

**MEDITERRANEAN CULTURES: GREEKS, SICELS, PHOENICIANS & ROMANS IN SICILY**  
ICCS Sicily - Fall 2009

Ian Sutherland & Marco J. Zangari

Class Time: T 9.00 – 10.40, F field trip  
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**INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVES:**

The Mediterranean Cultures class will use a close study of Sicilian material culture to trace the ways in which the mostly Greek cities of Sicily sought to articulate identities for themselves within the larger cultural context of the entire Mediterranean basin. The primary focus will be on the early centuries of Syracuse and the other Greek colonies (their foundations, relations with Sicels, Phoenicians, and with each other). We will also spend our time looking at the development of the city state on the island and the process of Romanization, which for us will find its apex in our trip to Tunisia and the western portion of the island.

Our objectives are threefold. First, to examine what identities Syracuse and other Sicilian cities created for themselves through the various material means open to them: town planning, civic architecture, burials, statues, coins, vases, inscriptions, mosaics, poetry, etc. Second, to develop the methodological tools needed to study these varied objects, and to study them together. Third, to appreciate the richness of Sicilian culture in the ancient period, and to recognize that Sicilian identities were fluid and could not simply be assumed. A complex and thick description of various Sicilian communities should emerge from our efforts.

Central to this class is a weekly field trip; two of these trips will involve overnight stays. The first is to western Sicily and comprises one night; the second to Tunisia comprises five. These longer trips will fit well into the syllabus. The first trip will add Agrigento and Selinunte, with their splendid temples, to our consideration, while the second will allow us both to study Phoenician civic structures in Carthage and Sicily (Motya) and to study the development of the very Roman cities in North Africa under the empire.

Some of the trips within the syllabus may be subject to change depending on local conditions.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Ellen Grady, *Blue Guide Sicily*, 7th edition (WW Norton); ISBN: 0393328899

Ross Holloway, *Archaeology of Ancient Sicily* (Routledge); ISBN: 0415237912

Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound and Other Plays*, trans. Philip Vellacott (Penguin Classics); ISBN: 9780140441123

Pindar, *The Odes of Pindar*, trans. C.M.Bowra (Penguin Classics); ISBN: 014044209X

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, trans. Rex Warner (Penguin Classics); ISBN: 9780140440393

**OPTIONAL TEXT:**

Robert Leighton, *Sicily Before History* (Cornell University Press); ISBN: 0801485851

All other readings are in the library; most can be accessed at <http://blackboard.duke.edu> with your Duke ID and login, or through the electronic databases of your home institution.

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS & FORMAT:**

The course is structured around around the field trips. Each week there will be a seminar and a field trip; during the field trip students will be expected formally or informally to discuss the artworks. For both days, reading will be due, with the majority due for the seminar; all students will do a presentation in a small group. Students should keep a journal. Students will develop the technique of formal and iconographic analyses, and will submit such analyses on four occasions during the semester; the final examination will also consist of such analyses.

#### TESTS & OTHER DIAGNOSTICS

Active participation is entirely crucial; student participation will be graded. As noted, there will be a presentation, two (2) tests, a final, and four (4) written submissions. The relative weight class participation, tests and presentations. The relative weight of these are: participation twenty (20) percent; tests and presentation twenty-five (25) percent; written analyses thirty (30) percent, with final analysis weighted more heavily than others; and final twenty-five (25) percent.

#### SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS:

##### Week I            The Greek Polis & Greek Colonies

Session 01 (T, Sep. 08):

Robin Osborne, "Early Greek Colonization? The Nature of Greek Settlement in the West," *Archaic Greece: New Approaches and New Evidence*, eds. Nick Fisher and Hans Van Wees (Duckworth, 1997), 251-69

Irada Malkin, "Exploring the Concept of 'Foundation': A Visit to Megara Hyblaia," in *Oikistes: Studies in Constitutions, Colonies, and Military Power in the Ancient World*, eds.

Vanessa Gorman & Eric Robinson (Brill, 2002), 195-225

Ross Holloway, *Archaeology of Ancient Sicily* (Routledge), 43-54

Session 02 (F, Sep. 11):

No Field Trip due to Italian

##### Week II            Greek Polis & Colonies (cont.)

Session 03 (T, Sep. 15):

Jeffrey Hurwit, *The Art and Culture of Early Greece 1100-480 BCE* (Cornell, 1985), 179 – 202

Carla Antonaccio, "Hybridity and the Cultures within Greek Culture," in *The Cultures within Greek Culture*, eds. Carol Dougherty & Leslie Kurke (Cambridge, 2003), 57 – 74

Presentations on Greek Colonies: (1) A. J. Dominguez. "Greeks in Sicily," in Tsetskhladze (ed.), *Greek Colonisation: An Account of Greek Colonies and Other Settlements Overseas*, Vol 1 (Leiden: Brill, 2006), 253-69, 292-8, (2) Dominguez. "Greeks in Sicily" 269-92, 298-311

Handout of Colonization Legends for Sicily; Homer, *Odyssey*, bks 6 – 9

Session 04 (F, Sep. 18):

