

## HOMER: IDENTITY

- Homer
  - c. 700BC (or earlier)
  - Old Smyrna?
  - Demodocus (bard in the Odyssey)
- Homer or Homers?
  - Iliad and Odyssey
  - 50 or more distinct writing styles

## THE STYLE OF HOMER: LANGUAGE

- unique dialect
- use of meter in literature
- dactylic hexameter
  - each line has six feet (hexameter)
  - -uu/-uu/-uu/-uu/-uu/-uu

## THE STYLE OF HOMER: DESCRIPTION

- examples
  - Pandarus shoots Menelaus
  - Agamemnon arms for battle
  - the Trojans around the Greek camp
- pace of the narrative
- beauty and horror
- descriptive
  - swift-footed Achilles
  - Menelaus of the Great War Cry
  - godlike Odysseus
- formulaic
- simile was more common in the Iliad than in the Odyssey
- emphasis
  - Trojans are ewes (vulnerable)
- images of wilderness or borderlands
  - grazing areas (not arable land)
  - mountains, foothills, etc.

## THE STYLE OF HOMER: DESCRIPTION

- simile
  - vegetation (death)
  - juxtaposition of war and peace
    - peaceful images for war
    - warlike images for peace
  - weather similes
    - more violent than war
    - Agamemnon = forest fire
    - Hector = whirlwind
- ecphrasis
  - written or oral description of an object
  - painting, work of art, etc.
  - Helen's mantle (3.127 to 131)
  - Agamemnon's shield (11.32 to 39)
- speeches
  - expansive speeches
  - speech as verbal action
    - hortatory speeches
    - apologetic speeches
    - Nestor the speech maker
- structure
  - parataxis (string of pearls)
    - Greed and Trojan catalog (book 2)
    - resumption of narrative
  - ring composition
    - inverted order
    - book 1: Greek funerals
    - book 24: funerals
  - repetition

#### HOMER: SUBJECT MATTER

- figures of the Heroic Age (Mycenaean World)
- his works blend the two worlds: Mycenaean and Dark Age Greece
  - bronze and iron
  - chariots as taxis

## THE PLACE OF THE ILIAD IN THE GREEK WORLD

- the 'Bible' of the Greek world
  - intertextuality
  - the height of a tradition
  - Alexander the Great used it when he went anywhere
- performance
  - oral presentation
  - rhetors (Plato's Ion)
- improvisation
  - composed c. 700BC
  - traveling performers (barons)

## THE HEROIC IDEAL

- hero social ideal: hero but warrior
- the commoner vs. the hero
  - Thersites and Agamemnon
  - Odysseus and Thersites
  - the assessment of Thersites
- the good vs. the bad hero (Hector and Paris) 6.341
- definition of a hero
  - deeds
  - words (books 2 and 9 especially)

## WARFARE

- armor
  - helmet
  - thorax
  - greaves
  - shield
- weapons
  - spear
  - sword
  - bow
- combat
  - shield wall (phalanx)
  - no man's land

- single combat (monomachia)
- distance
  - the duel of Hector and Ajax
  - the death of Dolon
- recognition
  - Diomedes and Glaucus
  - Hector and Ajax
- the piteous defeated
  - graphic depiction of death
  - Diomedes and the Trojans
  - the sons of Ortilochus
  - begging for one's life
- the perils and prizes of combat
  - the Greek view of death
    - Hades
    - Elysium (Blessed Isles)
    - the hero's choice
      - Odysseus (11.401)
      - Achilles' choice
  - glory (kleos)
    - the spoils of combat
    - Sarpedon to Glaucus
- the battle field of the Iliad
  - asty = city
  - field/plain
  - 2 cities
    - Troy
      - lovemaking
      - religious observance
      - weaving
    - ships
      - troubled but peaceful
      - troubled domestic scene
      - feast
    - the plain
      - the end or beginning?

