

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

Civilizations of the Ancient World • Fall 2022

For each meeting, please come into class having read and thought about the readings assigned for that class.

Everything listed under each meeting—the textbook readings, *Gilgamesh*, and *Clouds*—is fair game for the quizzes we'll have at the start of some meetings.

August 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

November 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

BEGINNINGS

1 Introduction and Themes

Thursday, August 25

Watch the Welcome and Orientation Video

MATHISEN "Laying The Groundwork" (pp. 3-5)

MATHISEN "The Palaeolithic Age (2,000,000–10,000)" (pp. 5-13)

2 The Origins of Civilization

Tuesday, August 30

MATHISEN "The Neolithic World (8000–5500 BCE)" (pp. 13-24)

MATHISEN "The Chalcolithic Period (5500–2000 BCE)" (pp. 24-33)

6 God-Kings of Egypt

Tuesday, September 13

MATHISEN "Before The Pharaohs (5000–3000 BCE)" (pp. 77-84)

MATHISEN "The Early Dynastic Period (3000–2700)" (pp. 84-92)

GILGAMESH Tablet 6

7 Egyptian Empires

Thursday, September 15

MATHISEN "The Old Kingdom (2700–2200 BCE)" (pp. 92-97)

MATHISEN "The Middle Kingdom (2050–1786 BCE)" (pp. 97-103)

MATHISEN "The New Kingdom (1534–1070 BCE)" (pp. 103-109)

GILGAMESH Tablet 7

THE BRONZE AGE

3 Mesopotamia

Thursday, September 1

MATHISEN "The Origins Of Mesopotamian" (pp. 37-45)

MATHISEN "The Rise Of Sumerian Civilization" (pp. 45-52)

GILGAMESH Introduction (at least pages xiii-xvi, xxxi-xxxii)

GILGAMESH Tablet 1

4 Sumer

Tuesday, September 6

MATHISEN "Historical Sumer (3000–2300 BCE)" (pp. 52-60)

GILGAMESH Tablet 2

5 Semitic Mesopotamia

Thursday, September 8

MATHISEN "The Semitic Peoples and the First Near Eastern Empires (2300–1200 BCE)" (pp. 60-75)

GILGAMESH Tablet 5

8 The Bronze Age Aegean

Tuesday, September 20

MATHISEN "Early Civilizations of the Levant" (pp. 111-113)

MATHISEN "Aegean Civilizations (3000–1100 BCE)" (pp. 113-125)

GILGAMESH Tablet 11

THE IRON AGE

9 Dawn of the Iron Age

Thursday, September 22

MATHISEN "The Iron Age In The Eastern Mediterranean (1200–800 BCE)" (pp. 125-131)

MATHISEN "The Hebrews (2000–900 BCE)" (pp. 131-140)

No Meeting: Tuesday, September 27

No Meeting (Monday classes): Thursday, September 29

No Meeting: Tuesday, October 4

Essay #1 due the night before

- 10 How Not to Run an Empire: The Assyrians**
Thursday, October 6
MATHISEN "The Assyrian Empire (850–605 BCE)" (pp. 142-155)
MATHISEN "The Successors of the Assyrians" (pp. 155-159)

- 11 The Success of the Persian Empire**
Tuesday, October 11
MATHISEN "The Persian Empire (550–331 BCE)" (pp. 159-163)
MATHISEN "Darius and the Operation of the Persian Empire" (pp. 163-171)

- 12 The Greek Dark Age**
Thursday, October 13
MATHISEN "The Greek Dark Ages (1100–776 BCE)" (pp. 175-180)
MATHISEN "The Construction Of Greek Identity" (pp. 180-187)

- 13 Midterm Exam**
Tuesday, October 18

- 14 Ancient Asia: China, India, and the Steppes**
Thursday, October 20
MATHISEN "The Eurasian Steppes" (pp. 296-301)
MATHISEN "Eastern Asia" (pp. 301-310)

