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CLAS 320.01: Women in Antquity

Barbara Weinlich

The University Of Montana

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CLAS 320: Women in Antiquity
(CRN: 34644)
Spring 2017

I. Course Information:

Prerequisites: no prerequisites

Location: DHC 120

Time: TR 11:00 am - 12:20 pm.

II. Instructor's Contact Information:

Instructor: Dr. Barbara Weinlich, Visiting Associate Professor of Classics

Office: LA 429

Email: barbara.weinlich@mso.umt.edu

Office Hours: TR 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. and by appointment (happily)

II. Course Description:

In this course we will examine the varied sources from Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, the Hellenistic World, the World of Rome, and Late Antiquity, in order to clarify the place of women in communities, women's contribution to community, and the mechanisms by which communities attempted to socialize female populations. We will get an idea of (1) how women were represented and appropriated by their respective culture's ideals; (2) how their representation was used for negotiating the relations of power in a given culture or historic event; and (3) how our newly acquired knowledge about the representation of women in antiquity can shape our actions and thoughts in the present -- both at the level of the individual and the collective.

III. Learning Outcomes:

In this course you will learn about the place of women in the communities of Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, of the Hellenistic World, the World of Rome, and Late Antiquity. In the course, you will learn to:

(1) define the different conventions that assign women their place in the communities of Ancient Greece, of the Hellenistic World, the World of Rome, and Late Antiquity;

(2) compare the conventions of each of the above listed ancient cultures;

(3) examine each culture's conventions in its various forms of representation in literature, visual arts, and material culture;

(4) analyze the different aspects of each of the above listed ancient cultures in regard to the conventions that assign women their place in the community;

(5) evaluate the legacy of the culture of Ancient Greece, of the Hellenistic World, the World of Rome, and of Late Antiquity in modern Western culture and in particular in twenty-first century America.

(6) construct an argument as to how and why -- both in the past and in the present -- the place of women in communities, women's contribution to community, and the socialization of female populations are negotiated.

IV. Course Format:

This course is designed as a game in which you can earn experience points in every class meeting (= game session) and in every class-related activity such as writing journal entries, taking the midterm and the final exam, completing your final project, and taking quizzes. Under the guidance of your instructor (= game master) this gamified course emphasizes your growing experience in figuring out things about women in antiquity that have shaped western thought for nearly three millennia. A typical class day will be a mix of lecture, a mini presentation by a student, and discussion. There will be bi-weekly journal entries (3 pages), a midterm and a final exam (ID part & essay part), and a final project (paper & ppt.). Quizzes on reading assignments will draw on the reading questions posted on Moodle for each assigned reading. There will be opportunities for earning extra credit. More detailed information on assignments (including grading criteria) as well as the assigned readings is posted on Moodle.

V. Required Texts:

(1) E. Fantham et al.: *Women in the Classical World: Image and Text*. ISBN: 0195098625 [abbreviated: *WCW*]

(2) *Hesiod: Works and Days and Theogony* (trans. S. Lombardo). ISBN: 0872201791

(3) *Homer: Odyssey* (trans. S. Lombardo). ISBN: 0872205401

(4) *Euripides: Medea* (trans. D. Rayor). ISBN: 0393093123

(5) S. Lombardo: *The Essential Aeneid*. ISBN: 0872207900

(6) Texts posted on Moodle

VI. Experience Points & Levels:

Engagement & Participation in Game Sessions: 150 xp (25 @ 6xp each)

3 Mini Presentations: 150 xp (3 @ 50xp each)

Quizzes: 100 xp (10 @ 10xp each)

4 Journal Entries:	200 xp (4 @ 50xp each)
2 Exams:	300 xp (2 @ 150xp each)
Final Project:	100 xp (1 @ 100xp)

Total Possible XP **1000 xp***

***extra credit excluded**

Final Grades will be determined by what level you reach:

20th level	970 xp	A+, and <i>laudatio sempiterna</i>
19th level	930 xp	A
18th level	900 xp	A-
17th level	870 xp	B+
16th level	830 xp	B
15th level	800 xp	B-
14th level	770 xp	C+
13th level	730 xp	C
12th level	700 xp	C-
11th level	670 xp	D+
10th level	600 xp	D
9th level	500 xp	F
8th level	410 xp	
7th level	320 xp	
6th level	240 xp	
5th level	170 xp	
4th level	110 xp	
3rd level	60 xp	
2nd level	20 xp	
1st level	0 xp	

VII. Course Website (Moodle):

Our course website (Moodle) will be your best friend and companion on your journey through Greek and Roman literature. Aside from required readings, every assignment will be posted there -- including reading questions for the reading quizzes! ***Please check the website for new postings 24 hours before every class meeting.***

VIII. Academic Integrity & Intellectual Property:

Collaborative work on assignments is allowed and encouraged provided that all work you submit under your name represents your own knowledge, not that of your partner(s). Good faith mistakes can and do happen; but willful violators of academic honesty, either by cheating on exams or plagiarizing written work will be referred to the

Honor Council for further action. A good rule of thumb: when in doubt, ask, and if you cannot ask, cite -- and then ask.

