

SACRED SPACE



T-TH 11-12:20PM
ANDERSON 342

PROFESSORS
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Office hours: TBD

Course description

All cultures devote time, energy and materials to making images of, gifts for, and spaces for the sacred. In the ancient as well as modern world, “sacred space” may designate a temple, a plot of earth, a body of water, or even the human body itself. Therefore, this is not a class on ancient religious buildings, though we will be looking at those closely. By investigating ancient interpretations of sacred space, and by comparing Greek and Roman conceptions of the sacred, we will gain an understanding of how to recognize and appreciate sacred space in the modern world and right here in Philadelphia.

The first half of the semester, taught by Dr. Traweek, will introduce the concept of the sacred and investigate the Greek conception of the universe and cosmic order. With that framework, students will examine the art, literature, music, and ritual of ancient Greece as they relate to the sacred spaces in which they were practiced, displayed, and performed. Key concepts such as purity, gender, poetry, and public festivals will guide us as we explore the ways that the Greeks understood and experienced sacredness in their landscape.

After spring break, Dr. Hersch will introduce the ancient Roman world and the rituals and beliefs attending an ancient Roman’s progress through birth, childhood, marriage, and death. Students will then expand outward from the home, investigating state priests, worship of emperors, festivals, triumphs, and games. Finally, students will explore the religions arising from outside the Italian peninsula, including the worship of The Magna Mater, Isis, Mithras, and Christ.

DEPARTMENT OF GREEK AND ROMAN CLASSICS: Sacred Space is offered through the Department of Greek and Roman Classics. In addition to a range of courses in the Ancient Greek and Latin languages, this department has a variety of courses offered in translation on Greek and Roman history and culture, including courses that satisfy General Education Requirements, such as Greek Theater and Society, and Race and Ethnicity in the Ancient Mediterranean. For more information on the departmental course offerings, check out the department website (<http://www.temple.edu/classics/>).



COURSE GOALS: Because this is a General Education Arts course, we will advance our understanding of the arts by: experiencing, responding to and recognizing works of art or creative processes in their social, historical, and cultural context; describing and evaluating art using appropriate terminology; and finally, appreciating the role of art in our lives and in society. In this class we will focus on literary as well as material art, and you will examine both kinds of evidence as you investigate a sacred space not covered in class in your own group projects. There is no prerequisite for this course.

Expectations, procedures, and classroom rules

You can expect from us:

- openness to questions about the material at any point in lecture, discussion, or office hours.
- readiness to work with you in office hours (though we will not repeat lessons privately; please get notes for missed classes from classmates).
- responsiveness to emails: we typically respond within 24 hours. (Please do not use the Canvas message feature! Email us directly.)
- fair and timely feedback on assignments, but keep in mind that you will get faster and more thorough feedback in office hours.

RUDENESS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. BEING DISRESPECTFUL TO CLASSMATES OR TO US WILL RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM CLASS. THIS INCLUDES TEXTING AND OTHER PHONE AND COMPUTER DISTRACTIONS. ELECTRONICS MUST BE TURNED OFF AND PUT AWAY FOR THE DURATION OF CLASS. WE WILL SHOW YOU THE SAME COURTESY AND GIVE YOU OUR FULL ATTENTION IN RETURN.



REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Jon D. Mikalson, *Ancient Greek Religion*. ISBN 978-1405181778
- Valerie Warrior, *Greek Religion: A Sourcebook*. ISBN 978-1585100316.
- Valerie Warrior, *Roman Religion: A Sourcebook*. ISBN 978-1585100309.

available at the Temple Bookstore

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS:

- two exams: March 1 (the Greek world) and April 26 (the Roman world). Material covered includes lectures and readings. Format will be fill-in-the-blank and short answer.
- quizzes: January 30 (the Greek cosmos) and dates to be determined. Material covered will include lectures and readings. Lecture slides will be made available before classes.
- group project: February 15 (group A) and April 12 (group B). Students will produce coordinated pages on the course wiki about a sacred site not covered in class. See detailed instructions on Canvas.
- attendance: this means being in class, on time, and prepared to discuss the assigned readings / topic. See below for what to do if you have to miss class.