- previous 9 years
- "Covering the plain like leaves..."
- Priam and Helen
- welfare on the plain
  - no sieges

## THE EFFECTS OF RAGE

- Achilles and Rage
  - organization of the Iliad
    - the quarrel (book 1)
    - Achilles' absence (books 2-16)
    - Achilles' return (books 17-22)
    - the end of rage (books 23-24)
- The Division of Earth
  - the Trojans
    - catalogue
    - divided or united?
    - Paris and Hector
  - initial division among the Greeks
    - Achilles and Agamemnon
    - the Greek assembly
      - Agamemnon tests the Greeks
      - Thersites
      - Odysseus and Thersites
    - the catalogues
      - Greeks
      - Trojans
  - Achilles and the other Greeks
    - messengers of Agamemnon
    - Ajax's view of Achilles
    - the embassy to Achilles
      - Diomedes and Agamemnon
      - Achilles' reception
      - feast
      - Odysseus' message
        - appeal

- Peleus' advice
    - reward
  - Pheonix's message
    - relation to Achilles
    - view of Achilles' anger
    - the story of Meleager
    - Achilles' response
  - Ajax's message
    - Achilles' reply
  - Greek reaction
- Nestor
  - Nestor's reproach
  - Nestor – the hero serves the community
- Patroclus
  - divided loyalties
    - Nestor's advice
    - Eurypylus
  - to Achilles
- Division of Heaven
  - place of the gods
    - Zeus
    - order of the universe (Dike)
  - the Olympian factions
  - Achilles > Thetis' request
    - overthrow of Zeus
    - Hera's reaction
    - Zeus' insomnia
  - escalation of divine action
    - indirect action
      - Agamemnon's dream
      - Athena inspires Pandarus and Diomedes
      - Athena fills Diomedes with power
    - direct action
      - the gods in battle (Aphrodite, Ares, and Apollo)
      - seduction of Zeus
      - Poseidon for the Greeks

- god vs. god
    - Zeus loses patience
      - threatens the gods
      - threatens Hera
  - Differences between Earth and Heaven
    - Earth
      - intensity of confrontation
        - Achilles vs. Agamemnon
        - Odysseus vs. Thersites
    - Heaven
      - level of confrontation
        - violence
      - duration of confrontation
        - resolution
          - Hera and Zeus
          - Hephaestus at dinner
          - Hera and Zeus at night
          - Poseidon and Zeus
        - the happy, smiling gods
          - Zeus
          - Hera
        - little suffering
          - Aphrodite
          - Ares
        - Zeus and Hera
  - The escalation of violence
    - at the beginning of the Iliad
      - state of war
        - suffering of the Greek heroes
        - progress
      - situation at Troy
        - recollection of Priam
        - life in Troy
    - nature of war
      - general combat
        - shield walls

- well-matched
  - monomachia (set duels)
    - Paris and Menelaus
    - Hector and Ajax
    - terms
- the heroic ideal
  - Arete (skill)
  - Aristeia (using the skill very well)
  - time and kleos
- trophy
  - struggle for armor and corpses
    - Aeneas protects Pandurus
    - Sarpedon
    - Cabriones
    - Patroclus
  - the heroic trophy
    - armor
    - corpse
- enemy dead
  - treatment of the dead
    - cremation
    - burial
    - tomb
- decapitation
  - Pandurus (himself)
  - the death of Dolon
  - Agamemnon beheads Hippolochus
  - Hector threatens Patroclus
- mistreatment of the dead
  - the bodies of Sarpedon and Ceribones
  - Achilles chokes the river Xanthus
  - Achilles and Hector's body
    - Achilles' threat 1
    - Achilles' threat 2
    - the Greeks and Hector's body
    - Achilles and Hector



- Hecuba
- The shield of Achilles
  - the Iliad in perspective
  - a city at peace
    - wedding and festival
    - the Judges hear a murder case
  - a city at war
    - siege
    - battle along the river
  - the king and the fields
  - preparations for war
    - Achilles receives the armor
      - mourning Patroclus
      - Myrmidon's reaction
      - Achilles' transformation
    - reconciliation
      - end of raging "relentlessly"?
      - arms for battle
      - similar to Agamemnon
      - Achilles at the center
    - rage of Achilles
      - against the Trojans
      - Xanthus and Balius
      - to death