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321>.

IX. Credit / No Credit Option:

I expect you to take the course for a traditional letter grade. However, I am willing to discuss the CR/NCR grading option in exceptional circumstances.

X. Accommodation of Learning Disabilities:

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

XI. Schedule of Topics and Readings

Week 1

T 01/24

Part I: Idolizing Women

Intro: Nefertiti's Beauty Ideal

R 01/25

Readings:

Ancient Greece: The Fertility Goddess(es)

Hymn to Demeter (Moodle); *WCW* pp. 22-33;

Week 2

T 01/31

Readings:

Homeric Greece: The Perfect Wife: The Case of Penelope

Selections from Homer's *Odyssey*; *WCW* pp. 33-34;

R 02/02

Readings:

Homeric Greece: The Perfect Slave: The Case of Euricleia

Odyssey, Books 18 & 19; *WCW* pp. 50-53;

Week 3

T 02/05

Readings:

The Heroines of Early Republican Rome: The Case of Cloelia

Selections from Livy #1: *The History of Rome from Its Foundations* (Moodle);

OTHER

ASSIGNMENTS: DUE: Journal Entry #1

R 02/09
Readings: **Rome's First Empress: Livia Augusta: The Begin of a New Era**
K. Galinsky: "Livia: Wife and Consigliere" pp. 111-115 (Moodle);
K. Galinsky: "Julia: Chattel and Rebel" pp. 122-126 (Moodle);
WCW pp. 299-317;

Week 4

T 02/14
Readings:

Rome's Vestal Virgins
WCW pp. 230-241

R 02/16
Readings:

Part II. Woman as a Topos
The 'Tragic' Wife: Medea
Euripides: *Medea*, ll. 1-661; WCW pp. 68-76;

Week 5

T 02/21
Readings:

The Wife in Tragedy: Introducing the Concept of the 'Other'
Euripides: *Medea*, ll. 662-1414; A summary of Athenian History (Moodle)

R 02/23
Readings:

Hesiod's Myth of Pandora
Hesiod, *Works and Days*, ll. 58-125 & Hesiod, ll. 510-620; WCW pp. 34-44

OTHER

ASSIGNMENTS: DUE: Journal Entry #2

Week 6

T 02/28
Readings:

The Myths about the Amazons
TBA

R 03/02
Readings:

Lucretia and Rome's Body Politic
WCW pp. 216-227

Week 7

T 03/07
Readings:

The Science of Medicine and the Sexes
Selections from the *Hippocratic Corpus* (Moodle)

R 03/09

REVIEW

Week 8

T 03/14

MIDTERM EXAM

R 03/16	III. The Mother Mother - Daughter and Mother - Son: Demeter and Cornelia Scipionis Africana Minor
Readings:	Selections from Plutarch: <i>Gaius Gracchus</i> (Moodle); <i>WCW</i> pp. 260-265; <i>Hymn to Demeter</i> (Moodle)
Week 9	SPRING BREAK!
Week 10 T 03/28	Maternal Megalomania: Julia Domna
Readings:	Cassius Dio: <i>Roman History</i> 78 (Moodle); <i>Historia Augusta: Severus</i> 21 (Moodle); <i>WCW</i> pp. 350-360;
R 03/30	The Roman Matron and Augustus' Moral Legislation
Readings:	<i>WCW</i> pp. 230-241
Week 11 T 04/04	IV. The Villain Cleopatra VII - Part 1
OTHER ASSIGNMENTS:	DUE: Journal Entry #3
R 04/06	Cleopatra VII - PART 2
Readings:	Selections from Plutarch: <i>Life of Antony</i> (Moodle)
Week 12 T 04/11	Vergil's Queen Dido I
Reading	Vergil's <i>Aeneid</i> , Book 1 (in: <i>The Essential Aeneid</i>)
R 04/13	Vergil's Queen Dido II
Reading	Vergil's <i>Aeneid</i> , Book 4 (in: <i>The Essential Aeneid</i>)
Week 13 T 04/18	Mother or Villain? - Venus and her Son Aeneas
Readings:	Selections from Vergil's <i>Aeneid</i> (in: <i>The Essential Aeneid</i>)
R 04/20	Augustus' 'Bad Girl:' Julia
Readings:	K. Galinsky: "Julia: Chattel and Rebel" pp. 122-126 (Moodle); <i>WCW</i> pp. 299-317;

Week 14

T 04/25 **Zenobia: Empress of Syria**

Readings: TBA

OTHER

ASSIGNMENTS: DUE: Journal Entry #4

R 04/27

**Hypathia of Alexandria: First Woman Mathematician,
Philosopher, and Astronomer**

Readings: TBA

Week 15

T 05/02

Theodora: Co-Ruler and/ or Daughter of a Bear-keeper?

