

HIS 202
Ancient Greece

Tu/Th, 11:30-1:00pm

Satisfies: GLO [DEC: I]

Thematic Categories: "Arts, Ideas & Culture,"
"Empires, Violence & Global Connections"

Professor Eric Miller

The civilization that developed in Greece over the course of the first millennium BCE transformed the philosophical, political, and cultural foundations of the world of its time in ways which have had enormous influence on subsequent societies, particularly our own. Democracy, Philosophy and Drama, are just a few of the innovations that began in Ancient Greece. This course presents an overview of the ancient Greek world, beginning with the first evidence for the Greek language and the precursor civilizations of the Bronze Age Aegean, and ending with the Hellenic states' loss of independence to Roman imperialism. While chronology and political history provide the general organizational framework for the course, there will be frequent diversions into social and intellectual topics. But the geographical focus is on a much larger area than what is included within the frontiers of modern Greece, as ancient Greek colonization embraced broad areas of Asia and the Mediterranean. Ultimately, Greek history is the basis of the vocabulary of history itself. The material will be conveyed both through class lectures and discussions, with a mid-term, final exam, and two research papers.