ANTH 613: CLASSICAL SEAFARING
Fall 2019 / Thursdays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm / ANTH 113
Dr. Deborah Carlson, Associate Professor

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00 am -12:00 pm and by appointment
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I. Course Schedule (Summary)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>Introduction and Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sep 5</td>
<td>Iron Age Greeks and Phoenicians</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sep 12</td>
<td>Archaic Greek Colonization</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sep 19</td>
<td>Greek Harbors and Shipsheds</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sep 26</td>
<td>Fleets of the Athenian Empire, paper #1 due</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Oct 3</td>
<td>Classical Shipwrecks, review #1 due</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>Hellenistic Fleets</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>Commerce in Comestible Cargoes</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>High Commerce and the Roman Economy</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>The Red Sea and the Erythraean Sea, paper #2 due</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Nov 7</td>
<td>Mare Nostrum: Defending the Empire, review #2 due</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>Roman Harbors</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 21</td>
<td>Votive, Cultic, and Symbolic Ships</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Dec 3</td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>paper #3 due</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dec 12</td>
<td>review #3 due</td>
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II. Course Structure

Our primary goal for this seminar is to explore the evidence (archaeological, literary, iconographic, and epigraphic) for seafaring in the Mediterranean from the Iron Age until the Roman Empire. Our secondary goal is to locate this evidence within a framework of broader historical developments (trade, commerce, economy, defense, technology, culture). For some of you, this course will require additional reading of a supplementary nature (see V). Each class will begin with a general historical introduction and a discussion of assigned readings from primary and secondary sources. This will be followed by 3-5 oral student presentations and additional discussion of the material presented. Everyone in class is expected to a) complete the weekly background readings, b) arrive prepared, and c) participate in these discussions. With the exception of the primary (i.e. ancient) sources, the assigned weekly readings will be posted to eCampus (www.ecampus.tamu.edu) or placed on reserve at Evans Library.
III. Course Requirements

A. Research Papers

Instead of one large 25-30 page research paper, students in this seminar will be expected to write three smaller papers each 6-10 pages in length. The shorter length of the three papers necessitates the selection of tightly-focused topics. Papers are expected to be well researched, thoughtfully written, and carefully edited. Papers will follow the citation format of the American Journal of Archaeology (AJA) as prescribed at www.ajaonline.org. Each paper will count toward 15% of your final grade.

Suggested topics for papers include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Archaeological</th>
<th>Any excavated material that pertains to seafaring, such as an individual shipwreck, a shipwrecked assemblage, a portion of a cargo, an amphora type, a harbor, a piece of ship’s equipment, a construction feature (fasteners, wood types), specific personal objects from shipwrecks, etc.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literary</td>
<td>Any written material that pertains to seafaring, including accounts of battles, voyages (mythical or historical), dedicatory inscriptions (as on some anchor stocks), mercantile graffiti, inventories, catalogs of ships, epitaphs, poems and odes, literary themes (the ship of state), etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iconographic</td>
<td>Any material evidence that illustrates seafaring life, such as harbors, ship types, crews, cargoes, and rigging, as depicted in frescoes and vase paintings, relief sculptures, votive models, mosaics, graffiti, and coins, etc.</td>
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Evidence of plagiarism will result in a failing grade. As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one’s own the words, writings, data or ideas of another without due credit. Plagiarism is one of the worst academic sins, for the plagiarist destroys the trust among colleagues without which research cannot be safely communicated. For more on plagiarism, academic honesty and integrity, see: http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu.

On the due date (Sep 26, Oct 31, or Dec 5), bring to class two copies of your paper. On one paper, write your name, the date, and the paper’s title. The other copy should include the title and date but not your name.

B. Peer Reviews

In the same way that plagiarism destroys trust between colleagues, anonymous peer review enhances the quality and accuracy of the data and ideas shared among colleagues. In this course, each student will review three papers, assessing content and the author’s style, syntax, presentation of the evidence, and use of sources. Reviews should be typed on a single page and will be turned in, in class, one week after receipt of the paper (i.e. on Oct 3, Nov 7, and Dec 12). Like the papers, bring to class two copies of your review: one with your name and one without. Each review will count toward 5% of your final grade.
C. Presentations

Each student will prepare 5-6 oral classroom presentations during the course of the semester. These reports should be illustrated and move from the general to the specific; students are encouraged to prepare and distribute supplementary handouts. As the assigned readings in the syllabus are listed in alphabetical order, it will be up to the presenter to organize his/her material most effectively. The ability to organize and present data coherently is the key to success in delivering oral reports and writing research papers. Students are welcome to include additional sources in their presentations, but not to the exclusion of assigned bibliography. Your best 5 presentations will count toward 40% of your final grade.

IV. Grades

Final grades in this course will be calculated according to the following formula:

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research papers (due Sep 26, Oct 31, Dec 5)</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer reviews (due Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 12)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations (top 5) &amp; participation</td>
<td>40%</td>
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</table>

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in Room B118 of Cain Hall, or call 845-1637.

Absence from class and late submission of assignments will be handled in accordance with University regulations. Please see http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07 for current policy on University-excused absences.