Field Trip to Megara Hyblaia

Anne Cordsen, "The Pastas House in Archaic Greek Sicily," in ed. T. Fischer-Hansen, *Ancient Sicily* (Copenhagen, 1995), 103-21

##### Week III            Sicels & Gela

Session 05 (T, Sep. 22):

Franco de Angelis, *Megara Hybaia and Selinous: The Development of Two Greek City-States in Archaic Sicily* (Oxford, 2003), 1 - 16

Robert Leighton, *Sicily before History* (London, 1999), 219-49, 261-68 or Bernabo Brea, *Sicily Before the Greeks* (New York, 1957), 136-84

Carol Dougherty, "The Aristonothos Crater," in *The Cultures within Greek Culture*, eds. Dougherty & Kurke (Cambridge, 2003), 35-56 [Finley, 63-4]

Presentation on Vases: Susan Matheson, *Greek Vases: A Guide to the Yale Collection* (Yale, 1988), 7-22, 42-3

Presentation on Coins: Ian

Session 06 (F, Sep. 25):

Field Trip to Gela Museum (and acropolis)

Holloway, *Archaeology*, 121-40

#### Week IV      Syracuse

Session 07 (I, Sep. 29):

Jonathan Hall, "How 'Greek' were the Early Western Greeks?" in *Greek Identity in the Western Mediterranean*, K. Lomas, ed. E.J. Brill, Leiden 2004: 55-81

Diodorus, selections

Herodotus 3.125-37

[Finley, 27-57]

Map Test for Sicily and S. Italy (to the colonies from Week II, add Enna, Morgantina, Segesta/Egesta, Motya, Panormos/Palermo, Lilybaeum, and then Rhegion and Western Locri)

Presentation on Epigraphy: tba

Presentation on Temple Architecture: Ian

Session 08 (F, Oct. 02): Field Trip to Syracuse: Temples of Apollo and Athena

Formal and Iconographic Analyses: of Temple of Apollo (2 pages) and Temple of Athena (2 pages).

Due Tuesday (10.06).

#### Week V      Tyranny: Agrigento & Selinunte

Session 09 (I, Oct. 06):

Holloway, *Archaeology*, 97-120 [74-78]

Pindar, *Olympian 3* & *Pythian 6*, for Theron and Xenocrates

RRR Smith "Pindar, Athletes and the Statue Habit," in *Pindar's Poetry, Patrons and Festivals: from Archaic Greece to the Roman Empire*, eds. S. Hornblower, C. Morgan (Oxford, 2006), 83-139

Presentation on Pindar: Marco

Session 10 (F – Sat, Oct. 09 - 10):

Field Trip Overnight to Agrigento and Selinunte

John Pedley, *Sanctuaries and the Sacred* (Cambridge, 2005), 78-118

Lynn Meskell, "Archaeologies of Identity," in ed. Ian Hodder, *Archaeological Theory Today* (Cambridge,

2001), 187-213

Formal and Iconographic Analyses: of the temple of Olympian Zeus at Acragas, and the Acragas Ephebe in the Museum. 2 pages each. Due Tuesday (10.13).

Week VI Deinomenid Syracuse and the Theatre

Session 11 (T, Oct. 13):

Simon Goldhill, "The Great Dionysia and Civic Ideology," *Nothing to do with Dionysos*, eds. Jack Winkler & Froma Zeitlin (Princeton, 1990), 97-129

Holloway, 151-4

Aeschylus, *Persae*

Pindar, *Pythian* 1

Session 12 (F, Oct. 16):

Anthony Podlecki, "Polis and Monarch in Early Attic Tragedy," *Greek Tragedy and Political Theory*, ed. Peter Euben (California, 1986), 76-100

Learn a couple of your favorite lines of Euripides to recite, and bring your *Persae*.

Week VII Phoenician & Carthaginian Sicily I

Session 13 (T, Oct. 20):

Aubet, "Phoenician Colonies in the Central Mediterranean" *The Phoenicians and the West*, 2nd ed (Cambridge, 2001), 212-56

Jonathan Edmondson, "Cities and Urban Life in the Provinces of the Roman Empire, 30 BCE- 250 CE," *A Companion to the Roman Empire*, ed. David Potter (Malden, 2006), 250-80

Katherine Dunbabin, *Mosaics of the Greek and Roman World* (Cambridge, 1999), 101-29

Presentation on Phoenician Settlement: H. G. Niemeyer, "The Phoenicians in the Mediterranean. Between Expansion & Colonisation: A Non-Greek Model of Overseas Settlement and Presence," in ed. Tsetschladze, *Greek Colonisation*, vol. 1 (Leiden: Brill, 2006), 143-68

Presentation on Roman Spectacle: David Potter, "Spectacle," *A Companion to the Roman Empire*, ed. Potter (Malden, 2006), 385-408

Session 14 (Th - T, Oct. 22 - 27):

Field Trip to Carthage, Dougga, Bulla Regia, Bardo, Segesta, Motya, Palermo and Solunto