## THE HEIGHT OF RAGE

- Gods enter the battle
- Hector escapes
- Further escalation of war
  - Achilles in his chariot
  - Xanthus filled with blood
  - the death of Lycaon
  - Achilles vs. the river Xanthus
- The appeal of Priam and Hecuba
- Hector debates his fate
  - aidos

- peace with Achilles
- The final battle
  - flight
  - Hector's appeal
  - Hector begs
- The body of Hector
  - the Greeks view the body
  - Achilles and Hector's body
    - Priam and Hecuba
    - Andromache
      - wedding day
- Patroclus' funeral
  - sacrifice
  - Achilles cuts his hair
  - the games
  - aftermath

#### THE END OF RAGE

- The decree of the gods
  - Hector's body
  - ordering Achilles
  - ring composition

#### THE END OF THE TROJAN WAR

- The fall of Troy
  - the death of Achilles
    - Paris
    - Agamemnon's judgment
    - the suicide of Ajax
  - the capture of Troy
    - Neoptolemus
    - bow of Philoctetes
    - the Trojan horse (Helen)
- The sack of Troy
  - the sack of a city
    - murder

- rape
  - pillage
- Neoptolomus (Achilles' son)
  - Astyanax
  - Priam and Polites
- Oilean (lesser) Ajax
- Polyxena
- Going home
  - Menelaus and Helen
    - reconciliation
    - Nostos
      - returning home
      - regaining one's place
      - obstacles
        - gods
        - family
        - enemies
  - (lesser) Ajax (son of Oileus)
    - Athena
    - Poseidon
  - Nestor (Pylos)
  - Menelaus (Sparta)
  - Diomedes (Argos)
    - Aegialia
    - flight to Italy
  - Agamemnon
    - Iphigenia
    - Aegisthus and Clytemnestra
    - Menelaus' tale
    - Nestor's tale

Pathos: high emotion

Hubris: arrogance/want more than your due portion

Ate: blindness/fooling yourself to believe your hubris

Nemesis: destruction (agent of)

Destruction

Reciprocity: equal pay; personal; good or bad

# THE ODYSSEY

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## TRAVEL IN ANTIQUITY

- Sea travel
- Physical perils
- Social perils
- Xenia: guest/friend relationship
  - hospitality
  - gifts
  - Xenos (singular), Xenoι (plural)

## THEMES

- Mini-epic
- Athena's appeal to Zeus
  - death of Aegisthus
  - the return of Odysseus
  - the adventure of Telemachus
- The oikos of Odysseus
  - the suitors
  - Penelope
  - Telemachus alone
- Who are you?
  - identity of Mentēs (Athena)
    - paternity
    - actions
    - relationship
  - identity of Telemachus
    - paternity
    - inaction
  - Telemachus' plight
- Coming of age
  - the advice of Mentēs (Athena)
    - call an assembly
    - visit xenoι
    - "bury" Odysseus
    - give Penelope away
    - kill the suitors
  - the assembly

- novelty
- Telemachus' speech
  - the staff
  - adult or child
    - powerless
    - weeping
- the expedition
  - Mentos (Athena)
  - the suitors' reactions
- xenoï and identity
  - Nestor: some doubts
  - Helen
  - Menelaus

## THE STYLE OF THE ODYSSEY

- Phrasing
  - Epithets
  - similes
- Extroversion vs. Introspection
  - the Greek audience
  - discussion with oneself
    - Odysseus in Ithaca
    - Odysseus' scar
  - discussion with another
    - Penelope's options
- Repetition
  - structural
    - paratactic style
    - conversation
  - thematic doublet
    - emphatic
    - comparison
    - shipwrecks
      - Scheria
      - Calypso's island
    - plundering and overreaching

