

CLASSICAL STUDIES 112: REGIONAL STUDY—SICILY

Spring 2022

Wednesdays, 12:45-2:45

Boylston 237

Instructor: Margaret Andrews

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Office hours: Wednesdays, 10:00-12:00; either in-person or Zoom is welcome. [Please sign up for slots via calendly.com/margaretandrews]

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Office Hours: W 3-4pm, Boylston 227 OR by appointment

Course description, goals, and methods

The advanced undergraduate seminar Classical Studies 112: Regional Study is a capstone course required of concentrators in Classical Civilizations and Ancient History (Greek and Roman). It will explore in depth the cultural, political, and social histories of ancient Sicily, from the Bronze Age to the Norman period, drawing together the different skills and knowledge that you will have acquired during your time as a concentrator.

Through the study of sites, objects, and texts, the course will examine a number of themes key to understanding a discrete region of the ancient Mediterranean world, including landscape and ecology; identities and ethnic interactions; empire and government; religion and myth; and much else. We will aim to analyze all available types of evidence, including architecture, art, coins, geology, inscriptions, and literature.

Assuming that we can work within COVID protocols both within the University and Italy, students will also travel to Sicily during Spring Break.

Requirements

- **Attendance:** Attendance at **all classes** is mandatory. Absences on medical grounds or other extenuating circumstance will be excused on the provision of documentation.
- **Quizzes:** On **February 9, February 23, March 23, and April 6**, the class will begin with a very brief quiz intended to solidify the basics of the material (technical terms, geography, etc.).
- **Discussion Questions:** Each student will select a week in which they will be responsible for posting ca. 3 questions for in-class discussion derived from the readings assigned for that week. These questions should be posted on the Canvas site by 5 pm the day before each class so that the other students can have a chance to review and think about them before class. The questions should reflect thoughts or indeed questions about either the content of the reading or the method of the author used to produce it. The students will then guide a discussion in class based on the readings, their posted questions, and contributions from other class members. The instructor will similarly shift the discussion in fruitful directions that integrate the questions, as well.
- **Sicily site report:** When in Sicily itself, each student will give a brief site report to the group at a chosen/assigned location. The sites must differ from the site chosen for their earlier in-class report. The presentation should include a short description of the site, its history, scholarship on it, and its importance for Sicily's broader history as a Mediterranean island.
- **Final Project: "A Panel of Experts":** There are three parts to this assignment, which can be thought of as a sort of mock NPR interview. Students will work either individually or in pairs (depending on enrollment) as a "panel of experts" on a topic about ancient Sicily chosen from a list given by the instructor. Each person/pair will first submit a **written report** on the topic designed to imitate a reference work (e.g. *OCD*) entry of ca. 500 words (due **Wednesday, April 13**). Students

will then submit to the instructor one **“prompt” or question** for each of the topics covered by the *other* students in the class that address what they believe to be a key point for understanding each topic (due **Sunday, April 17**). Finally, the instructor will **interview** the student about their topic during the final class sessions, using the prompts as a starting point, but adding questions or commentary as the conversation develops. (**Wednesday, April 20** and **Wednesdays, April 27**).

Assessment

- Attendance and participation: 10%
- Quiz average: 20%
- Discussion Questions: 20%
- Sicily site report: 25%
- Final project: 25%

Academic integrity

You are encouraged to discuss the course material, both in and out of class, but the work that you submit must be your own. You will be taught how to cite sources and acknowledge the ideas of others. Any sources that influence your thinking must be acknowledged. Direct quotation from sources must be enclosed within quotation marks and accompanied by precise attribution. Paraphrase must also be accompanied by precise attribution, as well. Failure to do this is intellectual theft and violates the Honor Code. Violators will be reported to the Honor Council.

“ SCHEDULE ”

Week 1 (Jan. 26): Topography, ecology, and prehistory

- Horden, Peregrine, and Nicholas Purcell. 2000. “Connectivity.” In *The Corrupting Sea*, 123–143. Oxford; Malden, MA: Blackwell.
- Armitage, David. 2013. “The Elephant and the Whale: Empires and Oceans in World History.” In *Foundations of Modern International Thought*, 46–56. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Broodbank, Cyprian. 2013. “Provocative Places.” In *The Making of the Middle Sea*, 54–81. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Week 2 (Feb. 2): Who were the Carthaginians, and what were they doing in Sicily?

- M. McCarty. 2019. “The Tophet and Infant Sacrifice,” in *The Oxford Handbook of the Phoenician and Punic Mediterranean*, eds. B Doak and C. Lopez-Ruiz, 1-17.
- Aubet, María Eugenia. 2001. “The Phoenician Colonies in the Central Mediterranean.” In *The Phoenicians and the West: Politics, Colonies and Trade*. Mary Turton, 212–256. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Malkin, Irad. 2011. “Herakles and Melqart: Networking Heroes.” In *A Small Greek World: Networks in the Ancient Mediterranean*, 119–141. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Week 3 (Feb. 9): Greek colonial foundations

- Osborne, Robin. 1998. “Early Greek Colonisation? The Nature of Greek Settlement in the West.” In *Archaic Greece: New Approaches and New Evidence*. Edited by Nick Fisher and Hans van Wees, 251–270. London: Duckworth.
- Malkin, Irad. 2002. “Exploring the Validity of the Concept of “Foundation”: A Visit to Megara Hyblaia.” In *Oikistes: Studies in Constitutions, Colonies, and Military Power in the Ancient World*. Edited by Vanessa B. Gorman and Eric W. Robinson, 195–225. Leiden; Boston: Brill.
- De Angelis, F. 2010. “Reassessing the earliest social and economic developments in Greek Sicily.” *Ägyptische Mitteilungen* 116: 21-53.

