

It is my way to suffer no impediment, no love of ease, no avocation whatever, to chill the ardour, to break the continuity, or divert the completion of my literary pursuits.

John Milton

For genius, all over the world, stands hand in hand, and one shock of recognition runs the whole circle round.
Herman Melville

Honors 354.1

ELEMENTS OF POLITICS

Fall 2007

Professor: L. Goldberg Greenlaw 328 school: lagoldbe@email.unc.edu

home: amicis@earthlink.net

Hours: MW 5:45-6:30, F 3:00-3:30 & by appointment

Course requirements: three precis (500 word), two essays (1000 and 1500 word) and a final exam

Texts: Homer, *Iliad*, trans., Lattimore (Fagles permissible)

Solon (handout)

Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound*, trans. Lattimore

Herodotus, *History*, trans. Grene

Sophocles, *Antigone*, ed. Grene & Lattimore

Thucydides, *History*, trans. Crawley, ed. Strassler

Aristophanes, *The Clouds*, trans. West

Plato, *Apology*, *Crito*, trans. West

Plato, *Meno*, trans. Anastaplo & Berns

Plato, *Gorgias*, trans. Nichols

Plato, *The Republic*, trans. Bloom

Plato, *Phaedrus*, trans. Scully

Aug. 22 Solon (ca. 640/35-561 B.C.)

Aug. 27 Homer, *Iliad* (ca. 800 B.C.?)

Aug. 29 " "

Sept. 5 " " **PRECIS I DUE** (500 words)

Sept. 10 Herodotus, *History* (425?): Book I--**all but** sections #142-151, 171-195; Book III #80-87 p. 247-251; Book V #78, 90-97, 102, 105 (pp. 389, 393-400, 402, 403); Book VI #7-18, 52, 56-60, 98, 132-140 (pp. 411-15, 427-8, 429-32, 447-8, 461-5)

Sept. 12 Herodotus, Book VII **all but** #57-98, 108-128, 148-174 (but **include** #152)

Sept. 17 Herodotus, Book VIII-IX (entire)

Sept. 19 Herodotus **PRECIS II DUE** (500 words)

Sept. 24 Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound* (457?)

Sept. 26 Sophocles, *Antigone* (441?)

Oct. 1 Thucydides, *History* (400?): Books I & II

Oct. 3 Thucydides: Book III

Oct. 8 Thucydides: Books IV & V

- Oct. 10 Thucydides: Book VI
- Oct. 15 Thucydides: Books VII & VIII **ESSAY I DUE** (1000 words)
- Oct. 17 Aristophanes, *The Clouds* (423, rev. 418-416)
- Oct. 22 Plato, *The Apology* (setting: 399 B.C.)
- Oct. 24 Plato, *Crito* (setting: 399 B.C.)
- Oct. 29 Plato, *Meno* (setting: 402 B.C.)
- Oct. 31 " "
- Nov. 5 Plato, *Gorgias* (setting: 405 B.C.)
- Nov. 7 " " **PRECIS III DUE** (500 words)
- Nov. 12 Plato, *Republic*: Book I-IV (setting: 411-405 B.C.?)
- Nov. 14 " " Book V
- Nov. 19 " " Book VI
- Nov. 26 " " Book VII
- Nov. 28 " " Books VIII-IX
- Dec. 3 " " Book X **ESSAY II DUE** (1500 words)
- Dec. 5 Plato, *Phaedrus* (setting: 403-399?)
- Dec. 10 4:00-7:00 **Final Exam** *Phaedrus*

STANDING ASSIGNMENT FOR EACH DAY OF CLASS: Be ready with at least two passages which you consider of fundamental importance for understanding the author. If you are puzzled by a passage, attempt to formulate carefully why you have an inkling that this passage is illuminating and what it is that confuses you about it. If you have an opinion as to what it means, be ready to show how this meaning leads into the overall reading assigned.

Supplementary Reading List

Homer, *Odyssey*; Hesiod, *Works and Days*; Plutarch: *Lives of Lycurgus, Solon, Themistocles, Pericles, Alcibiades*; Aeschylus, *Oresteia, The Persians*; Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex, Philoctetes*; Aristophanes, *The Birds*; Plato, *Protagoras, The Statesman, Laws*

Sept. 29	Thucydides: Book III	
Oct. 4	Thucydides: Books IV & V	
Oct. 6	Thucydides: Book VI	
Oct. 11	Thucydides: Books VII & VIII	ESSAY I DUE (1000 words)
Oct. 13	Aristophanes, <i>The Clouds</i> (423, rev. 418-416)	
Oct. 18	Plato, <i>The Apology</i> (setting: 399 B.C.)	
Oct. 20	Plato, <i>Crito</i> (setting: 399 B.C.)	
Oct. 25	Plato, <i>Meno</i> (setting: 402 B.C.)	
Oct. 27	" "	
Nov. 1	Plato, <i>Gorgias</i> (setting: 405 B.C.)	
Nov. 3	" "	PRECIS III DUE (500 words)
Nov. 8	Plato, <i>Republic</i> : Book I-IV (setting: 411-405 B.C.?)	
Nov. 10	" " Book V	
Nov. 15	" " Book VI	
Nov. 17	" " Book VII	
Nov. 22	" " Books VIII-IX	
Nov. 29	" " Book X	ESSAY II DUE (1500 words)
Dec. 1	Plato, <i>Phaedrus</i> (setting: 403-399?)	
Dec. 6	" "	

FINAL EXAM: two one hour essays: (1) Aristophanes' understanding of justice and his objections to the activities of Socrates; (2) the relationship between *eros* and *arete* in the *Phaedrus*

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Honors 32 ELEMENTS OF POLITICS Fall 2001

Office Hours:

Prof. Goldberg: 328 Greenlaw after class and by appointment

Course requirements: three precis (500 word), two essays (1000 and 1500 word) and two final exams (one optional)

Texts: Homer, *Iliad*, trans. Fagles, Lattimore or Fitzgerald

Solon (handout)

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Plato, *Meno*, trans. Jowett

Plato, *Gorgias*, trans. Nichols

Plato, *The Republic*, trans. Bloom

Plato, *Phaedrus*, course-pack

Aug. 22 Solon (ca. 640/35-561 B.C.)

Aug. 27 Homer, *Iliad* (ca. 800 B.C.?)

Aug. 29 " "

Sept. 5 " " **PRECIS I DUE** (500 words)

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