

DEPARTMENT OF GREEK AND ROMAN STUDIES
COURSE OUTLINE
GREEK AND ROMAN STUDIES 413.01 WINTER 2013
Topics in Greek History: "INSIDE CLASSICAL SPARTA"

INSTRUCTOR: Dr Noreen Humble
TIME AND PLACE OF CLASS: TR 9:30-10:45, MS 319
OFFICE AND OFFICE HOURS: SS 514, open door/by appointment
CONTACT: 220-4560/nmhumble@ucalgary.ca

REQUIRED TEXTS FOR PURCHASING:

Cartledge, Paul (2004) *The Spartans*, Woodstock/New York.
Talbert, R.J.A. (ed.) (2005) *Plutarch on Sparta* (Penguin revised edition), London.

REQUIRED READING:

Hodkinson, Stephen (2009) *Sparta: Comparative Approaches*, Swansea/London, specifically the Introduction (pp. ix-xxxiii) and Part V: 'Spartan Exceptionalism? A Debate', pp. 385-498. This book will be available in the library on reserve reading.

Other required readings will be assigned in class and important primary source material will be given on handouts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Classical Sparta was one of the most powerful states in ancient Greece in the 5th and early 4th centuries BCE. Though we have no contemporary written material extant from Spartan writers, most people have fairly powerful images of what they think life in Classical Sparta was like. The objectives of this course are to examine the image we have of Sparta, focussing not on her military exploits but on her social and political setup. We will critically assess what ancient evidence there is, and at the same time analyse modern interpretations of this evidence. Our guiding thread throughout will be to question whether Sparta was a typical or an exceptional Greek polis. Views in this regard have varied over time though for the past two centuries Sparta has primarily been viewed as exceptional. This has been challenged in recent years most notably in the work of Stephen Hodkinson, and so we are going to look closely at his and others' reassessment of Spartan ways in comparison with more traditional interpretations to try to understand how to situate the ancient evidence and why it provokes so many different interpretations. Students will emerge from the course with a more nuanced and gradated view of the internal workings of Classical Sparta, and the critical tools either to go on to further study of ancient Greece or indeed to apply to the study of other cultures.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Two in-class tests focusing on analysis of source material:
 - a) Week 6, Tuesday February 12: 25%
 - b) Week 11, Thursday March 28: 25%
- 2) One book review exercise (1500 words), due Thursday February 28* (the book to review will be directly linked to the research essay topic you pick and form an integral part of it): 15%
- 3) One research essay (4000 words), due April 18** (topics tba): 35%

*Note: late book review exercises will be penalized 2% per day

**Note: late essays will be penalized 5% per day

GRADING SCALE:

A+: 95 -100	B: 75 -79	C-: 55 -59
A: 90 – 94	B-: 70 -74	D+ 50 -54
A-: 85 -89	C+: 65 -69	D: 45 -49
B+: 80 -84	C: 60 -64	F: 0 -44

NOTES:

1. The withdrawal deadline for this course is **April 16, 2013**. The instructor will inform students of their grades currently earned in the course for four weeks before this deadline. **The last day to withdraw with a refund of fees is January 18, 2013.**
2. The Department of Greek and Roman Studies draws the attention of all students in its courses to the University regulations on plagiarism, cheating and other misconduct printed in the Student Misconduct section of the 2012-2013 University Calendar. If you need guidance about these issues please do not hesitate to contact me.
3. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. For more information visit the Disability Resource Centre's website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc>.

REQUIRED AND GENERAL READING AVAILABLE ON RESERVE READING (1 HOUR LOAN)

NB You must ask for these books by their call number at the main circulation desk

- 1) General books for consultation for brushing up on general ancient Greek history:

Hornblower, S. (2002) *The Greek World, 479-323 BC*, London (DF227.H67 2002)

Osborne, R. (2000) *Classical Greece, 500-323 BC*, Oxford (DF214.C53 2000)

Rhodes, P. (2006) *A History of the Classical Greek World, 478-323 BC*, Oxford (DF214.R49 2006)

- 2) Essential course reading:

Hodkinson, S. (2009) (ed.) *Sparta: Comparative Approaches*, Swansea/London (DF261.S8 S63 2009)

- 3) Books at the heart of the book review exercise:

Hodkinson, S. (2000) *Property and Wealth in Classical Sparta*, London/Swansea (DF261.S8 H63 2000)

Kennell, N. (1995) *The Gymnasium of Virtue*, Chapel Hill (LA75.K46 1995)

Luraghi, N. & S.E. Alcock (2003) *Helots and their Masters in Laconia and Messenia: Histories, Ideologies, Structures*, Washington (DF261.L2 H45 2003)

Pomeroy, S. (2002) *Spartan Women*, Oxford (available on the internet through the library site, HQ1134 INTERNET).

REQUIRED READING FOR THE FIRST THREE WEEKS

- 1) Cartledge, Paul (2004) *The Spartans*, Woodstock/New York, 2004: this is important background reading for will give a good overview for those of you who haven't taken

- 2) Hodkinson, Stephen (ed.) (2009) *Sparta: Comparative Approaches*, Swansea/London.

a) 'Introduction', pp. ix-xxxiii

b) Part V: 'Spartan Exceptionalism? A Debate', pp. 385-498