Week 4 (Feb. 16): Tyrants, kings, conquest, and culture

- Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, 57â€“58
- Athenaeus, *Deipnosophistae V*, 206d-209e (Hieron's Ship)
- Diodorus Siculus on Ducetius
- Asheri, D. 1992. â€œSicily, 478â€“431 B.C.â€ In *The Cambridge Ancient History Vol. 5: The Fifth Century BC*. Edited by John Boardman et al., 147â€“170. [*skim for historical background*]
- Veit, Caroline. 2013. â€œHellenistic Kingship in Sicily: Patronage and Politics under Agathokles and Hieron II.â€ In Claire L. Lyons, Michael Bennett, and Clemente Marconi, eds. *Sicily: Art and Invention between Greece and Rome* (Los Angeles: J. Paul Getty Museum), 27â€“36.
- Zambon, Efrem. 2006. â€œFrom Agathocles to Hieron II: The Birth and Development of *basileia* in Hellenistic Sicily.â€ In Sian Lewis, ed. *Ancient Tyranny* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press), 77â€“92.
- Jackman, T. 2006. "Ducetius and fifth-century Sicilian tyranny," in Sian Lewis, ed. *Ancient Tyranny* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press), 33-48.

Week 5 (Feb. 23): Punic Wars and their Impact

- Wilson, R. â€œHellenistic Sicily, ca. 270-100 BC,â€ in *The Hellenistic West: Rethinking the Ancient Mediterranean*, ed. J. Prag and J. Quinn (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), 79-119.
- Prag, J. 2007. â€œKinship Diplomacy between Sicily and Rome.â€ in *Alleanze e parentele* (2011), 179-200.
- Vacanti, C. "Roman fears, the Punic way and the Sicilian contribution," in *The Fight for Sicily: Society, Politics, and Landscape* (2020), 297-326.

****QUIZ #2****

Week 6 (Mar. 2): Roman Sicily I

- Cicero, *Verrines* 2.4 *[not required, but provided for those who would like to read Cicero's actual words]*
- Prag, J., "Auxilia and Gymnasia: A Sicilian Model of Roman Imperialism," *Journal of Roman Studies* 97 (2007): 68-100
- Shaw, B. 2001. *Spartacus and the Slave Wars: A Brief History with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martinâ€™s), Chaps. 5â€“6, pp. 79â€“129.
- McDonnell, Myles. 2006. â€œRoman Aesthetics and the Spoils of Syracuse.â€ In *Representations of War in Ancient Rome*, edited by Sheila Dillon and Katherine E. Welch, 79â€“105. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Week 7 (Mar. 9): Roman Sicily II

- De Ligt, L. 2020. "The Impact of Roman Rule on the Urban System of Sicily" in *Regional Urban Systems in the Roman World, 150 BCE - 250 CE*, ed. L. de Ligt and J. Bintliff. Brill. *[This is long, but please absorb as much as possible]*
- Lomas, K. 2000. "Between Greece and Italy: an external perspective on culture in Roman Sicily," in *Sicily from Aeneas to Augustus: New Approaches in Archaeology and History*, ed. C. Smith and J. Serrati (Edinburgh UP), 161-173.

****Week 8 (Mar. 12-19): SICILY TRIP / SPRING BREAK****

Sat., March 12: Departure

Sun., March 13 - Mon., March 14: Arrival / Palermo and Monreale

Tues., March 15: Segesta, Motya, Marsala

Wed., March 16: Selinunte and Agrigento

Thurs., March 17: Piazza Armerina, Morgantina, Syracuse

Fri., March 18: Syracuse and Taormina

Sat., March 19: Departure (Catania)

Week 9 (Mar 23): Vandals, Goths, and New Romans

- Davis-Secord, S. 2017. *Where Three Worlds Met*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, pp. 29-71.
- L. Arcifa, 2021. "Byzantine Sicily," in *A Companion to Byzantine Italy* (Leiden: Brill), 472-95.
- Chowaniec, R. 2019. "Vandals, Ostragoths, and the Byzantine Footprints in Sicily: An Archaeological-Historical View," *Mediterranean Archaeology and Archaeometry* 19: 51-61

****TRIP ESSAY DUE FRIDAY, MARCH 25, AT 11:59 PM****

Week 10 (March 30): Arabs Incoming

- Booms, D. 2016. "Arab Sicily: The Profitable Island," in *Sicily: Culture and Conquest*, ed. D. Booms (London: British Museum Press), 148-227.
- Davis-Secord, S. 2017. *Where Three Worlds Met*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, pp. 72-110.
- Mallette, K. *European Modernity and the Arab Mediterranean*, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press), Chap. 3, 65-99.

Week 11 (Apr 6): Norman Sicily

- Booms, D. 2016. "The Normans: The Conquest," in *Sicily: Culture and Conquest*, ed. D. Booms (London: British Museum Press), 172-227.
- Britt, Karen. 2007. "Roger II of Sicily: Rex, Basileus, and Khalif? Identity, Politics, and Propaganda in the Capella Palatina," *Mediterranean Studies* 16: 21-45.
- Davis-Secord, Sarah. 2007. "Muslims in Norman Sicily." *Mediterranean Studies* 16: 46-66.

Week 12 (Apr 13): Where does Sicily Stand?

****QUIZ #3****

****Reference entry due Apr 13 / Interview questions due Apr 17****

Week 13 (Apr 20): Mock Interviews

Week 14 (April 27): Mock Interviews