoint). Students may be tested on labeled images from class PDFs and/or images that appear in the readings.

Writing Assignments See the last page of the syllabus for brief descriptions of the assignments. Additional instructions will be provided in class. All assignments are to be written in students' own words. Students are expected to include proper citations of references and sources of information that do not come from class lectures (articles, web pages, books, etc.) and should be in the form of footnotes or endnotes, or parenthetical notations. Students are strongly advised to refer to a style manual (such as the Chicago Manual of Style, etc.) for the formatting of footnotes and other types of references, bibliographies, etc.

Late papers and make-up tests: As the dates of exams and due dates of assignments are included in the syllabus, all students are expected to know about them and to be prepared accordingly. There is no makeup test for the midterm.

COURSE CALENDAR

Introduction (Sept. 10) *Meet the Greeks: Who were they and why do we care?*
Pedley, Chapter 1, pp.10-29.

Week 1 (Sept. 13, 15, 17) *There Might be Giants: The Aegean in the time of the Egypt's 'Old Kingdom'*.
Pedley, Chapter 1- a, pp. 31-43, Chapter 2 b- pp. 45-56; No class on the 17th.

Week 2 (Sept. 20, 22, 24) Chapter 3- lecture c 56-59 (Troy).
Paradise Lost: The Rise and Fall of 'Atlantis'.
Pedley, Chapter 3, a, b pp. 61-86.

Week 3 (Sept. 27, 29, Oct. 1) *The Mycenaeans ((When Men were Men and Women were... Stolen)*.
Pedley, c. pp. 86-101.
'Renaissance' in a Dark Age: Birth of the City-State.
Pedley, Chapter 4: a-103-110 b-pp.110-119

Week 4 (Oct. 4, 6, 8)
When West meets East Chapter 5 c-1pp. 121-129

Chapter 5 a pp.129-145, *East Meets West part 2*.
Chapter 6 *Archaic Innovations* b-pp. 147-158;

Week 5 (Oct. 11, 13, 15)

October 11 /12 – Thanksgiving, Fall Study Day

Archaic Innovations, c-pp.159-171

The Girls and the Boys a-pp. 171-189

a- pp. 189-205

Week 6 (Oct. 18, 20, 22)

a. Midterm, October 19th

b. *The Genius of Exekias*, pp. 192-205

b. *Transitions (480-450BC) – When a Trojan isn't a Trojan*.

Chapter 7, pp.207-226.

Week 7 (Oct. 25, 27, 29)

a & b, Chapter 7, pp.227-247

c. Chapter 8, pp. 249-256 b & c (*It's All About the Parthenon*)

Week 8 (Nov. 1, 3, 5) *Identity Theft: When Men become Gods*

Chapter 8 a – pp.256-265

Chapter 8 b – pp.265-271

Chapter 8 c – pp.271-274

Week 9 (Nov. 8, 10, 12)

Chapter 8 a – pp.276-281

Chapter 8 b – pp.281-287

The Age of Alexander

Chapter 9 c – pp.289-296

Week 10 (Nov. 15, 17, 19) *Hellenistic Revival*

Chapter 9 a – pp.297-303

Chapter 9 b – pp.305-312

Chapter 9 c – pp.312 - 317

Week 11 (Nov. 22, 24, 26)

Chapter 9 a – pp.332-337

Chapter 9 b – continued

The Heroic Past in the Hellenistic Present

Chapter 10 c – Highlights

Week 12 (Nov. 29, Dec.1, 3)

Term Project Presentations. Create a brief PPT.

Options

#1**Relic Hunter: Charting the Unknown (You will work with a partner/s)**

You will be assigned an unknown object. Examine the object carefully and provide a detailed visual analysis of the object (describe it) and discuss its possible significance. Discuss its subject matter, size and scale, material and color, as well as missing parts or restorations, where applicable. Consider some of the following questions: Do we know of other similar objects? If so, where was it and how does location impact interpretation? What might have been its intended use? Who would have seen it? Used it? How would it have been viewed or displayed in its original surroundings? How can you determine the answers to these questions by looking at the object alone? What information about this object that you would like to have is unavailable?

Assignment #2**A Schliemann moment: Found an Ancient Greek Cult! (You will work with a partner/s)**

Throughout this course we will hear about gods and heroes and how they were worshipped. You and your team of experts have discovered a hitherto unknown cult for a god, hero or personification. You are about to present your discovery at a press conference. You will need to provide relevant background information about the deity, as known from archaeological and literary sources, and describe the specific attributes that are associated with your cult—these must be appropriate to the deity and should be explained using historical and archaeological information from class and your readings. In creating/describing the cult, be sure to explain where the cult would be founded (location of sanctuary or sanctuaries). Explain and describe the types of buildings, landscape, and/or objects that would be associated with the cult and its sanctuary/sanctuaries and the nature of ritual(s) performed for the deity, and by whom (priests/priestesses etc.). You should provide at least one visual aid to help explain your project to your audience—this could be (but is certainly not limited to) a plan of a sanctuary or shrine, the sculptural program for a temple (drawing well is not required—stick figures labeled and posed are fine!) or, for those of you who wish to exercise your creativity, draw, or sculpt a cult figure or object.

You will create a Powerpoint

A **bibliography and illustrations** are both necessary, but they are NOT included in your page count.

Click here for a useful summary about [bibliography and footnotes](#).

A VERY Brief Bibliography & Additional Suggested Readings:

- J. D. Beazley, The Development of Attic Black Figure
 P. Betancourt, The History of Minoan Pottery
 J. Boardman, Athenian Red Figure Vases: The Classical Period
 D. Castriota, Myth, Ethos, and Actuality: Official Art in Fifth-Century Athens
 J. N. Coldstream, Geometric Greece
 O.T.P.K. Dickinson, The Aegean Bronze Age
 C. Doumas, Thera: Pompeii of the Ancient Aegean
 C. Doumas, The Wall-Paintings of Thera
 B. H. Fowler, The Hellenistic Aesthetic
 S. Hood, The Arts in Prehistoric Greece
 J. Hurwit, The Athenian Acropolis: History, Mythology and Archaeology
 S. Immerwahr, Aegean Painting in the Bronze Age
 L. Morgan, The Miniature Wall-Paintings of Thera
 S. Morris, Daidalos and the Origins of Greek Art
 J. J. Pollitt, The Ancient View of Greek Art
 J. J. Pollitt, Art and Experience in Classical Greece
 J. J. Pollitt, The Art of Greece: Sources and Documents
 N. Marinatos, Minoan Religion
 B. S. Ridgway, The Archaic Style in Greek Sculpture
 B. S. Ridgway, The Severe Style in Greek Sculpture
 B. S. Ridgway, Fifth-Century Styles in Greek Sculpture
 B. S. Ridgway, Hellenistic Sculpture, I
 B.S. Ridgway, Prayers in Stone: Greek Architectural Sculpture (ca. 600-100 BCE)
 M. Robertson, A History of Greek Art
 M. Robertson, The Art of Vase-Painting in Classical Athens
 A. Snodgrass, An Archaeology of Greece
 B. Sparkes, Greek Pottery: An Introduction
 N. Spivey, Greek Art
 N. Spivey, Understanding Greek Sculpture
 A. F. Stewart, Greek Sculpture: An Exploration
 W. Taylour, The Mycenaeans
 E. Vermeule, Greece in the Bronze Age