

HIST 335 - Health and Healing in the Ancient Greek World Summer 2023

Course Instructor:
Prof. Cynthia Patterson
EMAIL: cynthia.patterson@cyathens.org ;

Course Description

The course focuses on the ancient Greek experience of health and healing from the Archaic through the Classical and Hellenistic eras, as presented in selected key texts and in the material or archaeological record. A central project will be discovering and understanding the contemporaneous emergence and continued success of both Hippocratic medicine and the Asclepian religion/cult, two distinct but related ways of thinking about health and healing.

A special opportunity in the course will be ten days spent on the island of Kos, known as the birthplace of Hippocrates and also the site of one of the most beautiful sanctuaries of Asclepius. Our days on Kos will bring us directly into engagement with two distinct approaches to health and disease, while the days spent in Athens will give us the chance to visit the site of the Athenian sanctuary of Asclepius on the south slope of the Acropolis and also view the many artifacts from that sanctuary now in the National Archaeological and New Acropolis museums. We will also visit the Sanctuary of Asclepius in Epidaurus and stop to see the sanctuary in Corinth on the way (or way back), focusing on how the healing god's sanctuaries have common yet also distinctive features in different cities. Finally, we will briefly consider the continuity of Greek medical traditions in the Roman and early Christian world.

Some of the questions that we will engage are:

1. How did ancient Greeks describe and understand disease? What causes disease? From where does disease originate?
2. How and to whom did the Greeks grant healing authority? Does this change in the eras we are studying?
3. How scientific is Hippocratic medicine? What unity can we see in this multi-vocal tradition? What is its lasting value?
4. What is the source of Asclepius' extraordinary success as a healing god?

Course Requirements

Attendance at all class meetings, reading of assignments, and participation in discussion.

Two c15 minute presentations with handout [presentations can focus on an object, monument or building, a text or historical issue, and can draw on recommended academic articles]. List of possible texts, objects, and articles will be provided on or before the first day of class. Reports can be done with a partner.

Final 6-page paper (c. 1500-1800 words) with 10-minute class presentation.

Grading and Evaluation

Your grade for this course will be based on the following distribution:

Participation (essential!)	30%
Two oral reports (with one-page handout)	40%
Final paper and poster	30%

Attendance: Students are expected to report for classes promptly. CYA regards attendance in class and on-site as essential. Absences are recorded and will result in the lowering of participation grade.

Policy on Original Work: Unless otherwise specified, all submitted work must be your own, original work. Any excerpts from the work of others must be clearly identified as a quotation, and a proper citation provided.

(Check Student handbook, pg. 9)

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If you are a registered (with your home institution) student with a disability and you are entitled to learning accommodation, please inform the Director of Academic Affairs and make sure that your school forwards the necessary documentation.

Books, Course Materials, Moodle

Required books:

Hippocratic Writings, ed. G.E.R. Lloyd (Penguin)

Cure and Cult in Ancient Corinth (ASCSA picture book)

Waterworks in the Athenian Agora (ASCSA picture book)

Other readings will be provided digitally and/or on reserve in CYA library

Note: Readings should be completed by the class meetings for which they are listed.

Class Schedule (Provisional, based on summer 2022 - will be revised to fit students' interests and projects)

Class	Day/Date	Topic / Readings (preliminary; additional readings tba)
1	Tuesday May 29	<p>Opening week themes: ancient Greek life cycle / realities of health and disease /health and environment</p> <p>A.M. 8:45-9:15 AM -- Short Introduction to course (at CYA) 10:15 AM - c. 11:30 - Visit to Kerameikos (with Franziska Lehmann from the Kerameikos excavation staff) and Kerameikos Museum</p> <p>For reference/for those interested: Jutta Stroszeck (Director of the Kerameikos Excavation) "Water Management in Classical Athens: Cisterns of the Classical Bathhouse on the Kerameikos Road in front of the Dipylon" in I.K. Kalavroutsiotis – A.N. Angelakis (eds.), International Water Association (IWA) Regional Symposium on Water, Wastewater and Environment (2014).</p> <p>P.M.3:00-4:15: CYA classroom Discussion of the Kerameikos site; Thucydides on Democracy and Plague</p> <p>Readings: G.E.R. Lloyd, "Anthropological Perspectives" in <i>In the Grip of Disease: Studies in the Greek Imagination</i> (2003); Thucydides, Pericles 'Funeral Oration'/Description of the Plague</p>
2	Wednesday May 30	<p>A.M. 9:00-11:00 Visit National Archaeological Museum (with focus on illustrations of life cycle). Bring back photos of objects to discuss in relation to readings below.</p> <p>P.M. 3:00-4:00 CYA Classroom -- Discussion</p> <p>Reading: Solon, on "Ten Ages of Man"; "Homeric Hymn to Demeter"</p>

