

Final Exam Review

Description of the Exam

The exam will consist of two different kinds of questions.

- **Identification and Impact:** These are terms and names for which I'll ask you to give a description and discuss their impact or importance.
 - All of the terms will come from this sheet.
 - I'll give you twice as many options as I ask for, so you can choose the terms you're most comfortable writing about.
 - The definition itself will only be half of this question—you must also be able to discuss in detail why it's important.
- **Essays:** I will ask you to write two essays having to do with overall themes of the course. You will need to provide an argument supported by three solid examples on a topic related to a major theme of the course.

There will be extra credit. The essays will count for more of the grade on the exam (around 60%).

Approach to Preparing

Make a list of the most important milestone events in the periods we've discussed.

- **Causes:** Make sure you can identify the most important factors that helped cause these events—including long-term factors (“the environment”) and short-term factors (“the spark”)
- **Legacies:** Make sure you can identify the legacies of the milestone event. How did it change the culture, society, etc.? What impact did it have on future milestones and events?

Using this review sheet

- For each of the *questions* below, see whether you have a strong idea of how to answer, an okay idea of how to answer, or a weak sense of how to answer. Prioritize the “weak” ones in your review from the books and your notes.
 - Approach the questions below as a means of gauging topics to spend more time with as you review, and as a guide to how you'll express and illustrate what's really important. Keep in mind the larger themes of the course.
- Take note of the *terms* below and review the ones you're unfamiliar with.
- Note that there is seldom one and only one answer to the kind of questions on this review sheet.
 - WHY almost always means “For what reasons...?”
 - HOW almost always means “In what ways...?”
- **Concerning dates:** I'm not asking for exact dates, but you should know the *period* in which an event occurs. Also it helps to know sequences—which events occur before or after which other events. You're best off if you know centuries.
- **Additional resources:** In addition to the textbook, assigned readings, and your notes, a list of resources is linked on the Exams page. These include quiz notes, slides, lecture videos, weekly responses, textual topic discussions from online semesters, maps & timelines, and more.

Preparation for the essays

- Try to come up with possible essay questions and map out in advance examples and interpretations that might pertain.
- List the key topics that might relate to important periods of change, such as wars or reforms that changed everything.
- Discussion groups can be helpful in comparing others' interpretations of topics and ideas with your own.
- In the essays you should be able to talk about, and use as examples, relevant documents from the assigned readings.

Sample Thematic Questions: Following are the kinds of thematic questions you might want to consider as you prepare for the essay. For each question, consider what *three examples* you would give and the answer they would support. Note that these are examples only and are not necessarily the actual essay questions.

- If all the Greek poleis had separate identities, what does “Hellas” actually describe?
- There’s a big break between the Bronze Age and the emergence of Hellas, but what can we say about the legacy the Minoans and Mycenaeans provided for the later Greeks?
- If Homer was really the foundation for the Greeks’ sense of the divine world, how does that help explain the Greeks’ understanding of how to relate to the gods and to each other?
- The Greek attachment to the idea of freedom, as contrasted with, for example, the Persians’ enslavement to their king—how does that jibe with the fight for hegemony and how the Greeks treat each other?
- What factors explain Athens’s rapid mutation into a radical democracy—a social structure unique to the Aegean world?
- The Persian Wars and the Peloponnesian Wars stand out to historians as the key transforming events of classical Hellas—is it right to emphasize these military milestones, or are other transforming moments just as important for shaping Greek culture?

Topics

Note: Sections below are organized around class meetings, and include the general subjects covered in the text.

Dawn of the Aegean

The Land of Greece – Greece and the Near East in the “Final Neolithic” Period (c. 4000-3000 BC) – Greece in the Early and Middle Bronze Ages (c. 3000-1600 BC) – the Discovery of Aegean Civilization: Troy, Mycenae, Knossos – Minoan Civilization – Greece and the Aegean in Late Bronze Age (1600-1200 BC) – the Years of Glory (c. 1400-1200 BC) – the End of the Mycenaean Civilization

- How were the Minoans different from the Mycenaeans? What did they have in common, and why?
- What kind of economy did Bronze Age Hellas have?
- What factors might have led to a war between the Mycenaeans and Troy?
- What factors help bring about the end of Mycenaean Greece?

