Unit 2: SPARTA & ATHENS

Due Date  | Reading  | Topic
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M 9/26 | A&S 1-5  | PBS I – Birth of Democracy (0:00-32:00)
T 9/27 | A&S 6-11 | Biography of Cleisthenes
  |  | PBS I – Birth of Democracy (32:00-55:00)
W/TH 9/28 | A&S 12-17 | BBC – The Spartans (0:00-39:20)
F 9/30 | A&S 18-20 | BBC – The Spartans (1:00:25-1:20:50)
T 10/4 | -- NO HW -- | -- IN CLASS --
  | A&S 21-27 | HC – Last Stand of the 300 (0:00-29:20)
W/TH 10/5 | A&S 28-36 | HC – Last Stand of the 300 (29:20-1:09:30)
S 10/8 | A&S 37-42 | HC – Last Stand of the 300 (1:09:30-1:30:00)
M 10/10 | A&S 43-50 | Biography of Themistocles
  |  | PBS II – The Golden Age (0:00-29:00)
T 10/11 | A&S 51-54 | PBS II – The Golden Age (29:00-55:00)
W/TH 10/12 | PAPER – SPARTA/ATHENS

Essay Options for Papers Due on Wednesday, October 12:

**Option 1: Spartan Women**

In the introduction to her documentary on “The Spartans,” historian Bettany Hughes declares, “I need to confess that I’m particularly attracted to the Spartans because of their women.” She adds, “I would just love to spend one day as a Spartan girl” (Hughes, A&S).

As you consider all that you know about Greek women, do you share in Hughes’ attraction to the women of Sparta? Would you too prefer to live the life of a Spartan woman over the lives of any other Greek women? In particular, you should address the following three criteria:

- Education and Upbringing
- Marriage Rituals and Family Life
- Role in Public Life & Contributions to the City

**Option 2: Comparison of Spartan & Athenian Lawgivers – Lycurgus & Cleisthenes**

What problems did the lawgiver Lycurgus attempt to address with his reforms in Sparta in the 600s BC? And what type of society did he create? What problems did the lawgiver Cleisthenes attempt to address with his reforms in Athens @510BC? And what type of society did he establish?

**Option 3: Comparison of Spartan & Athenian Military Leaders -- Leonidas & Themistocles**

Compare Themistocles and Leonidas in their contributions to Greek victory over the Persians. Devote at least one full paragraph to the contributions of each man individually to the Greek war effort. And then devote a third body paragraph to comparing the relative contributions of Athens and Sparta to the Greek alliance.
Assignment #1: A&S 1-5

PBS I – Birth of Democracy (0:00-32:00)

M 9/26

Significance of the Greeks

Cleisthenes’ “flash of inspiration”

“Aristocrat” – definition:

Source of Cleisthenes’ family wealth

Athens in the sixth century

Physical world of Greece

Division of Greece into numerous city-states

Reasons for Sparta’s pre-eminence

Homer

The Heroic Ideal

Achilles

“Tyrant” - definition

Pisistratus’ acquisition of power

Pisistratus’ exercise of power

Importance of olive production

Significance of Athenian pottery
Assignment #2: A&S 6-11  Harrison - Biography of Cleisthenes  T 9/27

Solon

_Eunomia_

Council of Four Hundred

Pisistratus

Hippias

Hipparchos

Overthrow of Hippias

Isagoras

Cleisthenes’ sweeping reforms

Spartan intervention

Oligarchy

Full-scale revolt

Cleisthenes’ recall from exile

General Assembly

Direct Democracy

**PBS I – “The Birth of Democracy” (29:00-55:00)**

Olives & Athenian economy

Vase painting & Athenian potters

Hippias

tyrrany

conspiracy

The Olympics & meritocracy

Isagoras.