Matthew Dillon & Lynda Garland, *Ancient Rome: From the Early Republic to the Assassination of Julius Caesar* (Routledge, 2005), selections

David Mattingly and Bruce Hitchner, "Roman Africa: An Archaeological Review" *JRS* 85 (1995): 179-87, 198-204

Formal and Iconographic Analyses: of the tomb of Ateban in Dougga. 2 pages. Due following Tuesday (11.03)

Week VIII

Session 15 (T, Oct. 27): Return from Field

Session 16 (F, Oct. 30): Fall Break

## Week IX      The Sicilian Expedition

Session 17 (T, Nov. 03):

JK Davies, "The Peloponnesian War," *Democracy & Classical Greece* (Harvard, 1993), 117-33  
Holloway, 141-7

Eric Robinson, "Democracy in Syracuse, 466-412 B.C.," *HSCPb* (*Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*,  
on JSTOR) 100 (2000): 189-205.

Thucydides, bks 6-7

Session 18 (F, Nov. 06):

Field trip to the Eurialo

AW Lawrence, "Archimedes and the Design of the Euryalus Fort," *JHS* (*Journal for Hellenic Studies*,  
on JSTOR) 66 (1946): 99-107

JK Davies, "Philosophers, Mercenaries and Monarchs," *Democracy & Classical Greece*, 174-97

## Week X      Morgantina, Between Greeks, Sicels and Romans, 550-213

Session 19 (T, Nov. 10):

Barbara Tsakirgis, "Morgantina: A Greek Town in Central Sicily," *Acta Hyperborea* 6 (1995): 123-147

Barbara Tsakirgis, "The Decorated Pavements of Morgantina I: The Mosaics," *AJA* (*American  
Journal of Archaeology*, on JSTOR) 93 (1989): 395-416

Holloway 147-51

Theocritus 11, 6 (with Aelian 12.44)

Map test: on Sicily and the Western Mediterranean. (To the first quiz, add: Carthage, Cervetri, Lipari,  
Rome, Cadiz/Gadir, Pithecoussai, Cumae, Malta, Ibiza/Ebusus, Sulcis, Massalia.)

Session 20 (F, Nov. 13):

Field Trip to Morgantina and its Museum in Aidone

Carla Antonaccio, "Siculo-geometric and the Sikels: Identity and Material Culture in Eastern Sicily"  
in *Greek Identity*, ed. Kathryn Lomas, (Leiden: Brill, 2004): 55-81

Formal and Iconographic Analysis: of either a building at the site of Morgantina or an object in the  
Museum at Aidone. 4pp. Due Tuesday (11.17).

## Week XI      Theatre and Civic Development

Session 21 (T, Nov. 17):

Cicero, *Verrines*, selections

Kathryn Lomas, "Between Greece and Italy: an external perspective on culture in Roman Sicily," in  
*Sicily from Aeneas to Augustus*, eds. Christopher Smith and John Serrati (Edinburgh, 2000), 161-73

R.J.A Wilson, "Ciceronian Sicily: an archaeological perspective," in *Sicily from Aeneas to Augustus*, eds.  
Christopher Smith and John Serrati (Edinburgh, 2000), 134-160 [Finley, 122-36]

Presentation on Theater Terminology: Frank Sear, *Roman Theatres: An Architectural Study* (Oxford,  
2006), 1-10, 24-36

Session 22 (F, Nov. 20):

Field Trip to Taormina

Catharine Edwards, "Playing Romans: representations of actors and the theater," in *The Politics of  
Immorality in Ancient Rome* (Cambridge, 1993), 98-136

Plautus, *Poenulus*

Week XII

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Session 23 (T, Nov. 24):  
Written Exam

Session 24 (F, Nov. 27):  
Happy Thanksgiving!

Week XIII Villas

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Session 25 (T, Dec. 01):  
Nicholas Purcell, "The Roman Villa and the Landscape of Production," *Urban Society in Roman Italy*, eds. Kathryn Lomas & Tim Cornell (London, 1995), 151-79  
Andrew Wallace-Hadrill, *Houses and Society* (Princeton, 1994), 3-37  
Holloway, 167-78

Presentations on Mosaics: (1) Katherine Dunbabin, *Mosaics of the Greek and Roman World* (Cambridge, 1999), 269-90, (2) Dunbabin, *Mosaics*, 291-16

Session 26 (F, Dec. 04):  
Field Trip to Piazza Armerina  
Katherine Dunbabin, *Mosaics of the Greek and Roman World* (Cambridge, 1999), 130-43  
Pliny, *Epistle* 2.17

Week XIV Baths

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Session 27 (T, Dec. 08):  
Sandra Lucore, "Baths," *Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming)

Session 28 (F, Dec. 11):  
Field Trip around Catania, esp. the Baths of Achillianus

Week XV

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Session 29 (T, Dec. 15): Final Exam

The final exam includes both a field and written component. As for the written component you will comment upon objects/texts from among the materials already examined throughout the semester. As for the field component, you will travel to a museum wherein you will be responsible for describing and discussing two, selected artifacts, in relation to the artworks, articles, and broader theoretical work treated during the semester.