GRADING BREAKDOWN:

- exams (2): 50% (25% each)
- quizzes (at least 2): 30%
- group project: 10%
- attendance and participation: 10%



Expectations, procedures, and classroom rules, cont'd

We expect of you:

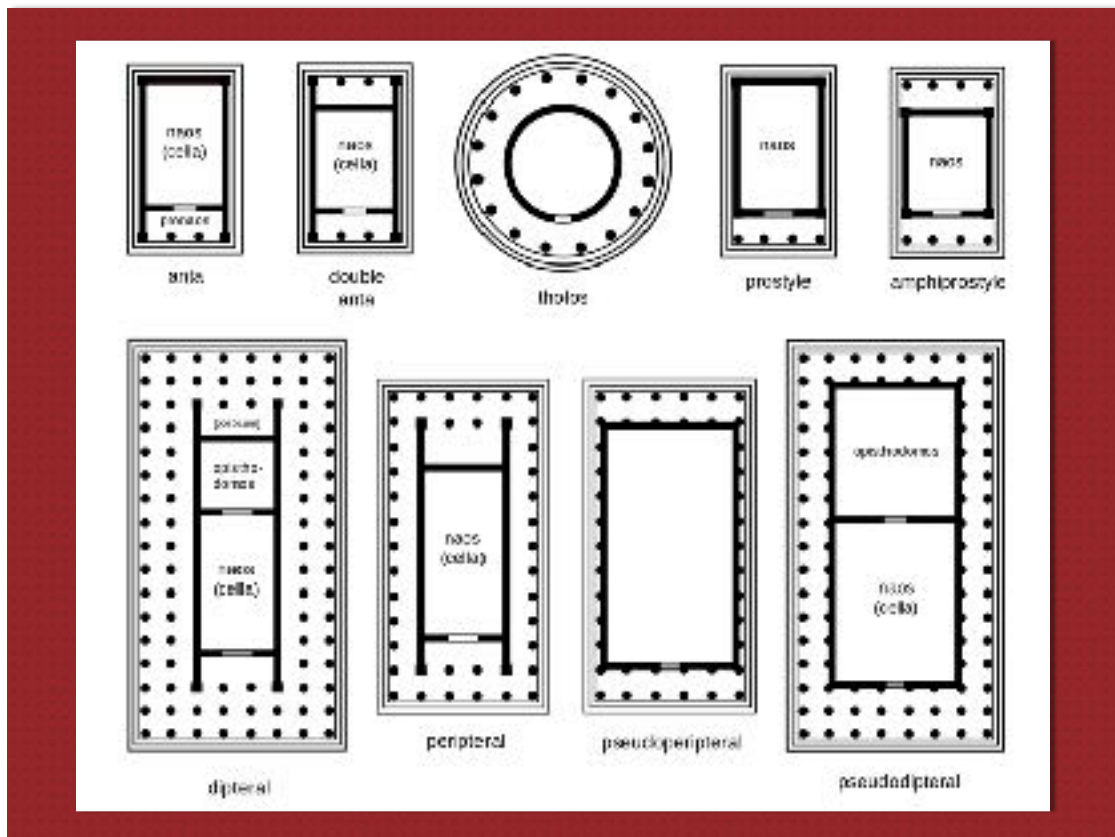
- observance of Temple's policy on food and drink in the classroom: beverages are allowed; food is not.
- manual note taking for class notes: computers, tablets, and cell phones *must* be put away during class unless you have a documented medical concern and discuss it with us in advance. No recording devices are allowed at any time without our express written approval.
- regular and timely attendance: students will sign in to class every day, and only those present at the start of class can be certain of being marked present. Late arrival is disruptive and rude, and will count against your attendance grade. Please talk to us if you expect this to be a problem for any reason so that we can work out an acceptable compromise.
- completion of readings and other assignments before the class meeting on which they are due: readings assigned for each week should be completed for Tuesday's class so that you can easily keep up and not be overwhelmed at quiz / exam time.
- timely submissions of work: late submissions will receive at most a 50%; work that is more than two days late without prior agreement will receive a 0%.
- daily consultation of email and our Canvas site: snow days and emergencies on our side are unlikely but not out of the question.
- reliance on our expertise to master the material: come to office hours! Over the years, we've noticed that the students who do best in class follow a simple recipe for success: they come to class, prepare the readings before each class, study for tests, and, most importantly, seek us out when they don't understand something or are confused about an assignment. Being confused about a difficult concept or idea is not a crime or a failure, but a fundamental part of learning. Take advantage of our office hours, and schedule appointments with us if our office hours don't work with your schedule.