		<p>H. A. Shapiro, "Fathers and Sons, Men and Boys," in <i>Coming of Age in Ancient Greece</i>, ed. by Jenifer Neils and John Oakley (2003), pp. 85-111.</p> <p>Helene Foley, "Mothers and Daughters," Neils and Oakley, pp. 113-137.</p>
3	Thursday May 31	<p>A.M. 9:00 - 11:00 -- Visit Agora and Agora Museum</p> <p>P.M. 3:00 -- Discussion in Classroom</p> <p>Reading:</p> <p>Maria Liston and John Papadopoulos, "The 'Rich Athenian Lady' Was Pregnant: The Anthropology of a Geometric Tomb Reconsidered" <i>Hesperia</i> (2004) pp. 7-38</p> <p>Debby Sneed, "Disability and Infanticide in Ancient Greece" <i>Hesperia</i> 90 (2021) 747-772.</p> <p>- Optional: E.L. Smithson, "The Tomb of a Rich Athenian Lady, ca. 850 B.C." <i>Hesperia</i> (1968) pp. 77-116</p> <p>- Optional: Tim Parkin, "The Demography of Infancy and Early Childhood in the Ancient World," in <i>The Oxford Handbook of Childhood and Education in the Classical World</i>, ed. Evans Grubbs and Parkin (2013).</p>
4	Friday June 1	<p>A.M. 9:00 Acropolis</p> <p>Visit Acropolis [view sanctuary of Asclepius on south slope, sanctuary Athena Hygieia SE corner of Propylaea, and of course the Parthenon and Erechtheion]</p> <p>P.M. 3:00 --- Visit Acropolis Museum (3:00 PM appointment)</p> <p>Reading: Sanctuary of Athena Hygieia; Plutarch, <i>Pericles</i> chapter 13</p> <p>Robert Garland, "Asklepios and his Sacred Snake," <i>Introducing New Gods: The Politics of Athenian Religion</i> (1992) pp. 116-135.</p> <p>Jessica Lamont, "Asklepios in the Piraeus and the Mechanisms of Cult Appropriation," in <i>Autopsy in Athens</i>, ed M. Miles (2015) pp. 37-50.</p>
5	Sunday June 3	<p>To Epidaurus -- Visit Asklepieion and Museum [see the CYA provided itinerary]</p> <p>Depart: 8:00 AM [in front of Stadium]</p> <p>Reading: Epidaurus [selection from Tomlinson, <i>Epidaurus</i>, with site plan]</p> <p>"Iamata" healing inscriptions (a selection)</p> <p>Isyllos, "Hymn to Asclepius".</p>

		<p>Schultz, Wickkiser, et al. <i>The Thymele at Epidauros: Healing, Space, and Musical Performance in Late Classical Greece</i>, Introduction and Chapter 1</p> <p>We will arrive at Epidauros about 11:00. there will be time to have a snack etc. I think there should be a small coffee et al. shop there.</p> <p>We will approach (following the advice of Tomlinson) the sanctuary through the Propylon, move to the central area and look at the main buildings for our class:</p> <p>the Temple of Asclepius</p> <p>the Abaton ("sleeping quarters")</p> <p>the Thymele (or Tholos -- round building)</p> <p>Then, we will visit the Museum and conclude with reports in the Theater.</p>
6	Monday June 4	<p>Return to Athens via Corinth (and beach at Loutraki)</p> <p>Class meeting 8:30-9:00 AM</p> <p>9:00 Depart Nafplion</p> <p>10:00 - c. 12:00 Visit Asklepieion and Museum (with Ioulia Tzonou, Asst. Director of Corinth Excavations)</p> <p>Reading: <i>Cure and Cult in Ancient Corinth</i></p> <p>B. Wickkiser, "Asclepius in Greek and Roman Corinth"</p> <p>Melina Melfi, "Religion and Society in Early Roman Corinth: A Forgotten Coin Hoard and the Sanctuary of Asklepios," <i>Hesperia</i> 83 (2014) 747-776. Highly recommended for anyone interested in reading more about the Roman era sanctuary from an excellent young scholar.</p>
7	Tuesday June 5	<p>A.M. 10:00-11:30 in classroom</p> <p>Introduction: Hippocrates and the Hippocratic Corpus</p> <p>"Hippocratic Oath; " "Epidemics 1" in <i>Hippocratic Writings</i>, ed. G.E.R. Lloyd</p> <p>you have this book!</p> <p>Elizabeth Craik, "The 'Hippocratic Question' and the Nature of the Hippocratic Corpus," in <i>Cambridge Companion to Hippocrates</i> (2018)</p> <p>Heinrich von Staden: "In a Pure and Holy Way: Personal and Professional Conduct in the Hippocratic Oath? "</p> <p>P.M. 4:00 PM. Lecture by Dr. Stefanos Geroulanos</p>
8	Wednesday June 6	<p>Discussion: A.M. 10:00-11:30 in classroom</p> <p>Asclepian healing vs. Hippocratic medicine</p> <p>Review Iamata from Epidauros; Read Epidemics 3 and "The Science of Medicine" [<i>Peri Technes</i>] in <i>Hippocratic Writings</i></p> <p>4:30 P.M. Departure for Kos</p>
9	Thursday June 7	<p>7:30 AM KOS -- Arrive and settle in</p>

