

Schedule

For each meeting, please come into class having read and thought about the readings assigned for that class.

Readings listed with the book icon (📖) are from the assigned textbook, Pomeroy, *Goddesses, Whores, Wives, and Slaves*, 2nd Edition. All other readings are linked on the course webpage.

To prepare for each meeting, you need to read:

- The assigned chapter from the textbook (Pomeroy—these are short),
- The brief primary source excerpts we'll be discussing in class, and
- At least one of the scholarly articles for that week.

January 2025							February 2025							March 2025							April 2025							May 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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Public and Private

- 1 Introduction and Themes
Tuesday, January 28

📖 Pomeroy, Introduction to *Goddesses*

- 2 Women in *The Epic of Gilgamesh*
Tuesday, February 4

Read all of the following:

- *Gilgamesh*, Introduction
- *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 1: The Coming of Enkidu
- *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 2: The Taming of Enkidu
- *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 6: Ishtar and the Bull of Heaven

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Ishtar's Proposal and Gilgamesh's Refusal" / Abusch
- ★ "Initiation and the Primal Woman in *Gilgamesh* and Genesis 2-3" / Bailey
- ★ "Inanna-Ishtar as Paradox and a Coincidence of Opposites" / Harris

Gender and the Greeks

- 3 Ancient Goddesses and Gods
Tuesday, February 11

Read all of the following:

- 📖 ch. 1, "Goddesses and Gods"
- *Theogony* / Hesiod

Read one of the following:

- ★ "The Cults of Demeter and Kore" / Nixon
- ★ "The Greek Family in History and Myth" / Slater
- ★ "Signifying Difference: The Myth of Pandora" / Zeitlin

- 4 The Bronze Age and its Homeric Echo
Tuesday, February 25

Read all of the following:

- 📖 ch. 2, "Women in the Bronze Age and Homeric Epic"
- "Agamemnon's Insult" (from *Iliad*) / Homer
- "Nausicaa and the Stranger" (from *Odyssey*) / Homer
- "The Artifice of Penelope" (from *Odyssey*) / Homer

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Early Greece: The Origins of the Western Attitude Toward Women" / Arthur
- ★ "The Divided World of *Iliad* VI" / Arthur
- ★ "Approaching Women Through Myth: Vital Tool or Self-Delusion?" / Dowden
- ★ "Is Female to Male as Nature Is to Culture?" / Ortner

5 Greece Emerging from the Dark Age
Tuesday, March 4

Read all of the following:

- ch. 3, "The Dark Age and the Archaic Period"
- *Works and Days* / Hesiod
- "Sayings of Spartan Women" / Plutarch
- Selected Poems / Sappho

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Women's Work: Female Transmission of Mythical Narrative" / Heath
- ★ "Sappho and the Heroic Ideal" / Marry
- ★ "Sappho's Private World" / Stigers

6 Women and the Athenian Polis
Tuesday, March 11

Read all of the following:

- ch. 4, "Women and the City of Athens"
- from *Eumenides* / Aeschylus
- from *The Histories* / Herodotus

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Women and Culture in Herodotus's *Histories*" / Dewald
- ★ "Ideology and the 'Status of Women' in Ancient Greece" / Katz
- ★ "Women's Identity and the Family in the Classical Polis" / Pomeroy
- ★ "Women and Housing in Classical Greece: The Archaeological Evidence" / Walker

The Proposal is due Monday, March 10.

7 Living Unpublicly in Classical Athens
Tuesday, March 18

Read all of the following:

- ch. 5, "Private Life in Classical Athens"
- from *The Bacchae* / Euripides
- "The Women at the Adonis Festival", from *Idylls* / Theocritus

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Women's Commensality in the Ancient Greek World" / Burton
- ★ "Classical Greek Attitudes to Sexual Behavior" / Dover
- ★ "Women's Ritual and Men's Work in Ancient Athens" / Foxhall
- ★ "The Menace of Dionysus: Sex Roles and Reversals in Euripides' *The Bacchae*" / Segal
- ★ "Women in Their Cups" / Venit

8 Images of Women in Athenian Literature
Tuesday, March 25

Read all of the following:

- ch. 6, "Images of Women in the Literature of Classical Athens"
- from *Antigone* / Sophocles
- from *Medea* / Euripides

Read one of the following:

- ★ "The Conception of Women in Athenian Drama" / Foley
- ★ "Some Pythagorean Female Virtues" / Lambropoulou
- ★ "The Dynamics of Misogyny: Myth and Mythmaking in the *Oresteia*" / Zeitlin

Gender and Public Religion

9 The Female Pharaohs of Egypt
Tuesday, April 1

Read all of the following:

- Hatshepsut: From Queen to Pharaoh [packet of selected articles] / Roehrig (ed.)
- *The Birth of Hatshepsut*
- *Epitaph of Khedankh, Daughter of Shepmin*

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Women in Ancient Egyptian Wisdom Literature" / Depla
- ★ "Women's Monumental Mark on Ancient Egypt" / Lesko
- ★ "The God's Wife of Amun in the 18th Dynasty in Egypt" / Robins

The Images essay is due Monday, March 31.

The last day to withdraw from Spring 2025 courses is Tuesday, April 1.

10 Women and the Kingdom of Israel
Tuesday, April 8

Read all of the following:

- *The Book of Esther*
- *The Book of Ruth*

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Notions of Community and the Exclusion of the Female in Jewish History..." / Archer
- ★ "The Role of Jewish Women in the Religion, Ritual, and Cult of Graeco-Roman Palestine" / Archer
- ★ "Reading Between the Lines: Sarah and the Sacrifice of Isaac (Genesis, Chapter 22)" / Brock

Gender and the Romans

11 The Roman Aristocratic Matron Tuesday, April 22

Read all of the following:

- ch. 8, "The Roman Matron of the Late Republic & Early Empire"
- "The Capture of the Sabine Women" / Livy
- "The Rape of Lucretia" / Livy

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Women and Gender in the Forum Romanum" / Boatwright
- ★ "Two Matrons of the Late Republic" / Carp
- ★ "Male Power ... Through Women Under the Julio-Claudians" / Corbier
- ★ "Aemilia Pudentilla: Or the Wealthy Widow's Choice" / Fantham
- ★ "Social Stereotypes and Historical Analysis: ... Imperial Women at Rome" / Fischler

12 Beyond the Roman Aristocracy Tuesday, April 29

Read all of the following:

- ch. 9, "Women of the Roman Lower Classes"
- "The Twelve Tables", fragments
- selections from *Metamorphoses* / Ovid

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Rape and Rape Victims in *The Metamorphoses*" / Curran
- ★ "The Role of Women in Roman Elegy: Counter-Cultural Feminism", with responses / Hallett
- ★ "Horizontal Women: Posture and Sex in the Roman Convivium" / Roller
- ★ "Women and Elections in Pompeii" / Savunen
- ★ "The Women of Etruria" / Warren

13 Women and the Roman Religion Tuesday, May 6

Read all of the following:

- ch. 10, "The Role of Women in the Religion of the Romans"
- "Cato on the Oppian Law" / Livy
- selected letters / Pliny the Younger

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Re-reading (Vestal) Virginitas" / Beard
- ★ "Roman Women" / Clark
- ★ "Theodora and Antonina in the Historia Arcana: History and/or Fiction?" / Fisher
- ★ "On Creusa, Dido, and the Quality of Victory in Virgil's Aeneid" / Perkell

14 The Hellenistic and Graeco-Roman Eras Tuesday, May 13

Read all of the following:

- ch. 7, "Hellenistic Women"
- Epilogue, "The Elusive Women of Classical Antiquity"
- "Advice to the Bride and Groom" / Plutarch
- Roman Accounts of Cleopatra / Plutarch

Read one of the following:

- ★ "Self-Help, Self-Knowledge: ... Patient in Hippocratic Gynaecology" / King
- ★ "Influential Women" / Lefkowitz
- ★ "Infanticide in Hellenistic Greece" / Pomeroy
- ★ "Spartan Women among the Romans: Adapting Models, Forging Identities" / Pomeroy
- ★ "The Women of Akmonia" / Thonemann

The Position Paper is due Monday, May 12.

15 Final Exam Tuesday, May 20