

GREEK 0103: GREEK HISTORIANS

Syllabus

Class Meetings - EATN 203
Monday 4:30-5:45 pm
Wednesday 4:30-5:45 pm

Course Instructor

Monica Berti
Department of Classics - 321 Eaton Hall
x72437
monica.berti@tufts.edu

Office Hours

Wednesday 10:30-1:00; or by appointment
Eaton 329

Textbook

JOHN MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006) ISBN 0-19-922501-X (paperback)

Other Readings and Texts

Other readings and texts listed in the syllabus will be given to the students during classes and posted on the course Trunk site (<https://trunk.tufts.edu>).

Course Description

In the *Histories* Herodotus writes that the aim of his inquiry is to write about human deeds so that they will not be forgotten and lose their glory. Herodotus is considered the father of history because he was the first to collect his material systematically, and Greece is the place where historiography was born. The aim of this course is to read ancient Greek historians in the original language and explore characteristics and forms of Greek historical thinking from its first expressions in the Homeric epics down to the Hellenistic age. Students will read extensive passages of Herodotus, Thucydides, Xenophon, and Polybius. They will also learn Athenian local historiography reading the so called fragmentary historians, whose works are preserved only through quotations by other surviving authors. The aim is to learn to identify citations and testimonies of lost historians and explore the concept of fragmentary historiography. Students will also use new digital technologies for encoding and representing Greek texts and citations of lost historians.

Course Requirements and Expectations

- Preparation for attendance and participation in seminar discussions.
- Assigned Readings: to be read before class.
- Assigned Texts: to be read and translated in class with the instructor.
- Written assignments: weekly translation with commentary of one page of one of the Texts read in class during the week. A printed copy of the translation with commentary is due on Monday before class.
- Research Project abstract of 1-2 pages double-spaced with preliminary bibliography (March 5) that results in a Paper of 8-10 pages (April 23). The aim of the Research Paper is to analyze topics treated in class focusing on questions concerning ancient Greek historians and their works.

Examinations

- Midterm Examination (Monday, March 12)
- Final Examination (Monday, April 30)

Topics and Reading Assignments

WEEK ONE

1. Introduction to the Course

MONDAY, JANUARY 23

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 1-8 (Introduction)

Text: Lucian, *How to write history* 7

2. The Origin of Greek Historiography

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 9-18 (I. The Greeks and their Past)

Texts: Hecataeus of Miletus, *FGrHist* 1 F 1a; Herodotus 2.143

WEEK TWO

3. Herodotus and his Historical Methods

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 19-39 (II. Herodotus. 1. Life, Times, Audience. 2. Structure and Subject Matter. 3. Sources, Methods, Historical Reliability)

Texts: Herodotus 1 *Proemium*; 1.4

4. Herodotean Egypt

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Reading: A.B. LLOYD, 'Appendix C. The Account of Egypt: Herodotus Right and Wrong', in R.B. STRASSLER (ed.), *The Landmark Herodotus. The Histories*, Pantheon Books (New York, NY 2007), pp. 737-743

Text: Herodotus 2.66-70

WEEK THREE

5. Herodotus and Athens

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 39-60 (4. Narrative Manner, Speeches. Characterization. 5. Themes. 6. *Nachleben*); P. KRENTZ, 'Appendix A. The Athenian Government in Herodotus', in R.B. STRASSLER (ed.), *The Landmark Herodotus. The Histories*, Pantheon Books (New York, NY 2007), pp. 723-727

Texts: Herodotus 5.66, 5.78, 6.131

6. Herodotus and the Battle of Thermopylae

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Reading: P. VANNICELLI, 'To Each His Own: Simonides and Herodotus on Thermopylae', in J. MARINCOLA (ed.), *A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography* 2, Blackwell Publishing (Malden, MA 2007), pp. 315-321

Text: Herodotus 7.228

WEEK FOUR

7. Thucydides and his Writing of History

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 61-76 (1. Life, Times, Audience. 2. Structure and Subject Matter. 3. Narrative Manner)

Texts: Thucydides 1.1, 1.22

8. Thucydides and Pericles

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 77-85 (4. Speeches); A.L. BOEGEHOLD, 'Appendix B. The Athenian Empire in Thucydides', in R.B. STRASSLER (ed.), *The Landmark Thucydides. A Comprehensive Guide to the Peloponnesian War*, Touchstone (New York, NY 1998), pp. 583-588

Text: Thucydides 2.37

WEEK FIVE

9. Thucydides and Sparta

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 85-98 (5. Themes. 6. Characterization); P. CARTLEDGE, 'Appendix C. Spartan Institutions in Thucydides', in R.B. STRASSLER (ed.), *The Landmark Thucydides. A Comprehensive Guide to the Peloponnesian War*, Touchstone (New York, NY 1998), pp. 589-592

Text: Thucydides 1.10.1-3

10. Thucydides and his Dating System

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 98-104 (7. Historical Reliability. 8. *Nachleben*); TH.R. MARTIN, 'Appendix K. Calendars and Dating Systems in Thucydides', in R.B. STRASSLER (ed.), *The Landmark Thucydides. A Comprehensive Guide to the Peloponnesian War*, Touchstone (New York, NY 1998), pp. 623-625

Texts: Thucydides 2.2.1, 5.20.2

WEEK SIX

11. Xenophon and the 'Continuation' of Thucydides' Narrative

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Reading: D. THOMAS, 'Introduction', in R.B. STRASSLER (ed.), *The Landmark Xenophon's Hellenika*, Anchor Books (New York, NY 2009), pp. ix-xxv (Introduction. What Happened Before. What Happened Next. Xenophon's Life. Other Works by Xenophon. Herodotus and Thucydides).

