

Greek 3200A/4904A Early Greek Philosophy

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In the sixth century, the so-called Presocratic philosophers began to examine the world in a radically new way by approaching nature as its own physical realm. Their writings also contain insights into the development of ontology, logic, and epistemology, and even physiology. While much of their writing is in prose, three of the Presocratic philosophers—Xenophanes, Parmenides, and Empedocles—wrote in poetry and we'll spend the term reading their poetry closely.

We'll focus on the Greek itself for the majority of the course, the goal of reading all of it, but we'll also spend some time most weeks discussing such philosophical ideas in the poetry, why they chose to write in poetry, the very "discipline" of philosophy in antiquity, and some professional skills such as textual criticism and using the TLG.

Required Books

All the Greek texts we're going to be reading will be available on the course site through the library databases, and you won't need to buy any specific books. You are welcome to buy editions or commentaries of the Presocratics, but they can cost quite a bit. You should have access to a good Greek grammar book and dictionary.

Evaluation

25% Attendance, Preparation, and Participation

20% 5 Quizzes

25% Written Work (3 short writings or 1 essay)

10% Passage Analysis

20% Final Exam

Course Goals

The course is designed with a few goals in mind:

1. As a Greek language class, the primary goal will be to continue to develop our Greek skills.
2. While reading, we'll pay some attention to the important resources that you should be

Detailed Grade Breakdown

25% attendance, preparation, and participation

Since this is a small class, I expect you to come to each class well prepared. This includes both having read the Greek and tried to understand it as best as

Course Policies etc.

Electronic Devices No electronic devices will be allowed during quizzes or exams.

Statement on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence: (A) The use of generative AI for any

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academicpolicies/appeals/scholasticdisciplineundergrad.pdf>

Statement on the use of plagiarism checking software All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software

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