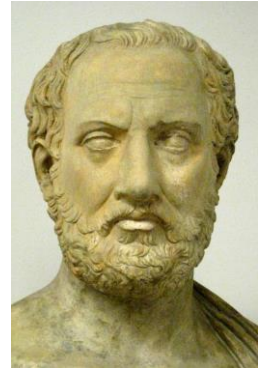


GK 9903A: GREEK HISTORIOGRAPHY **Thucydides' Account of the Sicilian Expedition**



Bust of Thucydides

Course Location: Room TBD (in-person instruction)
Course Times: Th 2:30-5:30 p.m.
Instructor: Dr. Bernd Steinbock
Email: bsteinbo@uwo.ca
Office: Lawson Hall 3210
Office Hours: Tu 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. or by appointment
Course Website: owl.uwo.ca

DESCRIPTION & COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In this course we will read substantial portions of Thucydides' gripping account of the Sicilian Expedition (Book 6 and 7). Our goal is two-fold, to gain familiarity with the characteristics of the genre of Greek historiography and to learn to appreciate the historical and literary dimensions of Thucydides' endeavor.

History has three integral elements and can be defined as the past, as practice, and as narrative (cf. Jonathan Hall 2007: 8-11). Consequently, we will approach Thucydides' history of the Sicilian Expedition from all these different angles and examine, among other things, Thucydides' historical method (e.g. sources, historical reliability, use of speeches, etc.) and his narrative art (i.e. influence of other literary genres and employment of particular literary techniques such as vivid description, focalization, analepsis, sideshadowing, etc.). Ultimately, we seek to understand Thucydides' view of history and his objectives in narrating the Athenians' Sicilian Expedition in this particular way.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

Martha C. Taylor. *Thucydides' Melian Dialogue and Sicilian Expedition. A Student Commentary* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2019 [ISBN: 978-0-8061-6194-5]; also available as e-book [ISBN: 978-0-8061-6413-7])

Secondary readings and the pertinent sections of Thucydides' text will be made available on the course website on OWL.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS:

I will scan the assigned passages from Jones' OCT edition of Thucydides' text and make them available on OWL. For those students who would like to own either Thucydides' entire text (volume I and II) or at least his account of the Sicilian expedition (volume II), the bookstore has ordered the following:

H. S. Jones (ed.), *Thucydidis Historiae I* (Oxford Classical Texts) [ISBN: 978-0198145509]

H. S. Jones (ed.), *Thucydidis Historiae II* (Oxford Classical Texts) [ISBN: 978-0198145516]

I will also provide the relevant passages from Hornblower's quintessential commentary for each week on OWL. But if you have money to spare, I highly recommend ordering volume III of his series (ca. 155 \$ on Amazon.ca):

Simon Hornblower, *A Commentary on Thucydides*. Vol. 3 (Oxford 2008)

EVALUATION:

Preparation and Participation:	10%
Leading of Discussion Session:	5%
Midterm Test	20% [October 12]
1-Page Abstract:	5% [due on November 12]
Annotated Conference Paper (20 min.):	30% [10% for presentation; 20 % for final version]
Final Exam :	30% [exam period in December]

NOTES ON GRADE COMPONENTS:

1. Students are expected to **prepare** 3-5 pages of Thucydides per week, including translation and grammar explanation with the help of the commentaries on Perseus and our course website on OWL. Students will translate in class and discuss questions of morphology and syntax. Even though we will not be able to translate all of the assigned text in class, the entire assignment is eligible for the translation tests.
2. We will concentrate our study of Thucydides around a number of special **discussion topics** (see detailed syllabus). The **discussion sessions** are based upon a particular passage in Thucydides and are meant to deepen our understanding of various aspects of Greek Historiography through selected articles and further ancient sources to be read by every student as part of the weekly reading assignment. **Each student** will pick **one** of these discussion topics, **present a critical summary** of the assigned articles (**15 min**), **generate questions** and **function as expert** in the ensuing class discussion.
3. The **Midterm Test** and the **Final Exam** will consist of passages selected from the assigned translations, for translation and commentary, and feature a sight-reading passage (worth 20% of the in-class test and final exam, respectively).
4. As final project students will prepare a **20 min.-long conference paper** on a topic of their own choosing. The paper should be thoroughly researched with proper references and detailed documentation in the footnotes (ca. 1800 words plus footnotes). A **1-page abstract**, outlining the project and detailing its main thesis, is due on November 12. For tips, see <https://classicalstudies.org/annual-meeting/suggestions-authors-abstracts-program-committee>.