V. Suggested Reference Works

General Reference
Cambridge Ancient History      D57 C252 1970
Oxford Classical Dictionary   DE5 O92 2003
Paulys Real-encyclopadie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft DE5 P33 1958
  • Cancik, H. and H. Schneider. Brill’s New Pauly (electronic access through Evans)
Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World G1033 B3 2000 (Map)
Princeton Encyclopedia of Classical Sites DE59 P7 1976
Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae DG63 L49 1993
Thesaurus Linguae Graecae (electronic access through Evans)
DeGrummond, N. Encyclopedia of the history of classical archaeology DE5 E5 1996
Hansen, M.H. and T.H. Nielsen, An Inventory of Archaic and Classical Poleis DF222.2 H36 2004

3
Literary Resources
Concise Oxford Companion to Classical Literature. PA31 H69 1993 (Ref.)
Loeb Classical Library includes all major Greek and Latin texts with facing page translations in English. Some translations are rather dated, as the series began in the early 1900s. Green-bound Greek texts start at PA3611; red-bound Latin texts begin with PA6156.
Meiggs, R., and D. Lewis. 1999. *A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century B.C.* CN360 S45 1988

Archaeological Resources

Internet Resources
The AMPHORAS Project http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/amphoras/cgi-bin/well
Athenian Agora Excavations http://www.agathe.gr/index.html
Beazley Archive http://www.beazley.ox.ac.uk
Bryn Mawr Classical Review http://bmcr.brynmawr.edu
Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum http://cil.bbaw.de/cil_en/index_en.html
Loeb Classical Library https://www.loebclassics.com
Oxford Roman Economy Project http://oxrep.classics.ox.ac.uk
OxREP Shipwrecks Database http://oxrep.classics.ox.ac.uk/databases/shipwrecks_database
Perseus Digital Library http://www.perseus.tufts.edu

Abbreviations (n.b.: All journal abbreviations follow those listed in *AJA* guidelines)
VI. Course Schedule (Detailed)

Sep 5  Iron Age Greeks and Phoenicians

**Background**
Primary source: Homer *Odyssey* 5.228-390  
SSAW 43-60, 71-6; *MI* 155-201.  

1. Phoenician Ships  

2. The Evidence of Shipwrecks  

3. Ships in Geometric Art  

4. Ship Construction in Homer  
SSAW 217-19.  
Archaic Greek Colonization

Background
Primary source: Herodotus *Histories* 1.163-167; 2.178-179
Primary source: Hesiod *Works and Days* 618-694
SSAW 169-82.
AGC pp. 52-65; GO passim.


(5) The Black Sea


(6) Pots as Commodities


(7) The Evidence of Shipwrecks


(8) Lead Letters


Sep 19  Greek Harbors and Shipsheds

Background
Primary source: Xenophon *Ways and Means* 3.1-3.14
SSAW  361-70.

(9) Diolkos

(10) Thasos

(11) Athens
Garland, R.  1987. *The Piraeus From the Fifth to the First Century B.C.*

(12) Amathus

(13) Shipsheds

Sep 26  Fleets of the Athenian Empire

Background
Primary source: Aeschylus *Persians* 353-432
SSAW  60-5, 77-96.
Development of the Fleet

Vessels and “Replicas”

Tactics

Crew

Oct 3 Classical Shipwrecks

Background
Primary source: Old Oligarch (or pseudo-Xenophon), *Constitution of the Athenians* 2.1-14

Alonnesos

Tektaş Burnu (DNC)

(19) Porticello

(20) Kyrenia

Oct 10 Hellenistic Fleets

Background
Primary source: Athenaeus Deipnosophistae 5.40-44

(21) Polyremes
SSAW 97-135.

(22) Naval Warfare

(23) Punic Wars
Oct 17  The Commerce in Comestible Cargoes

Background
Primary source: Lucian Navigium 5-9

Maritime Loans

The Grain Trade

Shipping Containers

Exotica
Oct 24  High Commerce and the Roman Economy

Background
Greene, K. 1986. The Archaeology of the Roman Economy, 9-44.

(29) The Evidence of Shipwrecks

(30) Merchants

(31) The Marble Trade

(32) The Art Market

(33) Antikythera Mechanism
De Solla Price, D. 1974. “Gears from the Greeks: The Antikythera Mechanism — A calendar computer from ca. 80 B.C.” TAPS 64.7: 5-70.

**Oct 31**  
**The Red Sea and the Erythraean Sea**

**Background**  
Primary Source: *Periplus Maris Erythraei*  
SSAW 270-299.


(34) Berenike  


(35) Myos Hormos  


(36) Arikamedu  


(37) Pattanam/Muziris  


**Nov 7**  
**Mare Nostrum: Defending the Empire**

**Background**  
Primary source: Polybius *Histories* I.20-24  
SSAW 141-47.


(38) Piracy  
Ormerod, H. 1967. Piracy in the ancient world; an essay in Mediterranean history.

(39) Imperial Navy

(40) Shipsheds

Nov 14 Roman Harbors

Background
Primary source: Josephus Antiquitates Judaicae 15.334-338; Bellum Judaicum 411-413

(41) Cosa

(42) Caesarea

(43) Ostia and Portus

(44) London

**Nov 21**

**Votive, Cultic, and Symbolic Ships**

**Background**
Primary Source: *Suetonius Lives of the Caesars: Gaius Caligula*

(45) *The Panathenaic Ship*

(46) *Neoria*

(47) *The Nike of Samothrace*

(48) *The Nemi Ships*

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