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21H.405J / 11.021J The Ancient City
Spring 2005

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21H.405j / 11.012
THE ANCIENT CITY

Spring 2008
Tues. and Thurs. 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Prof. Will Broadhead
History Faculty

READINGS AND RESOURCES

1) Textbooks (available at the MIT bookstore):

- J.M. Camp, *The Athenian Agora* (1992).
- J. Hurwit, *The Acropolis in the Age of Pericles* (2004).
- A. Claridge, *Rome. An Oxford Archaeological Guide* (1998).
- J.E. Stambaugh, *The Ancient Roman City* (1988).

2) Class Web-site:

Further readings will be made available on the class web site. Material to be found there is marked thus: ***.

3) Web Resources:

The Ancient City <http://web.mit.edu/21H.405j/www/>
The official website of this class, containing images and texts relevant to all that we will cover. Very new and constantly being updated!

Athenian Agora Excavations www.agathe.gr
Web-site of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, who have been responsible for excavating the Agora for many decades now.

JSTOR www.jstor.org
The Scholarly Journal Archive, including several relevant classical studies and archaeology journals.

Lacus Curtius penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/home
Ancient sources in translation; useful collections of photos of Latin inscriptions and theatres *inter alia*; a few old secondary works on ancient Rome.

Ostia – Harbour City of Ancient Rome www.ostia-antica.org
An excellent site created by a team of professional archaeologists. Includes Photos, plans, reconstructions, texts and inscriptions, as well as much interpretive material to help orient yourself to the site.

The Perseus Digital Library www.perseus.tufts.edu

A wealth of information relevant to our subject: Ancient texts and translations, extensive photo archives of an impressive range of sites, and plenty of secondary material.

The Stoa Consortium

www.stoa.org

'A Consortium for Electronic Publication in the Humanities', with links to many projects of interest, e.g. Pompeian Households.

ASSESSMENT

CLASS PARTICIPATION

15%

Your grade for class participation will be based on the following:

1. Attendance

Your attendance is required at *all* of our Tuesday & Thursday meetings.

2. Reading

You are required to complete all reading assignments in time for the meeting with which they are associated, as indicated on the schedule. You are also required to bring with you to class a copy of any reading that has been assigned.

3. Active participation

You are expected to arrive at our weekly meeting having completed all the reading and prepared to pose questions and *actively* to contribute to the discussion of the material covered that week.

IN-CLASS TESTS (2x20%)

40%

Two in-class tests, of 1 ½ hours each, one on the topography of Athens and one on the topography of Rome, will be given and will each be worth 20% of your final grade.

The Athens Test **March 6** (Week 5)

The Rome Test **May 1** (Week 12)

GROUP WEB-SITE PROJECT

20%

In groups of three or four, you will be asked to create an informative web-site about a particular aspect of Athenian or Roman topography. An example of a good web-site will include, but not be limited to:

- A full description of the structure(s) in question
- Photos, drawings, plans, reconstructions of the structure(s)
- Any relevant literary, epigraphic, and numismatic evidence
- History of the structure itself
- The range of modern interpretations of the structure
- The wider contextual relevance of the structure and its interpretation
- An annotated bibliography

- Links to existing sites of relevance

Each group will also present its web-site to the class (a 10 to 15 minute presentation) in the hope that the web-sites might become a useful resource for the whole class as you each begin to research your final paper topics.

Submission and presentation of web-sites: **April 8** (Week 9).
Web-site competition votes due by **April 10**.

RESEARCH PAPER OF 10-12 PAGES

25%

The paper should be a research paper of 10 to 12 pages on a theme of your choice relevant to the historical topography of Athens and/or Rome.

To encourage the early research and formulation of ideas, you will each be required to schedule a 20-30 minute meeting with me **before Friday, April 25** to discuss a 2-page outline of your proposed paper, which you are required to bring to that meeting.

The research paper will be due on the last day of classes: **Thursday, May 15**.

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

WEEK 1

Feb 5 **Studying Ancient Athens and Rome**

Feb 7 ***Polis: the Ancient City of Athens***

Reading:

- Camp, *The Athenian Agora*, pp. 14-34.
- Hurwit, *The Acropolis*, pp. 1-48.

WEEK 2

Feb 12 **The Athenian Acropolis**

Reading:

- Hurwit, *The Acropolis*, pp. 87-191.

Feb 14 **Religion in the Greek city**

Reading:

- *** J. Neils, 'The Panathenaia: An Introduction', in J. Neils (ed.), *Goddess and Polis. The Panathenaic Festival in Ancient Athens* (1992) pp. 13-27.
- Hurwit, *The Acropolis*, pp. 224-251.

WEEK 3

Feb 19 NO MEETING – Monday Schedule

Feb 21 **The Athenian Agora**

Reading:

- Camp, *The Athenian Agora*, pp. 35-150.

