

## CS 3903G: ANCIENT GREEK WARFARE

**Course Location:** University Community Centre 65  
**Course Times:** M W F 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
**Instructor:** Dr. Bernd Steinbock  
**E-mail:** bsteinbo@uwo.ca  
**Office:** Lawson Hall 3210  
**Office Hours:** F 12-1 p.m. or by appointment  
**Course Website:** owl.uwo.ca  
**Teaching Assistant:** TBA

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course we will explore why people fight and which role warfare played in the development of Greek civilization. In doing this we will examine two profound military revolutions, one in the Near east that helped shape Greek civilization, one in Greece that changed the geopolitical balance between Europe and the Middle East for a thousand years. Readings will be drawn from some of the greatest works of ancient history, including Herodotus' history of the Greco-Persian wars in the early fifth century, Thucydides' history of the Peloponnesian War, and Arrian's account of Alexander the Great's invasion of Persia.

**3 lecture hours, 0.5 course**

### ANTIREQUISITES:

CS292E if taken in 2005-06 and CS290E if taken in 2007-08.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Successful students will be able to situate the development of Greek warfare within the evolution of warfare in the ancient world and be familiar with major military campaigns during the Classical period (Persian Wars, Peloponnesian War, Alexander's conquest of Persia). They will have learned key concepts ('primitive' warfare, evolution of social organizations, hoplite warfare, etc.) and theoretical models (e.g. military revolution), appropriate for the study of warfare in Greece and the Ancient Near East. They will be able to assess and comment critically upon the original source material in translation and test modern interpretations against the ancient evidence. In so doing, they will develop an understanding of the limits of our knowledge of the ancient world and will come to appreciate the practice of History as an ongoing dialogue between past and present, where current models of interpretation are constantly being questioned, revised and refined, and tested against the available evidence.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES / TRANSFERABLE SKILLS:

Successful students will have advanced their written communication skills in the clear and organized presentation of a scholarly argument in the form of a research paper, observing the standards and format of our discipline. In so doing, they will have developed the ability to gather, review and evaluate the relevant primary sources and pertinent scholarly literature and to incorporate both into their own lines of argument. Successful students will have improved their inter-personal skills by working co-operatively in small groups for discussion and analysis of source materials and by participating in class discussions.

### REQUIRED BOOKS:

LeBlanc, Steven, *Constant Battles: Why We Fight* (New York, 2004): (ISBN: 0312310900)  
Hanson, Victor Davis, *Wars of the Ancient Greeks* (London, 2006) (ISBN: 0061142085)  
Herodotus, *The Histories* (tr. De Sélincourt), Penguin (ISBN: 0140449086)  
Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War* (tr. Warner), Penguin (ISBN: 0140440399)

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**EVALUATION:**

1. Pop Quizzes: 10%  
There will be a number of short pop quizzes on the reading assignments of the respective week. They will usually be held Fridays and contain five multiple choice questions. There will be no make-up quizzes.
2. Participation: 5%  
Students are expected to participate fully in the class, both in terms of completing assigned readings (about 100-120 pages per week) and in terms of listening attentively and participating in class discussions. Those who choose not to participate and/or complete assignments will receive lesser grades than those who fulfill all requirements.
3. In-Class Test: 20% [MARCH 2]  
In the in-class test students will have to identify key terms (concepts/names/places/dates), locate places on a map, and comment on the significance of some key passages in our ancient sources. Students will be expected to apply their knowledge of the assigned texts as well as of key concepts learned in the classroom.
4. Paper: 35% [DUE APRIL 11]  
Every student will write one 5-7 page papers (ca. 2000-2500 words) on one of the topics given by the instructor or (under certain conditions) on a topic of their own choice. The paper is due on March 31 by class time. Papers must be submitted both electronically (<http://www.turnitin.com>) and as hard copy. Late essays will be penalized at the rate of 5% per day (including weekends). More than one essay due on the same day is not a valid reason for an extension.  
See the attached research paper guidelines for more details.
5. Final Exam (Cumulative): 30% [EXAM PERIOD IN APRIL]  
In the (cumulative) final exam students will have to identify key terms, locate places on a map, comment on the significance of some key passages in our ancient sources and write a short essay on one of several pre-circulated essay topics. Students will be expected to apply their knowledge of the assigned texts as well as of key concepts learned in the classroom.

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:**

1. If you miss an exam due to illness or provable personal crisis, **you must contact the instructor within 48 hours**. If you do not contact me, the grade of F will stand.
2. To apply for academic accommodation **due to illness** you **MUST** contact the **DEAN's** office of your home faculty. Make-up exams on medical grounds **CANNOT** be granted by the instructor (see the new UWO Policy on Accommodation below).
3. Make-up exams **due to personal crises** will only be granted, if appropriate written documentation is provided. The make-up test will be scheduled as soon as possible after the missed test, usually within one day.
4. Those who miss classes or parts of classes remain responsible for material they have missed. Students are encouraged to form study groups in order to assist each other in preparing for tests and for discussion of assigned readings.
5. There is no extra credit in this course; there will be no re-weighting of the course components.

**CLASS COMMUNICATION:**

Class will be notified of any class cancellations, room changes and other special announcements via the course website on OWL.

