



Instructor: Tommaso Gazzarri  
 Email: tommaso.gazzarri@aya.yale.edu  
 Class meets: M./W. TBA  
 Location: TBA  
 Office: TBA  
 Office hour: TBA  
 Mailbox: Dept. of Classics

### Description of the course

This course investigates the representation of women in the literature and archaeology of ancient Greece and Rome. Despite Greece and Rome being patriarchal societies and women being severely restricted by firmly set laws and customs, it is possible to trace the problems women face in modern society to their Greek and Roman ancestors. This ancient past, chronologically so removed from our present time, contains the seeds of many cultural categories which are still operating on and influencing our way of conceptualizing the role of women and their identities. The aim of this class, divided in two sections (one, the longest, devoted to ancient Greece, the other to Rome) is to deconstruct these ideologies and provide a history of women, their lives, their feelings, desires and sexuality in classical antiquity. The class will focus on the study of literary sources, but will periodically review archeological evidence as well. Reading quizzes, a midterm and a final exam will assess the student's progress throughout the course.

### Course schedule

	<b><u>INTRODUCTION</u></b>
Lecture 1	The problem of matriarchy (I)
Lecture 2	The problem of matriarchy (I)
	<b><u>GREECE</u></b>
Lecture 3	Minoan and Mycenaean societies
Lecture 4	Female initiation ceremonies
Lecture 5	The Homeric poems Hesiod and Semonides

Lecture 6	<b>QUIZ # 1</b> The first legislators
Lecture 7	The classical period
Lecture 8	Reproduction
Lecture 9	Socrates and Plato on women
Lecture 10	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>
Lecture 11	Aristotle on women
Lecture 12	Women and literature of the classical period
Lecture 13	female homosexuality and myth
Lecture 14	Crete and Sparta
Lecture 15	Bisexual divinities
Lecture 16	The hellenistic age: women and power
Lecture 17	<b>ROME</b> Etruscan women
Lecture 18	<b>QUIZ # 2</b> Rome and the matriarchy
Lecture 19	legal status of women in the monarchic and early republican age
Lecture 20	Towards “emancipation”: principate and empire
Lecture 21	Review and final remarks

**Required texts** (available from the bookstore)

- Course pack

- S. B. Pomeroy, *Goddesses, Whores, Wives, and Slaves. Women in Classical Antiquity* (Schocken) 1975, ISBN 978-0-8052-1030-9
- Ancient Greece Timeline, ISBN 192886032X
- Roman Republic Timeline, ISBN 1928860079
- Roman Empire Timeline, ISBN 1928860028

### Course requirements

#### Attendance

Regular participation and prompt attendance are required. If a student misses more than two classes without an excuse or is consistently unprepared for class, his/her grade will be significantly affected.

**Remember to sign the roster - unsigned roster will be considered as evidence of missed classes. You CANNOT sign for other people.**



Quizzes CANNOT be made up. Make-up exams will only be given if a medical or family emergency arises, and the Dean of Students office notifies me,

#### Grades

Final grades will be weighted as follows:

- |                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| • Attendance and participation | 20% |
| • Quizzes                      | 25% |
| • Midterm exam                 | 25% |
| • Final exam                   | 30  |

#### Grading Scale

	A 94–100	A- 90–93
B+ 87–89	B 83–86	B- 80–83
C+ 77–79	C 74–76	C- 70–73
D+ 67–69	D 63–66	D- 60–63

**Exam dates**

- |                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| • Quiz #1        | Lecture 6  |
| • Mid-term exam: | Lecture 10 |
| • Quiz #2        | Lecture 18 |
| • Final Exam:    | TBA        |

**Requirements for Accommodations of Disabilities**

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations must:

1. Register with and provide documentation to the Dean of Students Office.
2. Bring me a letter (within the first two weeks) from the Dean of Student Office indicating the needed academic accommodations.