TERMS: Aegean Sea – Bronze Age – Linear B – Minoans – Mycenaeans – palace-cities – primary sources – Anatolia

The Greek Dark Age

Decline and Recovery (c. 1150-900 BC) – the New Society of the Dark Age – Revival (c. 900-750 BC) – Homer and Oral Poetry – Late Dark Age (Homeric) Society – Community, Household, and Economy in the Late Dark Age – the End of the Dark Age (c. 750-700 BC)

- What is the Greek Dark Age and why is it called that?
- How does the Greek society of the Dark Age relate to what comes after?
- What roles do Homer and Hesiod play in early Greek society, and why?
- Why do the Greeks lose the technology of writing, and how do they recover it?

TERMS: Dark Age – xenia – Hesiod – Homer – arete – rhapsode – epic poetry

Archaic Greece

The Formation of the City-State (Polis) – the Ethnos – Government in the Early City-States – the Colonizing Movement – Economic and Social Divisions in the Early Poleis – Hesiod: the View from Below – the Hoplite Army – the Archaic Age Tyrants – Art and Architecture – Lyric Poetry – Philosophy and Science – Relations Between States – Panhellenic Institutions

- What are the characteristics of the polis?
- What are the effects of the introduction of hoplite warfare?
- How do colonies relate to their mother cities?

TERMS: polis – agora – aristoi – hoplite – colony – phalanx – symposium – oligarchy – lyric poetry

Sparta and the Art of War

The Dark Age and the Archaic Period – the Spartan System – Demography and the Spartan Economy – Spartan Government – Sparta and Greece – Historical Change in Sparta – the Spartan Mirage in Western Thought

- How would the Spartans explain their warrior society? How does this pursuit make Sparta different from other poleis?
- How does Sparta make possible a class of men dedicated solely to the craft of war?
- What role do women play in Spartan society?
- What was the Spartan mirage, and why did it develop?

TERMS: agōgē – helot – homoioi – Messenia – perioikoi

Athens and the Art of Society

Athens from the Bronze Age to the Early Archaic Age – the Reforms of Solon – Pisistratus and His Sons – the Reforms of Cleisthenes – the Rise of Persia – the Wars Between Greece and Persia – the Other War: Carthage and Sicily

- How and why does Persia invade the Aegean world? How are the two invasions different?
- What factors allow the Greeks to prevail against the Persians in these two invasions?
- How is Hellas different after the Persian invasions? How does it relate to Athenian hegemony and the Delian League?
- What are the stages involved in the development of Athenian democracy? What factors drive Athens in this direction? How do these developments affect class and society?

TERMS: Solon – Cleisthenes – Battle of Salamis – Battle of Thermopylae – satrap – demagoguery – tyrant

The Legacy of the Persian Wars

The Aftermath of the Persian Wars and the Foundation of the Delian League – the “First” (Undeclared) Peloponnesian War (460-445 BC) – Pericles and the Growth of Athenian Democracy – Literature and Art – Oikos and Polis – the Greek Economy

- What is the Delian League and why is it important?
- What factors are involved in the Undeclared War?
- How is the Undeclared War different from the Peloponnesian War that began in 431?
- Given that Athens is a democracy, how does someone like Pericles become preeminent?

TERMS: hegemony – metic – Delian League – Thucydides – Thirty Years’ Peace

Birds

- What are Peisthetaeros and Euelpides seeking at the start of *Birds*? How does this compare with their later ambitions? How are the two men contrasted with each other?
- How are the gods depicted in the play? How do Prometheus and the tribunal of three gods bring this out?
- How is the society of birds characterized? What role does the Hoopoe play? How does he compare to the two Athenians?
- How does Aristophanes satirize Athenian democracy through the creation of Cloudcuckoo Land?
- There are a lot of minor characters (the unwelcome visitors) that approach Peisthetaeros in the middle of the play. What do they suggest about Peisthetaeros’s project? How does Peisthetaeros deal with them?