**NOTE FROM THE DEAN OF ARTS:**

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

**PLAGIARISM:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

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Students should be aware that the instructor may use plagiarism-checking software for written assignments. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

**UWO POLICY ON ACCOMODATION FOR MEDICAL ILLNESS:** <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>  
[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading.] Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Office of the Dean of their home faculty and provide documentation. **Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.**

**UWO ACCESSIBILITY POLICY.** Western has many services and programs that support the personal, physical, social and academic needs of students with disabilities. For more information and links to these services: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca/students/index.htm>

**SYLLABUS:**

Week	Date	#	Topic	Reading Assignment
Week 1	M Jan 9	1	Introduction	LeBlanc XI-XV, 1-22, 55-100; Champlain (OWL)
	W Jan 11	2	From Primitive to Advanced Warfare	
	F Jan 13	3	When did Warfare Start?	
Week 2	M Jan 16	4	Why We Fight – Of Primates and Men	LeBlanc 100-156; Knox & Murray (2001) 1-14; Roberts (1967) 13-35 (OWL)
	W Jan 18	5	From Primates to Complex Societies	
	F Jan 20	6	Military Revolution (1)	
Week 3	M Jan 23	7	Military Revolution (2): Ancient Military Revolutions	LeBlanc 157-198; The Eighth Campaign of Sargon II; Kuhrt (1995 ) vol. 2, 473-501; 540-46; Assyrian Empire (website) (OWL)
	W Jan 25	8	The Neo-Assyrian Empire (1) – Geography and Sources	
	F Jan 27	9	The Neo-Assyrian Empire (2) – The Assyrian Military Revolution	
Week 4	M Jan 30	10	The Neo-Assyrian Empire (3) Sargon II – Assyria’s Fall and Successor States (Persian Empire)	Hdt. 1.1-28; 1.95-107 Hanson 1-42; Homer <i>Iliad</i> 1, 6 and 12 see (OWL)
	W Feb 1	11	The Greeks and the Near East (1): Homer and the Bronze Age	
	F Feb 3	12	The Greeks and the Near East (2): Dark Age. Homeric Ethos and Warfare	
Week 5	M Feb 6	13	The Greeks and the Near East (3): The Origins of Hoplite Warfare	Hanson 43-83 Hdt. 1.53-69; 5.65-78 Thuc. 4.96-97; Thuc. 5.63-74 Xenophon, <i>Hellenica</i> 4.3.15-23 (OWL)
	W Feb 8	14	Archaic Sparta	
	F Feb 10	15	Hoplite Fighting	
Week 6	M Feb 13	16	Archaic Athens	Hanson 84-98; Hdt. 1.125- 130; 1.141-177; 5.28-38; 5.96-105; Hdt. 6.39-49; 6.94-120; Hdt. 7.1-44; 7.101-147; 7.198-239
	W Feb 15	17	The Ionian Revolt & Marathon	
	F Feb 17	18	Thermopylae	
Week 7	<b>M Feb 20</b>		CONFERENCE WEEK	
	<b>W Feb 22</b>		CONFERENCE WEEK	
	<b>F Feb 24</b>		CONFERENCE WEEK	

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Week 8	M Feb 27	19	Artemisium and Salamis	Hanson 99-107; Hdt. 7.173-195; 8.1-22; 8.40-125; Hdt. 8.126-9.85
	W Feb 29	20	Plataea and Mycale	
	F Mar 2		<b>In-Class Test</b>	
Week 9	M Mar 5	21	The Foundation of the Delian League	Hanson 108-130; Thuc. 1.1-23; 1.89-97; 1.128-138; Thuc. 1.98-117; Thuc. 1.24-88; 1.118-125; 1.139-146
	W Mar 7	22	From League to Empire	
	F Mar 9	23	Peloponnesian War (1) - Origin	
Week 10	M Mar 12	24	Peloponnesian War (2)	Thuc. 2.1-33; 2.47-78; Thuc. 3.1-85 Thuc. 3.94-102; 4.1-41; 4.75-116; 5.1-24
	W Mar 14	25	Peloponnesian War (3) – Siege Warfare	
	F Mar 16	26	Peloponnesian War (4) – Light Armed Troops – Changes in Strategy	
Week 11	M Mar 19	27	Peloponnesian War (5) – Sicilian Expedition	Hanson 131-141 Thuc. 6.8-32; 6.62-72; 6.88-105; 7.39-87 Thuc. 8.1-44; Sage (1996) 135-57 <b>(OWL)</b>
	W Mar 21	28	Peloponnesian War (6) – The End – Trends in the Evolution of Greek Warfare	
	F Mar 23	29	Warfare and Politics in the 4 <sup>th</sup> Century	
Week 12	M Mar 26	30	Philip II and the Macedonian Military Revolution (1)	Hanson 143-171
	W Mar 28	31	Philip II and the Macedonian Military Revolution (2)	
	F Mar 30	32	Alexander the Great (1)	
Week 13	M Apr 2	33	Alexander the Great (2)	Hanson 174-197 Arrian <i>Anabasis</i> (tr. E. J. Chinnock) (Granicus, Issus, Tyre, Gaugamela) <b>(OWL)</b> ; Hanson (2001) 60-98 <b>(OWL)</b>
	W Apr 4	34	Alexander the Great (3)	
	<b>F Apr 6</b>	35	<b>Good Friday Holiday</b>	
Week 14	M Apr 9	36	Outlook: The Romans	Potter (2004) 66-88 <b>(OWL)</b>
	W Apr 11	37	Outlook: The Romans <b>Paper Due</b>	
	Exam period		<b>Final Exam</b>	

Note: This syllabus is subject to revision if necessary