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

OFFICE: LAH 3227 (661-2111 x 84325)

OFFICE HOURS: Thursdays, 4:00-5:00 PM

TIME AND PLACE OF CLASS: Tues 10:30-12:20, Thurs 11:30-12:20, MC 17

COURSE OBJECTIVES This course is designed to give honours-level students insight into ancient sexuality and categories of gender using primary sources. The wide body of artistic evidence available from the ancient world on this topic (in the form of vase-paintings, sculpture, wall-paintings, and everyday objects) is supplemented by a close reading of literary sources in translation.

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

• have acquired a knowledge of ancient Greek and Roman sexuality and sexual activities, be able to describe in detail the sexual ‘blueprint’ of antiquity, and be able to outline how ancient sexual categories differ from our own
• identify both iconography and subject matter, and be able to visually analyze ancient art which depicts ancient sexual activities
• address the possible symbolism and meaning of content/subject matter in ancient art within its specific and larger social/historical context
• to understand the discourse surrounding the male and female body in the ancient world
• read, comprehend, and sum up ancient literary sources in translation concerning sexuality

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 sexuality, are products of time, events and context
• a developed understanding of the limits of primary evidence as embodying actual historical fact

REQUIRED TEXTS:

• C. Vout. *Sex on Show: Seeing the Erotic in Greece and Rome* (Berkeley, 2013)
• Primary Sources (on our OWL site). Please note the study questions for each day.
• Other readings: please go to: [https://ares.lib.uwo.ca/ares/](https://ares.lib.uwo.ca/ares/) You will need your UWO login/password

**In addition, a useful website to look at is Diotima: Women and Gender in the Ancient World ([http://www.stoa.org/diotima](http://www.stoa.org/diotima))

GRADES

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay topic, annotated bibliography</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>One essay</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>One in-class exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam (scheduled by the Registrar)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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A grade will not be awarded in this course unless all four components have been completed.

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 https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATION FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS: 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.

In addition to completing a Self-Reported Absence Form or applying to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty, students seeking academic accommodation must communicate with their instructors 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 their return following a documented absence.

UWO 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/

EMOTIONAL OR MENTAL DISTRESS 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.

ESSAYS AND EXAMS:

The in-class exam and the final exam are designed to test the students’ visual memory, knowledge of textbook reading, and lectures. The essay (8 -10 pages) will be written on a topic of the students’ own choosing (in consultation with the instructor) is due TUES MARCH 31st. Late essays will be penalized at the rate of 5% per day. **For exam and essay formats, please see our OWL site.

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. Please plan your schedule ahead of time.

3. Those who miss classes or parts of classes remain responsible for the material they have missed.

4. I do not re-weight exams except in cases of serious illness or provable personal crisis. Nor can you do an extra-credit assignment to make up for a poor performance on an exam or essay.

COURSE OUTLINE
1. Sexuality in Ancient Greece
**Tues Jan 7**
- Introduction
- Source problems

**Thurs Jan 9**
- Prudery


**Tues Jan 14**
- What is sexuality?; history of the study of sexuality; continuity and change

- What is sexuality? Con’t

**Thurs Jan 16**
- The male body

**Reading:** Primary Sources p. 25; Vout 44-75; A. Stewart. “Three Attic Ideologies,” in *Art, Desire and the Body in Ancient Greece* (Cambridge University Press, 1997); pp. 63-75; A. Stewart, “Of war and love,” in *Art, Desire and the Body in Ancient Greece* (Cambridge University Press, 1997); pp. 86-97.

**Tues Jan 21**
- The male body con’t
- The female body


**Thurs Jan 23**
- The female body con’t

**Tues Jan 28**
- Heterorotica I: heteroerotic scenes of courtship and lovemaking

“Pornography and persuasion on Attic pottery,” in A. Richlin, ed. Pornography and 
Representation in Greece and Rome (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 
1992), pp. 3-35.

- Heterorotica II

Thurs Jan 30
- Heterorotica III

Tues Feb 4
- Homoerotica: homoerotic scenes of courtship and lovemaking

Reading: Primary Sources pp. 41-52; M. Kilmer, “Painters and pederasts: ancient art, 
sexuality, and social history,” in M. Golden and P. Toohey, eds., Inventing Ancient 
Culture (London and New York: Routledge, 1997), pp. 36-49; T. Hubbard, “Peer 
homosexuality,” in T. Hubbard (ed) A Companion to Greek and Roman Sexualities (Wiley-

- Homoerotica II

Thurs Feb 6
- Erotica and the body politic

Reading: A. Stewart, “The Athenian body politic,” in Art, Desire and the Body in Ancient 
Greece (Cambridge University Press, 1997), pp. 133-56; J. Davidson, “Politics and 
politicians,” in Courtesans and Fishcakes: The Consuming Passions of Classical Athens 

Tues Feb 11
- The prostitute in literature and art

Reading: Primary Sources pp. 53-62; Vout 92-108; E. Cohen, Athenian Prostitution: The 
Business of Sex (Oxford Univ. Press, 2015), 39-68. J. Davidson, “Women and boys,” in 
Courtesans and Fishcakes: The Consuming Passions of Classical Athens. (London: Fontana, 
Glazebrook and B. Tsakirgas, eds. Houses of Ill-Repute: The Archaeology of Brothels, 

Thurs Feb 13
- Solitary performances

Reading: M. Kilmer, “Solitary scenes,” in Greek Erotica on Attic Red- Figure Vases 
(Duckworth and Co., Ltd, 1983), pp. 60-67

FEB 17-20 READING WEEK: NO CLASSES

Tues Feb 25
- Satyrs

Halperin et al., eds. Before Sexuality: The Construction of Erotic Experience in the 
Thurs Feb 27 **IN CLASS MIDTERM**

Tues Mar 3 (**essay topics due)
- Hermaphrodites; transvestism


2. Sexuality in Ancient Rome
- Phallicism/ the male body: masturbation, impotence, penis as instrument of aggression

Reading: Primary Sources pp. 65-69; Vout 75-89, 197-201; J. N. Adams, “Attitudes to male genitalia,” in *The Latin Sexual Vocabulary* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 1982), pp. 77-79

Thurs Mar 5
- Phallicism con’t

Tues Mar 10 (**annotated bibliographies due)
- The female body

- The female body II

Thurs March 12
- Prostitutes and the brothel/sexual graffiti


Tues Mar 17
- Prostitutes and the brothel/ sexual graffiti II
- Male-to-female lovemaking; oral sex I

Reading: Primary Sources pp. 81-90; Vout 109-127

Thurs Mar 19: Dr Olson away: no class.

Tues Mar 24
- Male-to-female lovemaking; oral sex II

Reading: Primary Sources pp. 81-90; Vout 109-127
• Male-to-female lovemaking; oral sex III

Thurs Mar 26
• Erotic paintings and objects: the brothel, the baths, the Roman home
Reading: Clarke 91-118, 145-153, 161-177

Tues Mar 31 (***essays due***)
• Erotic paintings and objects: the brothel, the baths, the Roman home
Reading: Clarke 91-118, 145-153, 161-177
• Homoeroticism: men's and women's
  Reading: Primary Sources pp. 91-97; Clarke 59-90; Vout 161-167

Thurs Apr 2
• Slavery and sexuality
Reading: Primary Sources pp. 98-103
• Sex and the arena
Reading: Primary Sources pp. 104–105
• Other races/ bestiality