

THE CITY OF ATHENS

Class Test Information

The test:

The test will consist of two parts: 1) *Topography* and 2) *Texts*

- 1) *Topography*: You will be given images/plans/drawings of three topographical items from ancient Athens and asked to identify, describe, and contextualize TWO of the three.
- 2) *Texts*: You will be given three passages from texts we have looked at together this term and asked to identify, describe, and contextualize TWO of the three.

The test should take you approximately one hour (approx. 15 minutes per item).

Successful answers:

Your answer should take the form of a mini-essay.

- 1) Each *Topography* essay should include but not necessarily be limited to the following: the identity of the item, date, location, materials, individual(s) or entity responsible for its construction, the range of evidence for our reconstruction of the monument/space (e.g. if little remains, how do we know what was there? – literary references? depictions on vases/coins? inscriptions?), its immediate context in the city of Athens, its context in the history of Athens, its wider context and implications for our understanding of Athenian religion, politics, urbanism, whatever seems most relevant and important to you.
- 2) Each *Text* essay should attempt to include answers to the following questions: From what author (and what work of that author) or source does this passage come? Who is the speaker (if the author is not speaking in his own voice)? What is the situation/background? If the passage refers indirectly to other events or persons, explain them. What is the significance of this passage for our understanding of Athenian and, if appropriate, wider Greek history?

In other words, work from the specific to the general and incorporate a balance of as much detailed and general analysis as you can on the basis of what we have covered in class and what you have read from the syllabus.

Topographical material to prepare

Propylaia
Temple of Athena Nike
Erechtheion
Parthenon - pediments
Parthenon – metopes
Parthenon – Ionic frieze
Parthenon – Athena cult statue
Bouleuterion
Metroon
Tholos

Stoa Poikile
Stoa of Zeus Eleutherios
South Stoa I
Pnyx
Royal Stoa
Monument of the Eponymous Heroes
Olynthus house (House A vii 4)
Theater of Dionysos

Texts to prepare

Plutarch, *Life of Pericles*
Herodotus, *Histories*
Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*
The Constitution of the Athenians
Sophocles, *Antigone*
Aristophanes, *Birds*
Plato, *Symposium*

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21H.237 The City of Athens in the Age of Pericles
Fall 2014

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