Policies on absences and lateness

- you must be in class by 11:00 when class starts. Late arrivals are rude and disruptive. Serial lateness will negatively impact your attendance grade.
- you must provide advance notice of any necessary absences. Absences due to accidents, medical emergency, military service, or family deaths may be excused with proper documentation, which includes an original letter on appropriate letterhead signed and dated by the relevant official. Please notify us as soon as possible of any medical concerns that may impact your attendance or performance in class. Absences for religious holidays are excused if you make arrangements in advance.
- we expect judicious use of other unexcused absences, such as those due to unforeseen emergencies like car problems or court dates. You are allowed two unexcused absences per semester. More than two weeks of unexcused absences (4 absences total) will result in a failing grade, regardless of scores on tests and quizzes.
- we require advance arrangement of any absence on quiz or test days. Pop quizzes will be given only if students seem consistently unprepared, so quiz/test dates should not be a surprise.

**PROCEDURE FOR MISSED QUIZZES OR EXAMS:
CONTACT US IN ADVANCE OR ASAP.
MAKEUP THE EXAM OR QUIZ IN OFFICE HOURS.
PRESENT APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION FOR YOUR ABSENCE.**



University policies

Disability statement: This course is open to all students who met the academic requirements for participation. Any student who has a need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss the specific situation as soon as possible. Contact Disability Resources and Services at 215-204-1280 to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

University policy on academic honesty: The italicized paragraphs below are quoted verbatim from the *Temple University Undergraduate Bulletin* for 2014-2015:

Temple University believes strongly in academic honesty and integrity. Plagiarism and academic cheating are, therefore, prohibited. Essential to intellectual growth is the development of independent thought and a respect for the thoughts of others. The prohibition against plagiarism and cheating is intended to foster this independence and respect.

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of another person's labor, another person's ideas, another person's words, another person's assistance. Normally, all work done for courses -- papers, examinations, homework exercises, laboratory reports, oral presentations -- is expected to be the individual effort of the student presenting the work. Any assistance must be reported to the instructor. If the work has entailed consulting other resources -- journals, books, or other media -- these resources must be cited in a manner appropriate to the course. It is the instructor's responsibility to indicate the appropriate manner of citation. Everything used from other sources -- suggestions for organization of ideas, ideas themselves, or actual language -- must be cited. Failure to cite borrowed material constitutes plagiarism. Undocumented use of materials from the World Wide Web is plagiarism.

Academic cheating is, generally, the thwarting or breaking of the general rules of academic work or the specific rules of the individual courses. It includes falsifying data; submitting, without the instructor's approval, work in one course which was done for another; helping others to plagiarize or cheat from one's own or another's work; or actually doing the work of another person.

The penalty for academic dishonesty can vary from receiving a reprimand and a failing grade for a particular assignment, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or expulsion from the university. The penalty varies with the nature of the offense, the individual instructor, the department, and the school or college.

Students who believe that they have been unfairly accused may appeal through the school or college's academic grievance procedure.

Students must assume that *all* graded assignments, quizzes, and tests are to be completed on their own unless otherwise noted in writing in this syllabus. We reserve the right to refer any cases of suspected plagiarism or cheating to the University Disciplinary Committee, and to assign a grade of "F" or "0" (zero points) for the assignment, or for the course itself, if deemed necessary.

Statement on academic freedom: Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom. The University has adopted a policy on Student and Faculty Academic Rights and Responsibilities (Policy # 03.70.02) which can be accessed through the following link:

http://policies.temple.edu/getdoc.asp?policy_no=03.70.02.

Statement on basic needs: any student who faces challenges securing food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. If you are comfortable discussing it with us, we will do everything we can to help you access any other resources that may be available.

Statement on syllabus reading: Congratulations, you read the whole syllabus! Earn a free three points on the first quiz by sending an email to Dr. Traweek with the subject line GOAT and including your favorite (G-rated!) image of a goat by Friday 1/19.



SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND LECTURES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):

- All readings should be done by Tuesday of each week so you can easily keep up and not be overwhelmed at quiz time (except of course for Week One).
- From time to time, additional readings or lectures themselves may be added or deleted; note that readings will not always correspond exactly to lecture topics for the week.
- Some weeks will have a heavier reading load than others, so do plan your study time accordingly.
- Lecture slides will be made available before class on Canvas, as will lists of key terms, phrases, and/or questions for all your readings. We will base quizzes and tests on readings and class lectures. We may on occasion return to lectures and readings to better clarify different recurring topics.

WEEK 1

T. Jan. 16: Introductions: the shape of the semester; the concept of the sacred

Th. Jan. 18: The sacred and the profane in ancient Greece

Readings: Warrior 1-12; Mikalson 1-29 (for Thursday)

WEEK 2

T. Jan. 23: The Greek cosmos and the Olympian gods

Th. Jan. 25: Myths of Athens and the history of the Acropolis

Readings: Warrior 13-33, 95-107 (6.1-24); Mikalson 31-51, 55-58, 68-78

WEEK 3

T. Jan. 30: Cult on the Acropolis: the Panathenaia

Quiz 1: the Greek cosmos

Th. Feb. 1: Gender and sacred space

Readings: Warrior 113-118 (7.1-6), 129-134 (7.27-30), 35-48 (3.1-30);
Sappho *Fragment 1*; Mikalson 123-147

WEEK 4

T. Feb. 6: Divination and oracles: Delphi

Th. Feb. 8: Purity and pollution: religion and magic

Readings: Warrior 75-94, 228-247; Homeric *Hymn to Apollo*; Mikalson
92-102

WEEK 5

T. Feb. 13: Mystery religions: the Eleusinian Mysteries

Th. Feb. 15: Poetry and the sacred: the symposium

Group A group projects due

Readings: Warrior 187-203, 147-151 (9.1-7), 155-159 (9.17-22), 169-173
(10.7-10), 179-180 (10.22-24), 181-186 (10.27-32); Mikalson 78-85,
170-184

WEEK 6

T. Feb. 20: Religion and the state: the Great Dionysia

Th. Feb. 22: Religion and the individual: death and the afterlife

Readings: Warrior 143-146 (8.25-27), 46-54 (3.29-46); Mikalson 206-226

WEEK 7

T. Feb. 27: The sacred and the limits of humanity: the body and the monstrous

Th. Mar. 1: **EXAM 1: Greek sacred spaces**

Readings: Warrior 107-112 (6.25-28), 219-228 (12.40-56)

WEEK 8

March 5-11: Spring Break, no class

WEEK 9

T. Mar. 13: Introduction to Rome; Origin of the Universe

Th. Mar. 15: The Pantheon, Roman style

Readings: Warrior, Chap. 1

WEEK 10

T. Mar. 20: The Mysterious Etruscans

Th. Mar. 22: Foundations: Romulus, Aeneas and descendants

Readings: Warrior, Chap. 2

WEEK 11

T. Mar. 27: Early Sanctuaries and Temples

Quiz 2:

Th. Mar. 29: Domestic religion: Lares, Penates, Di Manes

Readings: Warrior, Chap. 3

WEEK 12

T. Apr. 3: Marriage and Death

Th. Apr. 5: Priest/esses

Readings: Warrior, Chap. 5

WEEK 13

T. Apr. 10: Festivals

Th. Apr. 12: Festivals

Group B group projects due

Readings: Warrior, Chap. 6

WEEK 14

T. Apr. 17: Augustus

Th. Apr. 19: Emperor Worship

Readings: Warrior, Chap. 11

WEEK 15

T. Apr. 24: Isis, Mithras, Christ

Th. Apr. 26: **EXAM 2: Roman sacred spaces**

Readings: Warrior, Ch. 8.15- 8.20 and Ch. 9.8-9.16, Ch. 15

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Last day to add/drop a course: **Mon. Jan. 29**
Quiz 1: **Tues. Jan. 30**
Group A group projects due: **Thursday Feb. 15**
First exam: **Thurs. March 1**
SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS: **Mon. March 5- Sunday March 11**
Last day to withdraw from class: **Weds. March 21**
Quiz 2: **Tues. March 27**
Group B group projects due: **Thursday April 12**
Second exam/ last class: **Thurs. April 26**