		6:00 P.M. lecture by Dr. Geroulanos
10	Friday June 8	9:00 AM Discussion of readings on Kos Asklepieion [with plan] Mary Hollinshead, <i>Shaping Ceremony: Monumental Steps and Greek Architecture</i> (Introduction and 5 pages on the Kos Asklepieion) Elizabeth Interdonato, "Architecture and Ritual in the Hellenistic Age: the case of the Asklepieion in Kos"
11	Saturday June 9	TOUR of KOS [including Asklepieion, with lunch and swim at Kefalos]
12	Monday June 11	Airs, Waters, Places ;The Nature of Man / Herodotus, <i>Histories</i> (excerpts on health, environment, and ethnography)
13	Tuesday June 12	Sacred Disease; A Regimen for Health Fractures
14	Wednesday June 13	On Dreams ;Breaths; The Homeric Hymn to Demeter [looking to 6/9]
15	Thursday June 14	The Seed and the Nature of the Child Dean-Jones, " <i>Autopsia and Historia</i> and What Women Know"
16	Friday June 15	Diseases of Women []; Diseases of Young Girls Hippocratic Lives and Legends [Hellenistic era creation of Hippocrates' biography Saturday -- Leave Kos
17	Tuesday June	A.M. Continuing Greek medical traditions in Hellenic and Roman worlds; medical discoveries in Alexandria under the Ptolemies. Reading: Heinrich von Staden, "Body and Machine: Interactions between Medicine, Mechanics, and Philosophy in Early Alexandria" or Rebecca Fleming, ""Empires of Knowledge: Medicine and Health in the Hellenistic World" PM. Galen of Pergamum, physician to Marcus Aurelius; Roman Athens: Herodes Atticus and his family et al. [maybe if time] Reading: Galen, "That the Best Doctor is also a Philosopher"; "On my Own Books"; "The Construction of the Embryo"; "On Avoiding Distress" Susan Mattern, <i>Galen the Prince of Medicine</i> [short excerpts, Introduction and Epilogue]
18	Wed, June 20	A.M. 9:30 -- Visit to the Weiner Lab, American School of Classical -- to hear about the Phaleron project (analysis of C.

		<p>2000 skeletons in relation to their health and cause of death).</p> <p>P.M. 3:00 -- Discussion in classroom</p> <p>Jarrett Lobell, "Ancient Athens' Other Cemetery," <i>Archaeology</i> 71 (2018) 48-54.</p> <p>*Eleni-Anna Prevedorou and Jane E. Buikstra, "Bioarchaeological Practice and the Curation of Human Skeletal Remains in a Greek Context: The Phaleron Cemetery," <i>Advances in Archaeological Practice</i>, 71 (2019) 60-67 [more technical]</p>
19	Thursday June 21	<p>A.M. 9:00-10:15 Lecture by Dr. Geroulanos [TBD]</p> <p>11:00 - 12:00 - Reflection on health and healing, disease and society in the ancient Greek world over a broad chronological spectrum.</p> <p>Construct <u>as a group</u> a timeline of the places, people, and experiences we have encountered in our course. Please think and talk about this timeline BEFORE class.</p>
20	Friday June 22	<p>Final class (9:00-Noon - with break): "High Five" presentations of final papers/posters c. 5 minutes with 5 minutes discussion.</p>