

Civilizations of the Ancient World  
SPRING 2025

MEETING 18

### Wars Between the Greeks

- *Clouds* Essay
- *Conflicting Greek ideals*
- *The undeclared war*
- *The Peloponnesian War*



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### Upcoming dates

- Tuesday, April 15  
Thursday, April 17      No class meeting (Spring Break)
- Monday, April 28      *Clouds* Essay due via BlackBoard
- Monday, May 12      Images Essay due via BlackBoard
- Sunday, April 6      Post your Week 10 responses



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### Four things today

- 1 *Clouds* Essay
- 2 *Conflicting Greek ideals*
- 3 *The undeclared war*
- 4 *The Peloponnesian War*

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### Quiz #6: Wars Between the Greeks

1. Pericles's strategy for dealing with the Spartan threat to Athens was to
  - a. march out and fearlessly fight the Spartan army
  - b. evacuate the farmsteads and bring everyone within the city walls
  - c. sail to Sparta and attack the city
  - d. surrender and hope for the best
2. People who taught the skill of arguing a question from any or all positions, as part of the art of rhetoric, in classical Athens were called
  - a. sophists
  - b. orators
  - c. socialites
  - d. sophists
3. Sparta's victory over Athens was made possible by all of the following **EXCEPT**:
  - a. Sparta's deal with India for naval assistance
  - b. The devastating effects of plague in Athens
  - c. The crippling losses from Athens's expedition to Syracuse
  - d. The defection of an Athenian general, Alcibiades, to Sparta after accusations of religious desecration
4. The aftermath of the Peloponnesian War included
  - a. Athens and its empire rising stronger than ever
  - b. the Persians reconquering Greek lands in Ionia
  - c. decades of peace allowing the Greeks to recover
  - d. the philosopher Socrates being hailed as a hero of Athenian cultural achievement
5. Famous tragic or comic plays from classical Athens include all of the following **EXCEPT**:
  - a. *Lysistrata* by Aristophanes, about the women of Greece denying their husbands sex until they stop the war
  - b. *The Oresteia* by Aeschylus, about Orestes seeking revenge for the murder of Agamemnon by his wife
  - c. *Medea* by Euripides, about a sorceress who gets even with her cheating husband, Jason, by killing her children
  - d. *Helena* by Thucydides, about the murder of fellow historian Herodotus by a vengeful scribe

EC. In your opinion, why did Sparta and Athens really go to war?

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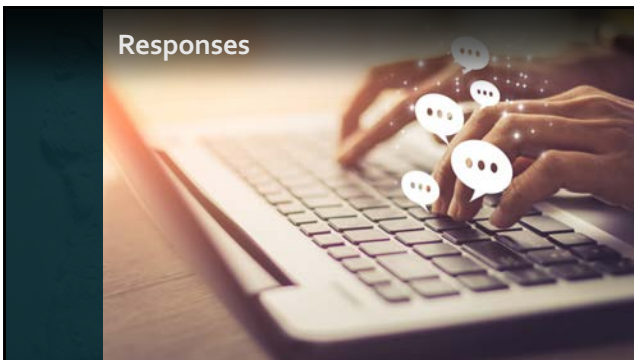
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Questions about whatever



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The middle part of Clouds



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The Clouds Essay



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## Guidance and resources

### Requirements for All Papers

All written assignments for this course MUST adhere to these requirements. It is the student's responsibility to check for all of the following before submitting any work.

Before submitting your assignment, make sure you meet the below criteria. There is one point for each item. The requirements will also show in order that you can check off each item as you go.

### Essay on Clouds

**OVERVIEW**

- Read the story. The teacher will assign you to read the story and you will be assigned to write an argumentative essay.
- Follow the outline. Make sure you write your essay according to the 5-paragraph format.
- Use the research and bibliography. Use the Research and Citation Center. Use all of the information provided in your class or in your research.

### Research and Citations Center

Students are strongly encouraged to use electronic sources. But sometimes you may prefer to use print sources. The Research and Citations Center has a variety of resources to help you find and cite your sources.

### Writing a Position Paper for History Students

By Dr. Michael Huppel, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**A sample introduction**

Read this by the author to see how to use the research center.

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## Clouds essay options

Choose your topic from one of the three prompts below.

