

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
COURSE OUTLINE:
Classical Studies 3906F/ ST LAW 305A:
SLAVERY AND SLAVE LAW IN ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME
AUTUMN 2014



INSTRUCTOR: Dr. K. Olson (kolson2@uwo.ca)

OFFICE: Lawson Hall 3227 (661-2111 x 84525)

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 or by appointment

TIME AND PLACE OF CLASS: MWF 3:30-4:30, P&AB117

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. S. Joshel. *Slavery in the Roman World* (Cambridge 2010). = **Joshel**
2. Thomas Wiedemann, *Greek and Roman Slavery* (Routledge, 1981). = **Wiedemann**
3. *Coursepack*, available from the UWO Bookstore.
4. I will also be assigning chapters from *The Cambridge World History of Slavery Vol. 1: The Ancient Mediterranean World*. These readings are marked 'CWH online' in the syllabus. The book is online at:

<http://alpha.lib.uwo.ca/search~S20?/Xcambridge+slavery+history&searchscope=20&SORT=DZ/Xcambridge+slavery+history&searchscope=20&SORT=DZ&extended=0&SUBKEY=cambridge+slavery+history/1%2C443%2C443%2CB/frameset&FF=Xcambridge+slavery+history&searchscope=20&SORT=DZ&1%2C1%2C>

COURSE OBJECTIVES The object of this course is to explore various aspects of slavery in the law of ancient Greece and Rome, as well as in ancient society more generally. Among the topics studied will be: Greece and Rome as slave societies, the sources of slaves, the labor and services a slave provided, modes of release from slavery, slavery as a social and economic class, resistance to and rebellion against slavery, problems of management and control, and slavery and Christianity. We will focus closely on original sources on Greek and Roman slavery and the law, discuss the relationship between law and reality, and attempt to understand the ways in which the holding of slaves affected values and attitudes in antiquity.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

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

- have acquired a knowledge of various kinds of slavery and slave law in antiquity
- address the possible symbolism and meaning of content/subject matter in accounts of ancient slavery within its specific and larger social/historical context
- to understand the important contribution legal evidence makes in examining and reconstructing the social history of ancient Greece and Rome
- read, comprehend, and sum up ancient literary sources in translation concerning ancient slavery

LEARNING OUTCOMES/TRANSFERABLE SKILLS:

Students completing this course are expected to have acquired:

- an understanding of the importance of historical perspective, and how social norms and customs and the construction of slavery and law is a product of time, events and context
- a developed understanding of the limits of primary evidence as actual historical fact

NOTE FROM THE DEAN OF ARTS and HUMANITIES: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

PLAGIARISM: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> [under the Medical Documentation heading] Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty and provide documentation. **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION CANNOT BE GRANTED BY THE INSTRUCTOR OR DEPARTMENT.**

WESTERN ACCESSIBILITY POLICY. Western has many services and programs that support the personal, physical, social and academic needs of students with disabilities. For more information and links to these services: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca/>

WESTERN SUPPORT SERVICES: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

GRADES

Essay	30%
One in-class exam	30%
Final exam (scheduled by the Registrar)	40%

- A grade will not be awarded in this course unless **all three components** have been completed.
- The in-class exams are designed to test the students' knowledge of textbook reading and lectures.
- The essay (8-10 pages) will be selected from a list of topics (which will be distributed) and is due **MONDAY NOVEMBER 24th**. You need to inform me in writing of the topic you wish to write on no later than **MONDAY NOVEMBER 3rd**. Late essays will be penalized at the rate of 5% per day.

NOTES TO STUDENTS:

1. Since the tests are given in class time, there can be no conflicts. **More than one test on the same day does not constitute a conflict.**
2. Exam questions will be based on lectures as well as assigned readings. Failure to complete the required readings before an exam does not constitute a valid reason for postponing that exam. **Plan your schedule ahead of time.**
3. Late essays are penalized at the rate of 5% per day. **More than one essay due on the same day does not constitute a valid reason for an extension.** Plan your schedule ahead of time.
3. Those who miss classes or parts of classes remain responsible for the material they have missed. The instructor and the TA will not review the contents of lectures or repeat announcements for those who arrive late or miss classes. I am also old-fashioned in that I **DO NOT** post lecture notes, images, or study notes of any kind on Sakai. This makes attendance **essential**, as many of the lectures do not come with readings, and also because the images I show in class are testable.

4. The final grade is calculated on the basis of your performance on the exams and essay **only**. You cannot do an extra assignment to make up for a poor performance on an exam. Nor can I re-weight exams except in cases of documented medical or personal crisis.

