

# FINAL EXAM

## Important! General Instructions

- Each answer should consist of your assertion in response to the question; brief but specific examples from the semester's material that support your assertion; and your discussion of what those examples show. Your examples may come from the textbook, *Gilgamesh*, *Clouds*, your research, videos, and class discussion.
- Try to make clear where your examples come from (e.g., "In *Clouds*, the sophists were...") and from which place and period ("During the Iron Age, the Persians..." or "During the Roman Republic, patricians...").
- Do not copy anything from anywhere unless it is in quotes, brief, used in the examples part of your answer only, and its origin clearly indicated. **All assertions and discussion need to be yours alone.** Any plagiarism will result in a zero on this exam and possible additional disciplinary action by the College. No bibliography or formal citations are needed, but information and ideas that are not yours must be noted as such, and used only in the examples.
- Please read the instructions for each section before answering. Give section and number with your answer.
- Return your exam response as a Word or PDF file to [mark.wilson@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:mark.wilson@lehman.cuny.edu) **no later than May 26.**

## A. Identification and Impact

**Instructions:** For each answer, provide both of the following: (a) a brief, one-sentence definition of the term or description of the person, including place and period, and (b) a paragraph about its importance or impact in relation to our course material and discussions, with examples.

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| ▶ ANSWER ONLY | 5           |
| ▶ LENGTH EACH | 60-80 words |
| ▶ POINTS EACH | 5           |

"Carthago delenda est"

proscriptions

client kingdom

second settlement

hegemony

Sicilian Expedition

Hellenistic Period

SPQR

helot

trireme

phalanx

Unjust Argument (character in *Clouds*)

polis

vestal virgin

proconsul

Answer only 5. More than that will not be read or graded. Each answer should be around 60-80 words.

## B. Short Answer

**Instructions:** Express your opinion, then support your opinion with detailed evidence and examples from readings and discussion. BE SPECIFIC and give examples.

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|---------------|---------------|
| ▶ ANSWER ONLY | 2             |
| ▶ LENGTH EACH | 180-240 words |
| ▶ POINTS EACH | 13            |

1. What are the downsides to radical democracy as it was practiced in Athens? Discuss the potential or actual negative side-effects of full democracy. What effects did democracy have on Athens in the long run? *Be specific and give examples.*
2. How did war transform Hellas? Discuss the different ways in which the Aegean world was changed by either (a) the Persian Wars or (b) the Peloponnesian War. Consider political, social, and economic factors. *Be specific and give examples.*
3. Was Alexander really “great”? Discuss his intentions, actions, and legacy, supporting your verdict with specific examples. How much of the credit for his accomplishments belongs to himself compared to his father and others? *Be specific in your explanation.*
4. Why Rome? Rome started out as one of countless rustic villages in on the western fringe of civilization. Yet in a few centuries it came to dominate the Mediterranean and all its peoples. What were the main secrets of Rome’s success? Describe what you think were the main factors in Rome’s rise to dominion, using specific examples.
5. How does acquisition of an empire change the Roman Republic? Consider political, social, religious, and economic factors. How does the development of empire contribute to the collapse of the Republic? Explain your reasoning. *Be specific and give examples.*
6. What exactly was the princeps? What kind of power did Augustus and his successors wield? How was the position Augustus created different from a king, or a consul? Be specific and give examples.

Answer only 2. More than that will not be read or graded. Each answer should be around 180-240 words.

## C. Multiple Choice

**Instructions:** Enter the question number and the letter indicating the best response in your exam response.

▶ POINTS EACH 4

1. Spartan society involved all of the following EXCEPT:
  - a. Rigorous military training of boys starting at age seven
  - b. A vast class of serfs, originally the region's conquered inhabitants, who farmed and fed the warrior elite
  - c. Physical training and greater freedom for women than was usual in Hellas
  - d. Allowing warriors to indulge in the arts, literature, and poetry to create the most civilized warrior possible
  
2. The Delian League was associated with all of the following EXCEPT:
  - a. Athens's leadership in major naval victories against Persia after the Persian Wars
  - b. The invention of the hoplite phalanx as a new form of warfare
  - c. The growing prominence of Pericles in Athenian politics
  - d. The increasing power of Athens as Sparta's rival among the Greeks
  
3. All of the following were true of the sophists EXCEPT:
  - a. They taught rhetoric to citizens for money
  - b. Democracy (the need to persuade voters) created a market for their services
  - c. Despite being depicted as their leader in *Clouds*, the real Socrates actually rejected their teachings
  - d. The playwright Aristophanes approved of the sophists' moral relativism, saying it strengthened Athenian tradition and morals
  
4. The pivotal moment when sudden dread of the barbarian helped make Rome become aggressively expansionistic from then onward was:
  - a. The capture of Veii (396 BCE)
  - b. The sack of Rome (390)
  - c. The sack of Syracuse (212)
  - d. The crossing of the Rubicon (49)
  
5. In the Roman Republic, all of the following were ways the ruling class kept ambitious men from becoming powerful EXCEPT:
  - a. Each elected official had a colleague
  - b. Everyone rose up the same ladder of offices
  - c. Elected officials held office for only one year
  - d. Governors were often kept in their provinces ruling alone for years, where they had control of their own legions
  
6. Which of the following was assassinated after calling for the redistribution of public lands held by the wealthiest Romans?
  - a. Gaius Marius
  - b. Mark Antony
  - c. Tiberius Gracchus
  - d. Augustus

## D. Essay

**Instructions:** Make an argument, then support your opinion with detailed evidence and examples from readings and discussion. BE SPECIFIC and give examples. All assertions must be supported by evidence.

**Note:** These questions pertain to the entire course, from the Neolithic to the Roman principate. Make sure to consider social, religious, economic, military, political, and cultural factors in your answers.

IMPORTANT: ALL ASSERTIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY SPECIFIC EVIDENCE. Each essay should have at least three concrete examples, which you should describe, then discuss.

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| ▶ ANSWER ONLY | 1             |
| ▶ LENGTH EACH | 350-450 words |
| ▶ POINTS EACH | 25            |

1. Discuss the role of religion in ancient society. In the major civilizations we've discussed, what is the relationship between religion and the state?

Discuss in detail at least three societies in terms of religion and the state. What does this suggest about these societies' attitudes toward the gods? What general conclusions can you draw about the ancient perception of the divine, based on the societies you've discussed? Be specific.

2. Make an argument for the best form of government in the ancient world by discussing in detail the nature of at least three governments or empires we've discussed and what it means to be a citizen in each case.

Be sure to clearly state your idea of what a "best" government might be and specifically why you think it's ideal. What advantages and disadvantages of each form of government? Be specific and discuss your examples.

3. I sometimes say that economic power must come before political power. Do you agree?

Discuss, in detail, at least three examples, from the places and periods covered in our course, of nations or empires that became very powerful, and show whether, how, and why that power came about as a result of a rise in that nation's economic strength. Finally, discuss any general conclusions you can draw about why political power does, or does not, derive from economic power.

Answer only 1. More than that will not be read or graded. Your answer should be around 350-450 words.

## Extra Credit

For extra credit, you may answer up to two additional terms from section A, **or** one additional question from section B.