WEEK 4

Feb 26 **Democracy in the Agora**

Reading:

- Aristotle, *Constitution of the Athenians* 42-69 [available online at the Perseus Digital Library].
- M. Lang, *The Athenian Citizen: Democracy in the Athenian Agora*, revised by J. Camp (2004) [available for download at www.agathe.gr/publications].
- M. Lang, *Life, Death, and Litigation in the Athenian Agora* (1994) [available for download at www.agathe.gr/publications].
- *** P. Millett, 'Encounters in the Agora', in P. Cartledge et al. (eds.), *Kosmos: essays in order, conflict and community in classical Athens* (1998) pp. 203-228.

Feb 28 **Greek Domestic Space**

Reading:

- *** M. Jameson, 'Private space and the Greek city', in O. Murray and S. Price, *The Greek City from Homer to Alexander* (1990) pp. 171-195.
- *** L. Nevett, *House and Society in the Ancient Greek World* (1999) pp. 53-79.

WEEK 5

Mar 4 **Recreational Space in the Greek City**

Reading:

- *** R.E. Wycherley, *How the Greeks Built Cities* (1962) pp. 139-174.
- *** N. Fisher, 'Gymnasia and the democratic values of leisure', in P. Cartledge et al. (eds.), *Kosmos: essays in order, conflict and community in classical Athens* (1998) pp. 84-104.

Mar 6 **TEST #1 – ATHENIAN TOPOGRAPHY**

WEEK 6

Mar 11 ***Urbs*: the Ancient City of Rome**

Reading:

- Stambaugh, *The Ancient Roman City*, pp. 1-85.
- Please also familiarize yourself with Claridge, *Rome*, pp. 1-59.

Mar 13 Temples and Shrines in the Roman City

Reading:

- Stambaugh, *The Ancient Roman City*, pp. 213-240.
- Claridge, *Rome*: please read the entries relevant to all the sites listed under 'altars', 'shrines', and 'temples' in the index.

WEEK 7

Mar 18 Religion in Rome

Reading:

- *** M. Beard and M. Crawford, *Rome in the Late Republic* (1985) pp. 25-39.
- *** M. Beard, J. North, and S. Price, *Religions of Rome* (1998) pp. 167-210.

Mar 20 The Roman Forum under the Republic

Reading:

- Polybius, *Histories* Book 6 [available online at Lacus Curtius].
- Stambaugh, *The Ancient Roman City*, pp. 101-122.
- Claridge, *Rome*, pp. 61-99.

NB: MARCH 25 & 27 – NO MEETING – SPRING VACATION

WEEK 8

Apr 1 The Forum from Republic to Empire

Reading:

- J. Patterson, 'The city of Rome: from Republic to Empire', *Journal of Roman Studies* 82 (1992) pp. 186-215 (available on JSTOR)
- *** N. Purcell, 'Forum Romanum' in *Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae*, pp. 325-341.

Apr 3 The Palatine Hill and the Imperial Palace

Reading:

- Claridge, *Rome*, pp. 119-145.

WEEK 9

Apr 8 GROUP WEB-SITE Submission and Presentation

Apr 10 The Imperial Fora

Reading:

- Claridge, *Rome*, pp. 147-173.

WEEK 10

Apr 15 **Domus and insula: Roman Domestic Space**

Reading:

- Stambaugh, *The Ancient Roman City*, pp. 157-182.
- *** L. Richardson, *Pompeii: an architectural history* (1988), pp. 382-400.
- *** Vitruvius, *On Architecture*, Book 6.

Apr 17 **Feeding the City: Rome and the *annona***

Reading:

- Stambaugh, *The Ancient Roman City*, pp. 89-100 and 123-156.
- *** G. Rickman, *The Corn Supply of Ancient Rome* (1980) pp. 156-197.
- Familiarize yourself with the topography of Rome's port at ancient Ostia via the excellent Ostia antica website at www.ostia-antica.org.

WEEK 11

Apr 22 NO MEETING – Patriots Day

Apr 24 **Circus, Theatre, and Amphitheatre**

Reading:

- Stambaugh, *The Ancient Roman City*, pp. 225-240.
- Claridge, *Rome*, pp. 264-265 (Circus maximus), 336-341 (Circus of Maxentius), 214 (Theatre of Pompey), 243-245 (Theatre of Marcellus), 220 (Theatre of Balbus), 276-283 (Colosseum).
- *** A.J. Brothers, 'Buildings for entertainment', in I.M. Barton (ed.), *Roman Public Buildings* (1989) pp. 97-125.

WEEK 12

Apr 29 **Thermae: Roman Baths**

Reading:

- Stambaugh, *The Ancient Roman City*, pp. 198-212.
- Claridge, *Rome*, pp. 288-290, 319-328, and 352-354.
- *** G.G. Fagan, *Bathing in Public in the Roman World*.

May 1 **TEST #2 – ROMAN TOPOGRAPHY**

WEEK 13

May 6 **Roman Bath – NOVA Documentary**

May 8 **Conquest and the City: the Roman Triumph**

WEEK 14

May 13 **The Ancient City on Film**

May 15 **Conclusions – RESEARCH PAPER DUE**