Popular Uprising in 507

Cleisthenes’ recall from exile

Institution of the simple vote

Democracy & Athenian Assembly
Assignment 3: A&S 12-17 | BBC – The Spartans (0:00-39:20) | W 9/28 or Th 9/29

Political and social revolution

Inscription at Thermopylae

Perfect state, perfect warriors

Rights & duties of citizens

Sparta as savior of the Western World

1100 BCE followed by ‘Dark Ages’

Eurotas River & Taygetus Mountains

Dual Kingship

Messenians

*Helots*

Tyrtaeus

Hoplite warfare as a ‘team effort’

Enslavement of Messenians by 650

Principles of the ‘perfect society’ and of hoplite warfare

Lycurgus

Sparta as a military training camp

*Apothetai*

*Agoge*

Encouragement of stealing

*Krypteia*

Rites of passage

Election to a ‘common mess’

*Homioi*

Attitude toward wealth

Spartan diet

Social contract for citizens
Contrasts between Sparta and Athens

The ‘problem’ with Athenian politics

Eunomia

Spartan emphasis on common good, duty, and cohesion

Roles for Athenian women

Visibility of Spartan women

‘Wise restraint’ for Athenian women

‘Marriage by Capture’

Production of warriors

Gynocratia & Kyniska

Enforcement of the ‘warrior ethic’

‘With your shield, or on it’
Assignment #5:  A&S 21-27   HC – Last Stand of the 300 (0:00-29:20)   In Class: T 10/4

King Xerxes

Persian Army

Xerxes’ goal

Thermopylae Pass

Greece as a divided country

Leonidas

Examination of Spartan newborns

Spartan military training camps

Floggings as a test of toughness

Requirement to kill a helot

Induction into the army

Athenian call for help against Persians

Spartans as rivals of Athens

Consultation of the Oracle at Delphi

Selection of the 300

Cyrus the Great & Consolidation of Persian Empire

Ionian Revolt & Burning of Sardis

King Darius & desire for revenge
Assignment #6: A&S 28-36

HC – Last Stand of the 300 (29:20-1:09:30) W 10/5 or Th 10/6

Persian Invasion in 490
Battle of Marathon
Athenian victory
Education & Training of Xerxes
Bridge over the Hellespont
Persian cables
Greek line at Isthmus of Corinth
Greek line at Thermopylae
Strategic advantage at the pass
Dienekes’ boast
Phalanx formation
Hoplite soldiers
Persian archers
Spartan equipment
Spartan success on the first day
Artemisium Strait
Themistocles’ bold maneuver
Themistocles as a product of democracy
Themistocles’ insight after Marathon
Discovery of silver at Laurion
Themistocles’ persuasion of Athenian people
Construction of Athenian triremes
Themistocles’ success at Artemisium
Loss of Persian ships off Euboea
Spartan defeat of “The Immortals”
Psychological advantage for the Greeks
Assignment #7:  A&S 37-42  HC – Last Stand of the 300 (1:09:30-1:30:00)  S 10/8

Second pass around Kolliodromos
Phician abandonment of the pass
Need for Greeks to retreat
Spartan & Thesbian decision to fight
Leonidas and the Oracle
Covering force for a tactical retreat
Spartan preparation for battle
Spartan last stand
Death of Leonidas
Heroic sacrifice
Destruction of Athens
Battle of Salamis
Unity of Greece
Salvation of Western Civilization


Leonidas
Battle of Marathon
Size of Xerxes’ army
Choice offered by the Oracle
Battle of Thermopylae
‘Beautiful death’
Last Stand of the 300
Military insignificance of Thermopylae
Cultural significance of Thermopylae
Assignment #8: A&S 43-50 Biography of Themistocles M 10/10

Themistocles’ greatest asset

Fortification of the Piraeus

King Darius

Ionian Revolt

Envoys from Darius

Death toll at Marathon

Aristides

Hoplite class

Urban craftsmen

Ostracism

Silver at Laurion

Plan to divide the wealth equally

Themistocles’ plan to build a navy

“Wooden Walls” & Evacuation of Athens

Athenian victory at Salamis

Battle of Plataea

Themistocles’ cunning plan

Formation of the Delian League

Ostracism of Themistocles

PBS II – The Golden Age (0:00-29:00)

Cultural differences – Greeks vs. Persians

Lessons from the Battle of Marathon

Themistocles’ bold new strategy

Themistocles’ complex bluff

Two prophecies from Oracle at Delphi

Themistocles’ plan

Themistocles’ “traitorous” message
Assignment #9:  A&S 51-54    PBS II – The Golden Age (29:00-55:00)    T 10/11

Delian League

Athenian economic power

Advantages of Athenian democracy

Ostracism of Themistocles

Pericles’ aristocratic background

Pericles’ “new vision”

The Parthenon as Symbol of Athenian Empire

Architectural features of the Parthenon

Symposium

Pericles’ dinner guests

Aspasia

Lessons from Greek Tragedy

Pericles’ tragic flaw