

Schedule of Readings and Assignments (Revised)

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

Readings listed with the book icon (📖) are from the assigned textbook, [Mathisen](#), *Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations*, 3d Edition.

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.

January 2023						
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			

February 2024						
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		

March 2024						
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

April 2024						
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				

May 2024						
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, January 25

Before the meeting: Watch the Welcome and Orientation video (4:21)

- 📖 pp. 3-5, "Laying the Groundwork"
- 📖 pp. 5-13, "The Palaeolithic Age (2,000,000–10,000 BCE)"

2 The Origins of Civilization

Tuesday, January 30

- 📖 pp. 13-24, "The Neolithic World (8000–5500 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 24-33, "The Chalcolithic Period (5500–2000 BCE)"

THE BRONZE AGE

3 Mesopotamia

Thursday, February 1

- 📖 pp. 37-45, "The Origins of Mesopotamian Civilization (6000–3000 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 45-52, "The Rise of Sumerian Civilization"
- ★ "Gilgamesh", Introduction
- ★ "Gilgamesh", Tablet 1: The Coming of Enkidu

4 Sumer

Tuesday, February 6

- 📖 pp. 52-60, "Historical Sumer (3000–2300 BCE)"
- ★ "Gilgamesh", Tablet 2: The Taming of Enkidu

5 Semitic Mesopotamia

Thursday, February 8

- 📖 pp. 60-75, "The Semitic Peoples and the First Near Eastern Empires (2300–1200 BCE)"
- ★ "Gilgamesh", Tablet 5: The Combat with Humbaba

6 God-Kings of Egypt

Thursday, February 15

- 📖 pp. 77-84, "Before The Pharaohs (5000–3000 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 84-92, "The Early Dynastic Period (3000–2700 BCE)"
- ★ "Gilgamesh", Tablet 6: Ishtar and the Bull of Heaven

7 Egyptian Empires

Tuesday, February 20

- 📖 pp. 92-97, "The Old Kingdom (2700–2200 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 97-103, "The Middle Kingdom (2050–1786 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 103-109, "The New Kingdom (1534–1070 BCE)"
- ★ "Gilgamesh", Tablet 7: The Death of Enkidu

Thursday, February 22

No meeting
Monday classes meet

8 The Bronze Age Aegean

Tuesday, February 27

- 📖 pp. 111-113, "Early Civilizations of the Levant (2500–1500 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 113-125, "Aegean Civilizations (3000–1100 BCE)"
- ★ "Gilgamesh", Tablet 11: Immortality Denied

THE IRON AGE

9 Dawn of the Iron Age

Thursday, February 29

- 📖 pp. 125-131, "The Iron Age In The Eastern Mediterranean (1200–800 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 131-140, "The Hebrews (2000–900 BCE)"

10 How Not to Run an Empire: The Assyrians

Tuesday, March 5

Essay #1 is due on Monday, March 4.

- 📖 pp. 142-155, "The Assyrian Empire (850–605 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 155-159, "The Successors of the Assyrians (605–550 BCE)"

11 The Success of the Persian Empire

Thursday, March 7

- 📖 pp. 159-163, "The Persian Empire (550–331 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 163-171, "Darius and the Operation of the Persian Empire"

12 Ancient Asia: China, India, and the Steppes

Tuesday, March 12

- 📖 pp. 296-301, "The Eurasian Steppes"
- 📖 pp. 301-310, "Eastern Asia"

13 Midterm Exam

Thursday, March 14

The exam will take place in our normal meeting room during our regular class period.

THE GREEK IDEA

14 The Greek Dark Age

Tuesday, March 19

- 📖 pp. 175-180, "The Greek Dark Ages (1100–776 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 180-187, "The Construction of Greek Identity"
- ★ "Clouds", Section 1

15 Archaic Hellas

Thursday, March 21

- 📖 pp. 187-202, "The Archaic Age (776–500 BCE)"
- ★ "Clouds", Section 2

16 Sparta and Athens

Tuesday, March 26

- 📖 pp. 205-211, "The Spartan Way"
- 📖 pp. 211-218, "The Rise of Athens"
- ★ "Clouds", Section 3

17 The Persian Menace

Thursday, March 28

- 📖 pp. 218-226, "The Greeks and Persia (547–465 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 226-231, "The Golden Age of Athens (465–431 BCE)"
- ★ "Clouds", Section 4

18 Wars Between the Greeks

Tuesday, April 2

- 📖 pp. 231-246, "The Peloponnesian War (431–387 BCE)"
- ★ "Clouds", Section 5

19 The Rise of Macedon

Thursday, April 4

- 📖 pp. 249-257, "After the Peloponnesian War (387–336 BCE)"
- 📖 pp. 257-265, "The Age of Alexander (336–323 BCE)"
- ★ "Clouds", Section 6

20 The Legacy of Alexander

Tuesday, April 9

- 📖 pp. 265-279, "The Hellenistic Kingdoms (323–120 BCE)"

THE MIGHT OF ROME

21 Early Rome

Thursday, April 11

- 📖 pp. 319-326, "Carthage"
- 📖 pp. 339-341, "Cultural Encounters of the Early Romans"
- 📖 pp. 341-349, "Rome of the Kings (753–509 BCE)"

22 The Roman Republic

Tuesday, April 16

Essay #2 is due on Monday, April 15.

- 📖 pp. 349-356, "The Early Roman Republic (509–246 BCE)"
- ★ The Constitution of the Roman Republic / Polybius

23 The Acquisition of Empire

Thursday, April 18

- 📖 pp. 356-371, "Warfare and Expansion (390–133 BCE)"

Tuesday, April 23-30

No meeting
Spring recess

24 The Republican Crisis

Thursday, May 2

- 📖 pp. 379-390, "From One Crisis to the Next (150–88 BCE)"

25 Collapse of the Republic

Tuesday, May 7

- pp. 390-399, "An Age of Generals (88–60 BCE)"

26 Crossing the Rubicon

Thursday, May 9

- pp. 399-409, "The Triumvirates (60–31 BCE)"
- pp. 409-414, "The Establishment of the Principate (31–21 BCE)"

27 Augustus, Princeps, Imperator

Tuesday, May 14

Essay #3 is due on Monday, May 13.

- pp. 415-430, "The Age of Augustus (27 BCE–14 CE)"
- pp. 430-440, "The Julio-Claudian And Flavian Dynasties (27 BCE–96 CE)"

29 Final Exam

Tuesday, May 21

The final exam will be held in-person on Tuesday, May 21 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in our regular classroom.

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.

		pages	
★	1.	The Coming of Enkidu	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 Wests' *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).

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