TERMS: Peisthetaeros – Tereus, the Hoopoe – Cloudcuckooland – Sovereignty – utopia

Athens in the Classical Period

Greece After the Thirty Years’ Peace – the Breakdown of the Peace – Resources for War – Intellectual Life in Fifth-Century Greece – Historical and Dramatic Literature of the Fifth Century – Currents in Greek Thought and Education – the Physical Space of the Polis: Athens on the Eve of War

- Why does Athens become a center of cultural innovation? What role does this play in Athenian society?
- How do cultural developments in classical Hellas affect its society? What is the impact on gender?
- What developments stand out in history, drama, comedy, poetry, sculpture, and philosophy?

TERMS: Corcyra – sophist – panhellenism – nomos vs. physis – Dionysian Festival

War Between the Greeks

The Archidamian War (431-421 BC) – the Rise of Comedy – Between Peace and War – the Invasion of Sicily (415-413 BC) – the War in the Aegean and the Oligarchic Coup at Athens (413-411 BC) – Fallout from the Long War – the War in Retrospect

- What are the long-term causes of the conflict between Athens and Sparta?
- What incidents are the immediate causes of war?
- What were the strengths and weaknesses on each side?
- In what ways does Alcibiades affect the war?
- What makes it possible for Sparta to win this war?
- How is Hellas changed as a result of the Peloponnesian War?

TERMS: Pericles – Alcibiades – Melos – Socrates – Sicilian Expedition

The Fourth Century Crisis

Postwar Greece and the Struggle for Hegemony – Law and Democracy in Athens – the Fourth-Century Polis – Philosophy and the Polis

- What is the fourth-century crisis? What brings it about?
- How is war different in the fourth century?
- How does the Second Athenian Empire compare to the First?
- What advantages does Thebes have in its fight for hegemony? What vulnerability of Sparta's do they exploit?
- What philosophical ideas emerge in the fourth century? How are they a product of the time?

TERMS: Crisis of the Fourth Century – Aristotle – Plato – Sacred Band (Thebes) – King's Peace

The Rise of Macedon

Early Macedonia – Macedonian Society and Kingship – the Reign of Philip II – Macedonian Domination of Greece

- What elements of Macedonian society, state, and culture would have made the Greeks consider them to be barbarians?
- What factors prevented Macedon from impacting on Hellas before Philip?
- What reforms does Philip accomplish in Macedonian politics and society? What military reforms?
- How does Philip become progressively more involved in Greek affairs?
- How do the Athenians respond to Philip's increasing power in Hellas?

TERMS: Amphictyonic Council – Philip II – Demosthenes – sarissa

Alexander the Great

Consolidating Power – From Issus to Egypt: Conquest of the Eastern Mediterranean (332-331 BC) – From Alexandria to Persepolis: the King of Asia (331-330 BC) – the High Road to India: Alexander in Central Asia – India and the End of the Dream – Return to the West

- How are Philip and Alexander similar? How are they different?
- Was Alexander Greek?
- What was Alexander trying to accomplish? What did he accomplish?
- What made possible the extent of Alexander's conquest?

TERMS: Alexander III – Battle of Issus – cultural synthesis – hellenistic – diodochoi

The Hellenistic World

Struggle for Succession – Regency of Perdiccas – Antigonus the One-Eyed – Birth Pangs of a New Order – The Place of the Polis in the Cosmopolis – Macedonian Kingdoms – Hellenistic Society – Alexandria and Hellenistic Culture – Social Relations in the Hellenistic World

- What is the nature of the hellenistic world? How is it different from the Greek world from which it derives?

TERMS: Epicurus – Alexandrian library – Seleucus – stoicism