COURSE OUTLINE (*Note: please do the assigned reading **BEFORE** the lecture. Assignments from Wiedemann are the **PASSAGE NUMBERS**, not the page numbers*):

UNIT ONE: SLAVERY IN GREEK LAW AND SOCIETY

Sept 5

- Introduction

Sept 8

- Sources for Greek law
- Definitions and problems

Reading: Cartledge (“Greek civilization and slavery;” in coursepack), Finley (“The emergence of a slave society;” in coursepack); Wiedemann #80

Sept 10

- Barbarians and natural slaves

Reading: Wiedemann #2

Sept 12

- The development of a slave system; chattel slavery

Sept 15

- The Spartan helots and others

Reading: Wiedemann #15, 16

Sept 17

- Slaves in classical Athens: numbers, origins, and economic functions

Reading: Wiedemann # 85-87, 89-91, 97, 101-103, 140, 158-161, 211; Rihill (“Classical Athens,” CWH online); Cartledge (“The political economy of Greek slavery;” in coursepack); Jameson (“On Paul Cartledge;” in coursepack); Wood (“Slavery and the peasant-citizen;” in coursepack)

Sept 19

- Slaves in classical Athens con’t; sources of slaves

Sept 22

- Slavery and the Greek family

Reading: Golden (“Slavery and the Greek family,” CWH online)

Sept 24

- Resistance, flight, and revolt

Reading: Wiedemann #22-27, 57, 184, 200, 206, 222-223; McKeown (“Resistance among chattel slaves,” CWH online)

Sept 26

- Torture and protection

Reading: Wiedemann #74,177, 181-83, 193

UNIT TWO: SLAVERY IN ROMAN LAW

Sept 29

- Sources for Roman law

Reading: Joshel 1-47

Oct 1

- The origins of large-scale slavery; numbers; sources of slaves

Reading: Joshel 77-110, Wiedemann #82, 92, 93 (numbers), 126, 141, 235, 124, 175 (*vernae*); 4, 69, 107 (piracy), 110 (kidnapping), 113, 114, 117, 118, 119 (captives); 98, 108 (trade)

Oct 3

- Numbers and sources of slaves con't

Oct 6

- Slave dress, food, and shelter I

Reading: Bradley ("Quality of life," coursepack); Wiedemann #65 (dress of slaves),

Oct 8

- Slave dress, food and shelter II

Oct 10

- The slave as thing; slave sales

Reading: Joshel 112-160; Wiedemann #1, 4, 5, 8, 11, 13, 14, 56, 58, 62, 63, 108 (chalked feet), 199, 201, 236 (status); #189 (wrongs done a slave)

Oct 13: NO CLASS. THANKSGIVING.

Oct 15

- Slave sales continued

Oct 17

- Non-commercial relations/slave crime

Reading: Watson ("The slave as man: non commercial relations" coursepack); Wiedemann #50, 98-100, 104, 105, 150, 194 (sales); #7, 186 (slave sentencing), 178-179 (torture)

Oct 20

- Non-commercial relations/slave crime

Oct 22

- Commercial relations; occupations; the slave economy

Reading: Watson ("The slave as man: contracts and the *peculium*," coursepack) Joshel 162-214; Wiedemann #126, 127, 129-137, 142-155, 157

Oct 24

- Commercial relations; occupations; the slave economy

Oct 27

- Acquisitions through slaves

Reading: Watson ("The master's acquisitions through slaves," coursepack)

Oct 29

- System of rewards

Reading: Wiedemann #201-204, 208

Nov 3

- System of punishments

Reading: Wiedemann, #185, 187, 190, 191 (mill workers), 192 (mine workers), 196, 197, 198, 199, 201-202 (treatment of slaves and their occupations by Cato), 203-204 (abandoning sick slaves) 208 (Cicero on behaving justly to a slave)

Nov 5

- Ordinary slave resistance I

Reading: Bradley (“Resisting slavery at Rome,” CWH online) Wiedemann #209 (Larcus Macedo), 210 (slave sorcerer), 212, 213 (fugitivism), 216, 218 (fugitivism) 219-221 (slave collars), 226 (slave appeals)

Nov 7

- Ordinary slave resistance II

Nov 10

- Resisting Slavery: the Sicilian Slave Wars

Reading: Wiedemann #229, 230

Nov 12

- Resisting slavery: Spartacus

Reading: Bradley (“The slave war of Spartacus,” and “The maintenance of rebellion,” coursepack); Wiedemann #231-234

Nov 14

- Dangerous or disloyal slaves; slave loyalty and good deeds

Reading: Bradley (“Loyalty and obedience,” coursepack); Wiedemann #39 (barred from a family tomb), 76 (an arsonist), 83 (slave theft), 155 (slave who destroys property); #59 (slave desertions during civil war), 68 (slave who has entered the Senate), 69 (conditions under which a slave receives freedom), 77 (slave betrays master), 239 (Seneca on slaves’ good deeds), 243 (good qualities of a slave)

Nov 17

- The *SC Silanianum*

Reading; Wiedemann #180 (*SC Silanianum*) **bring to class**

Nov 19

- Family and Sexuality I

Reading: Edmondson (“Slavery and the Roman family,” CBH online); Wiedemann # 33 (marriage to a slave girl), 38 (freedmen access to a tomb), 45 (freedwomen and labor), 49 (tomb of slave couple), 50 (tomb of male-male couple), 194 (prostitutes)

Nov 21

- Family and sexuality II

Nov 24

- Manumission and citizenship/re-enslavement I

Reading: Wiedemann #28-50

Nov 26

- Manumission and citizenship/ re-enslavement II

Nov 28

- Christians and Stoics

Reading: Glancy (“Slavery and the rise of Christianity,” CHW online); Wiedemann #238, #195 (Christian owners having sex with *ancillae*)

Dec 1 Problems (class discussion)

Dec 3 (as needed)