Text: Xenophon, *Hellenica* 1.1.1-8

12. Xenophon and Sparta

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Reading: P. CARTLEDGE, 'Appendix E. Spartan Government and Society', in R.B. STRASSLER (ed.), *The Landmark Xenophon's Hellenika*, Anchor Books (New York, NY 2009), pp. 347-358

Text: Xenophon, *Hellenica* 3.3.3-11

WEEK SEVEN

13. Xenophon and the Ten Thousand

MONDAY, MARCH 5

Reading: G. CAWKWELL, 'When, How and Why did Xenophon Write the *Anabasis*?', in R.L. FOX (ed.), *The Long March: Xenophon and the Ten Thousand*, Yale University Press (New Haven, CT 2004), pp. 47-67

Text: Xenophon, *Anabasis* 3.1.2-4

14. The *Hellenica* from Oxyrhynchus

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

Reading: D. THOMAS, 'Introduction', in R.B. STRASSLER (ed.), *The Landmark Xenophon's Hellenika*, Anchor Books (New York, NY 2009), pp. xxvi-xxx (*Hellenica Oxyrhynchia*, Ephorus, and Diodorus Siculus)

Text: *Hellenica Oxyrhynchia* fr. 19

WEEK EIGHT

15. MIDTERM EXAMINATION - MONDAY, MARCH 12

16. Ephorus and Theopompus

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 105-112 (4. Hellenistic Historians); J. MARINCOLA, 'Universal History from Ephorus to Diodorus', in J. MARINCOLA (ed.), *A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography* 1, Blackwell Publishing (Malden, MA 2007), pp. 171-176 (1. Writing "Universally". 2. Ephorus. 3. Theopompus)

Texts: Ephorus, *FGrHist* 70 F 9; Theopompus, *FGrHist* 115 T 1, F 27

WEEK NINE

17. Attic Local Historians

MONDAY, MARCH 26

Reading: P. HARDING, 'Introduction', in P. HARDING, *The Story of Athens. The Fragments of the Local Chronicles of Attika*, Routledge (London-New York 2008), pp. 1-12

Text: Plutarch, *Theseus* 26-27 (= Hellanicus, *FGrHist* 323a F 16a and F 17a; Philochorus, *FGrHist* 328 F 110; Clidemus, *FGrHist* 323 F 18)

18. Contemporary History in the Atthidographers

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Reading: P. HARDING, 'Local History and Atthidography', in J. MARINCOLA (ed.), *A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography* 1, Blackwell Publishing (Malden, MA 2007), pp. 180-188

Texts: Philochorus, *FGrHist* 328 FF 49-51

WEEK TEN

19. The Historians of Alexander the Great

MONDAY, APRIL 2

Reading: A. ZAMBRINI, 'The Historians of Alexander the Great', in J. MARINCOLA (ed.), *A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography* 1, Blackwell Publishing (Malden, MA 2007), pp. 210-220

Texts: Ptolemaeus, *FGrHist* 138 T 1 and Aristobulus, *FGrHist* 139 T 6 (= Arrian, *The Campaigns of Alexander praef.*)

20. The *Anabasis of Alexander* by Arrian

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Reading: A.B. BOSWORTH, 'Arrian, Alexander, and the Pursuit of Glory', in J. MARINCOLA (ed.), *A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography* 2, Blackwell Publishing (Malden, MA 2007), pp. 447-453

Text: Arrian, *The Campaigns of Alexander* 1.12.1-5

WEEK ELEVEN

21. Historians from Sicily and Magna Graecia

MONDAY, APRIL 9

Reading: R. VATTUONE, 'Western Greek Historiography', in J. MARINCOLA (ed.), *A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography* 1, Blackwell Publishing (Malden, MA 2007), pp. 189-199

Texts: Timaeus, *BNJ* 566 T 10 and T 19 (= Polybius, *Histories* 12.7 and 12.11)

22. Polybius and his Pragmatic History

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 113-124 (V. Polybius. 1. Life, Times, Audience. 2. Structure and Subject Matter)

Text: Polybius, *Histories* 1.1

WEEK TWELVE

23. Polybius and Rome

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, *Greek Historians*, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge 2006), pp. 124-149 (3. Narrative Manner. 4. The Writing of History. 5. Themes. 6. *Nachleben*)

Texts: Polybius, *Histories* 6.4, 6.11

WEEK THIRTEEN

24. The Universal Library of Diodorus of Sicily

MONDAY, APRIL 23

Reading: J. MARINCOLA, 'Universal History from Ephorus to Diodorus', in J. MARINCOLA (ed.), *A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography* 1, Blackwell Publishing (Malden, MA 2007), pp. 176-179 (4. Diodorus of Sicily. 5. Conclusion)

Text: Diodorus of Sicily, *Historical Library* 1

25. Plutarchus' Historical Biographies

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Reading: P. STADTER, *Biography and History*, in J. MARINCOLA (ed.), *A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography* 2, Blackwell Publishing (Malden, MA 2007), pp. 528-532 (1. Introduction. 2. The Categories of Ancient Biography. 3. The Major Extant Authors: Nepos, Tacitus, Suetonius, Plutarch), 536-540 (Plutarch's Biographies: Character, Leadership, and Political Power. 4. Biography as History)

Text: Plutarch, *The Life of Alexander* 1

WEEK FOURTEEN

26. FINAL EXAMINATION - MONDAY, APRIL 30