For the presentation, every student will prepare a short **handout**, which contains the one-page abstract, a short bibliography and the main passages to be discussed in the paper. All translations in the handout and the paper should be your own, but you are allowed to draw on standard published translations. The handout must be made available at least **24 hours before** the presentation (either electronically or by putting a copy into everybody's mailbox). This will stimulate class discussion and improve feedback. The final version of this paper is due on December 17, 2020.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

1. Students seeking academic accommodation for any missed tests, exams and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade **must either complete a Self-Reported Absence Form** (provided the conditions for submission are met) **or apply to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty** and provide documentation (see note on Policy on Accommodation for Student Absences below). Make-up exams **CANNOT** be granted by the instructor.
2. If you miss a test, you must – in addition to completing a Self-Reported Absence Form or applying to the Office of the Dean of your home faculty – **contact me no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or Student Medical Certificate, or immediately upon your return following a documented absence. If you do not, the grade of **F will stand**.
3. Students should note that missed quizzes will be counted as zeroes. Make-ups will be granted **only** if you contact the instructor in advance or within 24 hours. The make-up will be scheduled as soon as possible after the missed quiz or assignment, usually before the next class.
4. Those who miss classes or parts of classes remain responsible for material they have missed. Students are encouraged to form study groups in order to assist each other in preparing for tests and for discussion of assigned readings.
5. There is no extra credit in this course; there will be no re-weighting of the course components.

CLASS COMMUNICATION:

Class will be notified of any class cancellations, room changes and other special announcements via the course website on OWL.

The University of Western Ontario
Department of Classical Studies

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).

SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES: Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENT ABSENCES:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf

Students seeking academic accommodation for any missed tests, exams and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must either complete a Self-Reported Absence Form (provided the conditions for submission are met) or apply to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty and provide documentation. **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION CANNOT BE GRANTED BY THE INSTRUCTOR OR DEPARTMENT.**

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf [downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf]

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/>

ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS: Student Accessibility Services (SAS) plays a central role in Western's efforts to ensure that its academic programs are accessible for all students at the graduate and undergraduate levels. SAS arranges academic accommodation for classes, exams, internships and other course or program activities. SAS also provides digital and Braille textbooks, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction for students with learning disabilities, access to computer labs that are equipped with assistive technology, referrals for assessments and other services, and bursaries for students who meet OSAP's eligibility criteria. You may wish to contact SAS at 519 661-2111 x 82147 or visit their website:

<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/> for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

MENTAL HEALTH: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western

https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

COPYRIGHT: Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

COVID-19: As long as the university considers face-to-face instruction with proper social distancing measures safe, **this course will be taught in-person in a classroom with strict adherence to public health protocols.** Students who are unable to participate in person will be accommodated via Zoom. Should the course have to be offered remotely due to a renewed coronavirus outbreak, in-person instruction will be replaced by instruction via Zoom. Note that course requirements and/or grade weighting might change if the course has to be offered remotely.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR CLASS:

1. Use the text, commentaries and links to various lexica provided by Perseus to understand the challenging syntax and morphology of Thucydides' prose:
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=urn:cts:greekLit:tlg0003.tlg001.perseus-grc1>
2. Use the grammatical and historical commentaries, provided for each week on OWL, especially:
CT = S. Hornblower, *A Commentary on Thucydides*. 3 vols. (Oxford 1991-2008)
HCT = A. W. Gomme, A. Andrews, and K. J. Dover, *A Historical Commentary on Thucydides*. 5 vols. (Oxford, 1945-81)
ML = R. Meiggs & D. Lewis (eds.), *A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century B.C.* (rev. ed. Oxford 1988)
Fornara = Charles Fornara (ed.), *Archaic Times to the End of the Peloponnesian War* (2nd ed. Cambridge 1983)
Nagy = B. Nagy (ed.), *Thucydides Reader: Annotated Passages from Books I-VIII of the Histories* (2nd ed. Newburyport, MA 2012)
Cameron = H. D. Cameron, *Thucydides Book I: A Students' Grammatical Commentary* (Ann Arbor 2003)
Dover VI = K. J. Dover (ed.), *Thucydides Book VI* (Oxford 1965)
Dover VII = K. J. Dover (ed.), *Thucydides Book VII* (Oxford 1965)
3. Read the secondary reading for each week's discussion topic

N.B. This course outline is subject to revision if necessary