THE GREEK IDEA

- 15 Archaic Hellas**
Tuesday, October 25
MATHISEN "The Archaic Age (776–500 BCE)" (pp. 187-202)
CLOUDS Section 1
- 16 Sparta and Athens**
Thursday, October 27
MATHISEN "The Spartan Way" (pp. 205-211)
MATHISEN "The Rise Of Athens" (pp. 211-218)
CLOUDS Section 2
- 17 The Persian Menace**
Tuesday, November 1
MATHISEN "The Greeks And Persia (547–465 BCE)" (pp. 218-226)
MATHISEN "The Golden Age Of Athens (465–431)" (pp. 226-231)
CLOUDS Section 3
- 18 Wars Between the Greeks**
Thursday, November 3
MATHISEN "The Peloponnesian War (431–387)" (pp. 231-246)
CLOUDS Section 4
- 19 The Rise of Macedon**
Tuesday, November 8
MATHISEN "After The Peloponnesian War" (pp. 249-257)
MATHISEN "The Age Of Alexander (336–323 BCE)" (pp. 257-265)
CLOUDS Section 5

- 20 The Legacy of Alexander**
Thursday, November 10
MATHISEN "The Hellenistic Kingdoms (323–120)" (pp. 265-279)
CLOUDS Section 6

THE MIGHT OF ROME

- 21 Early Rome**
Tuesday, November 15
MATHISEN "Carthage" (pp. 319-326)
MATHISEN "Cultural Encounters of Early Romans" (pp. 339-341)
MATHISEN "Rome of the Kings (753–509 BCE)" (pp. 341-349)
Essay #2 due the night before
- 22 The Roman Republic**
Thursday, November 17
MATHISEN "The Early Roman Republic (509–246)" (pp. 349-356)
- 23 The Acquisition of Empire**
Tuesday, November 22
MATHISEN "Warfare And Expansion (390–133)" (pp. 356-371)

No Meeting: Thursday, November 24

- 24 The Republican Crisis**
Tuesday, November 29
MATHISEN "From One Crisis to the Next (150–88)" (pp. 379-390)
MATHISEN "An Age Of Generals (88–60 BCE)" (pp. 390-399)
- 25 Collapse of the Republic**
Thursday, December 1
MATHISEN "The Triumvirates (60–31 BCE)" (pp. 399-409)
MATHISEN "The Establishment of the Principate (31–21 BCE)" (pp. 409-414)
- 26 Augustus, Princes, Imperator**
Tuesday, December 6
MATHISEN "The Age Of Augustus (27 BCE–14 CE)" (pp. 415-430)
Essay #3 due the night before
- 27 The Roman Principate**
Thursday, December 8
MATHISEN "The Julio-Claudian And Flavian Dynasties (27 BCE–96 CE)" (pp. 430-440)
MATHISEN "The Antonine Dynasty (96–192)" (pp. 440-451)
- 28 Christianity and Rome**
Tuesday, December 13
MATHISEN "The World of the Pax Romana" (pp. 451-464)
MATHISEN "Religion and the Rise Of Christianity" (pp. 464-471)

Final Exam: Tuesday, December 20

Tablets in *The Epic of Gilgamesh*

Page numbers refer to the Andrew George (Penguin) edition assigned for this class. Only the starred tablets (★) are assigned for meetings. That said, reading the whole thing might help you with your essay.

★ 1. The Coming of Enkidu	pages 1–11
★ 2. The Taming of Enkidu	12–22
3. Preparations for the Expedition	22–29
4. The Journey to the Forest of Cedar	30–39
★ 5. The Combat with Humbaba	39–47
★ 6. Ishtar and the Bull of Heaven	47–54
★ 7. The Death of Enkidu	54–62
8. The Funeral of Enkidu	62–69
9. The Wanderings of Gilgamesh	70–75
10. At the Edge of the World	75–87
★ 11. Immortality Denied	88–99

Sections in *Clouds*

Page numbers refer to the West's *Four Texts on Socrates* assigned for this class. Any good edition will have line numbers; see me if yours doesn't. We are reading the whole play (it's not very long).

West's Introduction		pages 29-37
1. Strepsiades's Problem	lines 1–13	pages 115-120
2. The Thinkery	lines 133–365	pages 120-130
3. Gods and Memory	lines 366–518	pages 131-136
Clouds' Response 1	518–626	136-141
4. Hen and Cock	lines 627–888	pages 141-151
5. The Debate	lines 889–1114	pages 151-161
Clouds' Response 2	1115–1130	161
Old and New Day	1131–1213	161-164
6. The Creditor	lines 1214–1320	pages 165-169
New Morality	1321–1492	169-176
The Purge	1493–1510	176