

MODULE SYLLABUS

Sparta: An extraordinary City

CLAH5003

Module Code:	CLAH5003
Credit points:	20
Pre-requisites/restrictions:	None
Taught:	Semester 2
Lecturer:	Kyle Erickson

GENERAL INFORMATION

The module discusses Spartan history and society concentrating on important events, such as the creation of the rhetra or the victory in the Peloponnesian War, that had a clear influence on the evolution of this extraordinary polis. Sparta was polis different from the norm with a unique social and political development and the module examines the possible reasons as well as the consequences of Sparta's uniqueness for the history of the Greek world, either archaic and classical or Hellenistic and Roman. Further, the module explores the Spartan mirage and its influence in later and modern perceptions of Sparta.

AIM(S)

- To enable students to interpret and analyse ancient Sparta and the source material related to it.
- To enable students to understand and analyse modern scholarly debates on ancient Sparta

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this module all students should be able to:

- demonstrate a secure understanding and knowledge of the main aspects of Spartan history
- evaluate and analyse the ancient sources and evidence on Sparta as a polis
- evaluate critically the main debated issues regarding Spartan history, politics and society
- present written and oral work, individually and as part of a group, in a manner appropriate for a relevant/professional audience

OFFICE HOURS/HOW TO CONTACT ME

Please feel free to come and see me if you would like to discuss any problems you may have concerning this module. Try, if at all possible, to come during my office hours. My office hours are Monday 14.30-15.30, Tuesday 14.30-15.30 and Thursday 11.00-12.00. If you come to see me at another time and I am not in because of teaching or other commitments, please email me (k.erickson@tsd.ac.uk). You can also ask questions (not confidential) in the discussion board available in the Moodle space for this course.

STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

This 20-credit module has 30 contact hours, inclusive of 4 seminars and 2 revision classes. Attendance is compulsory for ALL lectures, workshops and seminars. If you cannot make a class because of illness or other good reason, you need to inform me (k.erickson@tsd.ac.uk) and your personal tutor about this.

Lectures and workshops take place on Monday 10.15 Tucker Theatre; Monday 13.15 Tucker Theatre; Thursday 15.15 Red Room.

Course Outline:

Number	Title
1	Introduction (lecture)
2	Geography (lecture)
3	Archaic Sparta (lecture)
4	The Great Rhetra (workshop)
5	Women (lecture)
6	Spartan Expansion (lecture)
7	Constitution (lecture)
8	Persian Wars (lecture)
9	Helots (lecture)
10	Pentekontaetia I (lecture)
11	Pentekontaetia II (lecture)
12	Brasidas (lecture)
13	Persia (lecture)
14	Lysander (lecture)
15	Agésilas (Lecture)
16	Oligarchy (lecture)
17	Leuctra (lecture)
18	Oliganthropia (lecture)
19	End of Classical Sparta (lecture)
20	Hellenistic Sparta (lecture)
21	Roman Sparta (lecture)
22	Sparta Remembered I (lecture)
23	Sparta Remembered II (workshop)
24	Sparta Remembered III (workshop)
25	Revision
26	Revision

Seminars

You will need to sign-up for a seminar group in the sign-up sheets after the first lecture for this course on moodle. If you have not done this, please contact me (k.erickson@tsd.ac.uk) as soon as possible, so that you can be allocated to a seminar group.

There are 4 seminar groups:

Group	Day	Time	Place
Group 1	Tuesday	10.15	Nigel Yates
Group 2	Tuesday	13.15	LR 06
Group 3	Thursday	09.15	Nigel Yates
Group 4	Thursday	17.15	LR 06

Preparation material for the seminars will be available on the Moodle space for this course in the week preceding each seminar.

Seminar	Topic	Week
Seminar 1	Spartan Women	2
Seminar 2	Spartan Religion	4
Seminar 3	Xenophon's <i>Agesilaus</i>	6
Seminar 4	Sparta as idealised state	8

ASSESSMENT

Course Work: ASSESSMENT

Coursework

1 - A group wiki (3-4 students 1,500 words per student) 40%

Sample wiki topic: Helots

2 – A 500-word reflective report on the individual's role in the group wiki 10%

For example: Write a 500-word reflective report on your role in the group wiki. The report should cover not only your experience of the group process, including any problems and how you overcame them, but also your research on the subject, your preparation, how you worked in the group environment and what conclusions your individual research brought about. Do remember that this is an academic piece of work, so you should provide examples, references, discussion and critical engagement with the primary and secondary sources. The reflective report is mostly concerned with the academic aspect of your work in the group wiki.

Examination: A take-home examination (2,000 words) 50%

Course work

Coursework 1: Group wiki

To be submitted by Tuesday, 28th February 3PM; returned by five weeks from submission.