Readings: Procopius: Selections from *The Secret History*

R 05/04

REVIEW

XII. "The Rules of the Game"

1.) Engagement & Participation in Game Sessions:

Engagement and participation in game sessions (= in class) involves attendance, preparation, and in-class participation. Engagement and participation in game sessions is *defined minimally* as regular attendance. Engagement and participation in game sessions is *defined maximally* as attendance at all game sessions and active participation in the game based on the completion of all assignments. *Defined maximally*, engagement and participation in game sessions means (1) active listening, and (2) intelligent and informed participation in homework reviews and in-session drills. **As a rule of thumb, you should prepare 2 (two) hours for each class meeting.** In each class meeting you can earn experience points on a 0-6 scale: 0 for absent, 2 for being present but incapable of participation, 3-4 for engaging and being a good sport, 5-6 for active, effective participation.

2.) Mini Search Projects:

Each game participant will be tasked with 3 (three) small search projects. 'Search project' means researching a piece of information for the upcoming game session and sharing it with the other game participants in an oral presentation. Ideally, these mini search projects will prepare you for your final project. The minimum length of your mini search project's presentation is 5 minutes, the maximum 10. Accompanying handouts are welcomed.

3.) Journal Entries:

Must be typed, double-spaced in standard 12 pt. font, and have 1-inch margins all round. Please use MLA style (posted on course website) for argumentative essays. Please submit two (2) hardcopies. The length of each journal entry is three (3) full pages. It will be accompanied by a separate works-cited sheet. Your argumentative essay must include at least three (3) references to two previously discussed readings. Please observe the MLA style for in-text references / citations. Assessment standards for argumentative essays entries are posted on the course website. *You may re-write 3 (three) of your journal entries.*

4.) Reading Quizzes

Quizzes on reading assignments will draw on the reading questions posted on Moodle for each assigned reading. The number of questions varies from 5 to 7. The format of the quizzes will be short answers.

5.) Midterm and Final Exam:

The midterm and the final exam will consist of an ID part and an essay part. A review session is scheduled before each exam. The final exam will not be cumulative. The midterm exam is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14; the final exam is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

6.) Final Project:

Your final project will enable you to develop at greater length a topic of particular interest to you. It may be a written-out dramatic scene adapted from one of the readings; it may be a research paper; it may be an essay. A list of suggested topics together with more information on the project itself will be provided before Spring Break. If you wish to pursue another topic, please clear it first with your instructor. Your final project will consist of a paper. It will be due (at the latest) on Thursday, May 4, that is, at the beginning of our last class meeting. More information on the nature of the project will be posted on the course website.

7.) Extra Credit:

You can earn a five-point extra credit by turning in the answers to the reading questions posted on Moodle for each assigned reading. N.B.: You must turn them in at the beginning of the class in which the readings are discussed.

XIII. Flex Days & Late Assignments:

All assignments are due on the day and at the time indicated. In the interest of fairness to all members of the class, there will be no extensions.

I do, however, want you to submit your best work and recognize that illness or other obligations may prevent you from completing an assignment at the stipulated deadline.

With this reality in mind, you possess **4 "flex-days"** for use during the semester. Each flex-day permits you to submit an assignment one day late (or part thereof) without penalty. For example, you could submit one assignment during the semester 4 days late (e.g., due on Thursday, submitted on Tuesday); or each of the 4 assignments one day late. A day is day, meaning that weekends and holidays count. **Any assignment submitted late after you have used all your "late days" can gain, at most 1/2 credit.** You may use "flex days" on any assignments except for those completed in class (e.g. quizzes, short presentations, midterm and final exam.).

XIV. Course related Event:

Lecture by Prof. Alden Smith (Baylor University): "Virgil's Eighth Aeneid: Myth, Epic, and History" on Dell Brown Room (Turner Hall) on Thursday, April 13, at 7:00 p.m. **Please note that his lecture has been arranged for you. Therefore, please make arrangements to attend this event!**