Option A	Option B	Option C
<p><b>Right and wrong in <i>Clouds</i>.</b> <i>Clouds</i> emphasizes traditional values throughout the play and then ends with violence. Does <i>Clouds</i> offer an internally inconsistent message on morality?</p>	<p><b>Aristophanes's agenda.</b> The surviving plays of Aristophanes range over a long and turbulent period of Athens's history. Do Aristophanes's opinions and technique change over time?</p>	<p><b>Socrates vs. Socrates.</b> The "Socrates" found in Aristophanes's <i>Clouds</i> is a deliberate distortion given by a desire to discredit the real Socrates. What does this version of Socrates have in common with the one depicted in works by Socrates's student, Plato?</p>
<p><b>Choose a second work to compare with <i>Clouds</i>.</b></p> <p>Popular options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Medea</i> by Euripides;</li> <li><i>Electra</i> by Euripides or Sophocles; and</li> <li><i>Antigone</i> by Sophocles.</li> </ul> <p>There are other possibilities as well.</p>	<p>Popular options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Frogs</i>, mounted in 405 BCE, 13 years after the revised version of <i>Clouds</i>;</li> <li><i>Birds</i>, mounted in 414; and</li> <li><i>Wealth</i>, mounted in 388.</li> </ul>	<p>Possibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Phaedo</i>, which has Socrates discussing life and afterlife on the bank of his execution;</li> <li><i>Apology</i>, a version of Socrates's self-defense against charges of irreligion; or</li> <li>any of the other dialog that focus on how Plato wanted to show Socrates's methods and beliefs.</li> </ul>

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## Structure of the *Clouds* essay

INTRODUCTION

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CONCLUSION

- Discuss Work A
- Discuss Work B
- Analysis  
What do the way these works depict this part of the story tell us?

- Discuss Work A
- Discuss Work B
- Analysis  
What do the way these works depict this part of the story tell us?

- Discuss Work A
- Discuss Work B
- Analysis  
What do the way these works depict this part of the story tell us?

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### Citations and bibliography

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Smith 2007, 34.  
Smith 2007, 106.  
Zimmermann 2009, 56.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Smith, John. 2007. *This Is the Title of the Book*. New York: Important Books Press.

Thayer, Charles C. 1999. *Abingdon, Virginia and History*. Seattle, WA: Small Town Press.

Thayer, Charles C. 2003. *More Abingdon Stories*. Seattle, WA: Small Town Press.

Zimmermann, Fred. 2009. *Did You Hear the One About the Walrus?* Chicago: Nunc Press.

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### Citing a play or poem

Footnote or parenthetical citation:  
*Clouds*, lines 1087–1103

Bibliography:  
West, Thomas G., Grace Starry West, Plato, and Aristophanes. *Four Texts on Socrates: Plato's Euthyphro, Apology, and Crito, and Aristophanes' Clouds* (Rev. ed). Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1998.



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### The Peloponnesian Wars

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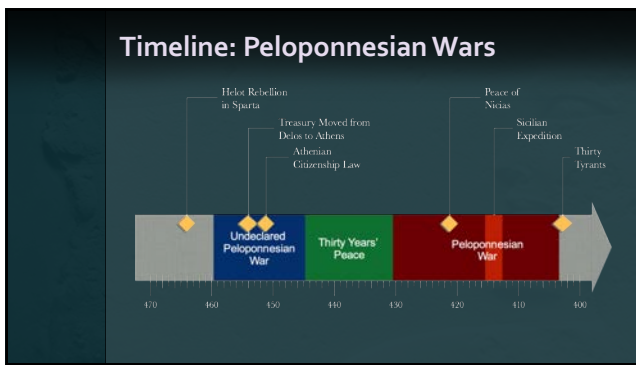
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### The Thirty Years' Peace

- Neither side interferes with allies of the other
- Neutrals free to join either side
- Arbitration of disagreements
- No one can switch sides
- Sparta and Athens can use force within their alliances

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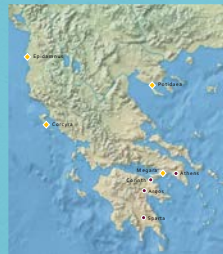
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### Breakdown of the Peace

- Epidamnus and Corcyra
- Potidaean Ultimatum
- Megaran Decrees



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### Corinth appeals to Sparta



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### Strengths and weaknesses



#### Athens and allies

- Wealth
- Undisputed advantage at sea
  - Number and quality of ships
  - Training



#### Sparta and allies

- Undisputed advantage in infantry
  - Number and quality of troops
  - Training

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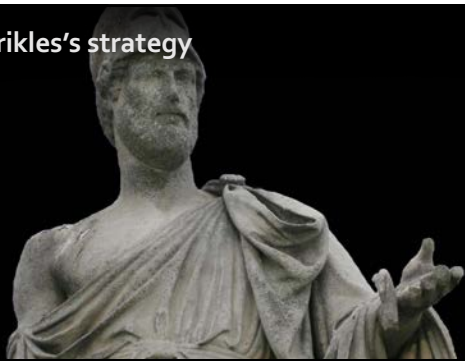
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### Perikles's strategy



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### The Plague at Athens



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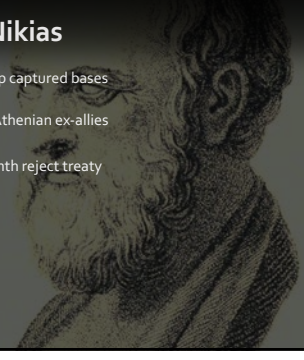
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### Peace of Nikias

- Athenians give up captured bases
- Sparta gives up Athenian ex-allies
- Megara and Corinth reject treaty



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### Alkibiades



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### The Sicilian Expedition



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