The Wiki

What is a wiki?

A wiki is a website or database developed collaboratively by a community of users, allowing any user to add and edit content.

You will write and design a wiki (in the Moodle space for this course) of 6000 words on one of the following subjects. You should each write 1500 words. Your mark will be contingent on both the quality of the work as whole and also on your individual contribution.

Each section of your wiki must function like a complete essay (the number and length of each section is up to you as a group). Sections within the wiki must contain a coherent argument about a single aspect of your chosen topic.

For example if you were to choose the sample topic Helots:

Your sections could include:

Were the Helots slaves?

What were the Helots' role in the Spartan Economy?

Did the Helot revolts all have common causes?

Your sections may also include a few sections without argument which are common and referred to by all other sections through links. E.g. a brief definition of a helot

The wiki as a whole should present a comprehensive view on the chosen topic.

Wiki subjects

You should choose ONE of the following topics for your group wiki. You should each write 1500 words to make up a total of 6000 words for the wiki as a whole. (If there are 3 people in your group then the total wiki should be 4500 words). Your mark (worth 40% of your final mark) will be contingent on both the quality of the work as a whole and also on your individual contribution.

EITHER

1] Brasidas

OR

2] Peloponnesian League

OR

3] Spartan Law

OR

4] Messenia

Coursework 2: A 500-word reflective report on the individual's role in the group wiki
To be submitted by Tuesday, 24th April; returned by five weeks from submission.

Write a 500-word reflective report on your role in the group wiki. The report should cover not only your experience of the group process, including any problems and how you overcame them, but also your research on the subject, your preparation, how you worked in the group environment and what conclusions your individual research brought about. Do remember that this is an academic piece of work, so you should provide examples, references, discussion and critical engagement with the primary and secondary sources. The reflective report is mostly concerned with the academic aspect of your work in the group wiki.

General assessment information: coursework

Coursework submission for this module will be through Moodle. Please follow the instructions on the module's Moodle page for how to submit your work. The deadline for submission will be at 3 pm on the day given above. You will also need to retain a second electronic copy of your work to be submitted, if deemed appropriate, to the module convenor.

Word count

Please be aware that if you go significantly over or under the word limit (i.e. more than 10%), you may be penalised.

REMEMBER that the word count includes everything apart from the bibliography, titles or captions. You must provide the word count clearly on the cover sheet.

Welsh First language

If your first language is Welsh and you would like to submit any assessed coursework in Welsh, please see the School Office as soon as possible to make arrangements for this.

Special needs / requirements

If you have any special needs (e.g. dyslexia, visual impairment) that need to be taken into account for the teaching of this module, please make sure that our Welfare Officer, Dr Kyle Erickson (k.erickson@tsd.ac.uk), is made aware of this so that we can make sure that we fully support you in your studies.

Returning of work

Your coursework will be returned electronically through Moodle. Detailed feedback is given on the essay cover sheet but if you would like to discuss your work in more detail, do come and see me during one of my office hours (see times given above).

Extensions

Extensions for the submission of coursework will only be granted in exceptional circumstances; for more information please consult the Student Guide (or the *Academic Quality Handbook* 7.2.16 pages 180-181). In order to request an extension, you will need to fill in an extension request form, available on the Faculty Office Moodle page, and submit it in good time before the coursework submission deadline to the co-ordinator of your programme of study.

Please note that if you are given an extension, there may be a corresponding delay to the return of your work.

Some extra assignment/essay guidelines

Help for the writing of coursework is available in the TSD and School of Classics Reference Guides, as well as through the Student Support Moodle page. You are advised to read the relevant sections carefully.

Marks will be deducted if your piece of coursework is not presented properly (e.g. double-spacing, font 12 is needed). Note that all coursework needs to be word-processed; hand-written work will not be accepted. Assessment criteria can be found in the Programme of Study Handbook and at the back of this Module Syllabus.

***** You need to watch plagiarism whenever you use secondary literature (ALL suspect coursework will be submitted to a Turn-It-In analysis).** Please consult the Classics Reference Guide for advice on how to reference secondary literature.

In case of problems....

Do come and see me during office hours if you have any problems with the writing or planning of your piece of coursework. You are also welcome to see your personal tutor for advice.

Bibliography

A bibliography is provided in the Moodle space for this course. Please note that the books mentioned there are only recommendations. You should also make use of the relevant lecture notes and handouts and do some independent research.

Unless they are available in electronic format, all items for the reading list have been placed on library-only or short loan and are kept behind the library counter. Note that all these items can be reserved via the computerised catalogue – a very useful device that allows you to plan ahead with your reading for the essay.

Exam

The exam for this module will take place in the May examination period.

The exam will constitute 40% of your final mark will last from 9.00 until 15.00, the normal rules for extra time apply. The exam consists of one question. You will need to write **one** essay. You will need to type your essay question in the same format as a normal course work essay. All normal bibliography and referencing course work requirements continue to apply. The exam will test breadth of knowledge and you will be required to show knowledge of different areas in the exam from that chosen in the course work.

RECOMMENDED PURCHASES AND READING:

Essential

Cartledge, P. *Hellenistic and Roman Sparta: a tale of two cities*. London: Routledge, 1989.

Cartledge, P. *Sparta and Lakonia: a regional history, 1300-362 BC*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1979.

Recommended

Cartledge, P. *Spartan reflections*. London: Duckworth, 2001.

Fitzhardinge, L. F. *The Spartans*. London: Thames and Hudson, 1980.

Forrest, W. G. *A history of Sparta, 950-192 B.C.* London: Hutchinson University Library, 1968.

Hodkinson S. and Powell A. (eds) *Sparta: new perspectives*. London: Duckworth, 1999.

Jones, A. H. M. *Sparta*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1967.

Malkin, I. *Myth and territory in the Spartan Mediterranean*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994.

Powell A. and Hodkinson S. (eds) *Sparta: beyond the mirage*. London: Classical Press of Wales and Duckworth, 2002.

Powell A. and Hodkinson S. *The Shadow of Sparta*. London: Routledge, 1994.

Powell A. *Classical Sparta: techniques behind her success*. London: Routledge, 1989.

Powell, A. *Athens and Sparta: constructing Greek political and social history from 478 B.C.* London: Routledge, 2001.

Rawson, E. *The Spartan tradition in European thought*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1969.

Course Materials and Moodle

All information regarding this course, including lecture, workshop and seminar handouts, PowerPoints, this module syllabus, the bibliography, assessment assignment details and lecture podcasts will be available in the Moodle space for this course. Further, the Moodle space for this course will offer you a discussion board, where you can ask questions and discuss aspects of the course with your fellow students and me.

If you have trouble accessing any of this material or the Moodle space for this course in general, please contact as soon as possible the School Moodle co-ordinator, Dr. Errietta Bissa (e.bissa@tsd.ac.uk).

Undergraduate Marksheet

Student Name:
Module:

Date:
Tutor:

	0-39%	40-49%	50-59%	60-69%	70-100%
Basic descriptor	☐ Work of an unacceptable and unsatisfactory level.	☐ Work of a satisfactory standard.	☐ Work of a good standard.	☐ Work of a very good standard.	☐ Work of an excellent or exceptional standard.
Focus on question	☐ Little or no focus on the question.	☐ Discernible focus on the question.	☐ Generally good focus on the question.	☐ Sound focus on the question.	☐ Acute and relevant focus on the question.
Approach to task	☐ Lack of ability to identify and solve problems. ☐ Poor knowledge and understanding of the subject.	☐ Some attempt at identifying and solving problems. ☐ Little or no evidence of analysis.	☐ Ability to identify and solve problems. ☐ Some awareness of the wider philosophical dimensions of the subject. ☐ Reasonable, but not always complete response. Measure of analysis,	☐ Ability to understand and solve problems. ☐ Sound awareness of the wider philosophical dimensions of the subject. ☐ Wide coverage of topic. ☐ Thoughtful analysis.	☐ Ability to understand and solve problems. ☐ Excellent awareness of the wider philosophical dimensions of subject. ☐ Analytical and critical appreciation. ☐ Subtle and perceptive analysis.
Written style	☐ Response brief and under-developed.	☐ Argument lacks structure and/or relevance. ☐ Work tends to be descriptive in nature. ☐ Need for attention to writing.	☐ Solid level of argument, though not always relevant. ☐ Satisfactory written style. May be some disjointed arguments. ☐ Attempt at originality or critical appreciation.	☐ Well-developed and structured argument. ☐ Coherent writing. ☐ Some originality and/or critical appreciation of the subject.	☐ Cogent and structured argument. ☐ Fluent writing and clarity of expression ☐ Subtlety and/or originality
Evidence of reading	☐ Insufficient reading.	☐ Evidence of a limited range of reading	☐ Evidence of a range of reading.	☐ Evidence of thorough reading and preparation.	☐ Evidence of wide and thorough reading.
Presentation	☐ Poor presentation with many spelling and grammar errors. ☐ No, or few, references and examples.	☐ Need for attention to presentation. ☐ Spelling and grammar errors. ☐ Some references and examples.	☐ Sound presentation. ☐ Some spelling or grammar errors. ☐ Limited use of examples or references.	☐ Clear and careful presentation. ☐ Work well documented and referenced.	☐ Presentation to a high scholarly standard. ☐ Argument is fully documented and well referenced.