- Menelaus' men in Egypt
  - Odysseus' men against the Cicones
  - the suitors?
- awakening in a strange land
  - Odysseus and Nausicaa
  - Odysseus and Athena
  - homecoming
- stranger in a strange land
  - Odysseus in Scheria
  - Odysseus and Eumaeus
  - Odysseus and Penelope
- a major character sleeps
  - Penelope sleeps: Telemachus' maturity
  - Odysseus sleeps: the bag of winds
  - Penelope sleeps: the Trial of the bow
- character doublets
  - a common patterning
  - emphasizes particular character traits
  - Eumaeus and Philoetius (loyal servants)
    - introductions
    - in battle
  - Melanthius and Melanthe (disloyal servants)
    - similar rebukes
    - Melanthius: day; Melanthe: late day/night
  - landing in Scheria
    - sequence of meeting
    - status of Odysseus
    - peril or safety?
  - landing in the Laistrygonian land
    - sequence of meeting
    - status of Odysseus
    - peril or safety?
  - landing in Ithaca
    - sequence of meeting
    - status of Odysseus
    - peril or safety?

## THE WIVES OF ODYSSEUS

- Penelope
  - the challenge of Penelope
    - mistress of her house
    - confronts Telemachus
  - wife or widow?
    - mourns Odysseus
    - delays remarriage
    - stay or go?
  - Penelope and Odysseus
    - the Oath of Tyndareus
    - the Shroud of Laertes
    - Penelope's aristeia (display of skill)
- Calypso
  - status
  - relationship
  - Calypso's offer
    - immortality
    - forgetting Ithica
- Circe
  - nature of relationship
  - duration of stay
  - point of departure
  - the fidelity of Odysseus
    - status of Calypso and Circe
    - Nausicaa
- Nausicaa
  - Nausicaa's wedding
    - wedding clothes
    - suitor?
    - the wedding cart
      - Alcinous
      - a Greek wedding
  - Nausicaa the nymphe
    - unwed



- Nausicaa's bravery
- the wedding of Odysseus and Nausicaa
  - Nausicaa's wish
  - Phaeacian gossip
  - the path not taken
- the palace of Antinous
  - Queen Arete
  - Phaeacian nobles
  - the reception of Odysseus
- Odysseus?
  - the status of Odysseus
  - Odysseus' name

## THE REDISCOVERY OF ODYSSEUS

- Odysseus and home
  - why return?
    - sweetness of it
    - oikos
  - resolution of his household
    - Telemachus: son or master of oikos?
    - Penelope: what will happen?
    - Odysseus: will he return home?
- Homecoming
  - the identity of Odysseus
    - silent
    - manipulative
  - disbelief and recognition
    - Odysseus has to be identified
    - recognition is not immediate
      - Telemachus
      - Penelope
  - stages of return
    - Eumaeus (beggar)
    - Melanthius
    - has to battle Irus
    - meets Penelope (guest)

- talks to Penelope (suitor)
- suitor
  - trial of the bow
  - battles the suitors

xenia: guest friendship

## Literature

- poetry
- prose

## Form

- genre
- intertextuality
- literary techniques

## Contents

- Greek society
- others

## Civilizations

- stone age (up to 3000BC)
- bronze age (3000BC to 800BC)
  - bronze – copper and tin
  - Minoan civilization (Crete – 2000BC to 1400BC)
    - palace culture
    - centralized agriculture
  - Cnossus/Knossos
  - collapse (natural disaster?)
  - Mycenaean civilization (Greece – 1600BC to 1200BC)
    - palace culture
    - cyclopean masonry
    - massive construction
    - collapse (1200BC to 1050BC)
  - literacy without literature (oral)
- Mycenaean collapse (1100BC to 1050BC)
  - population decreases
  - end of palace culture
  - end of literacy
- iron age begins
- dark ages (1000BC to 800BC)
  - no written works
  - introduction of iron

- archaic period (800BC to 480BC)
  - sharp rise of population
  - colonization (Italy, Black Sea, Africa, etc.)
  - literacy and alphabet
- classical period (480BC to 322BC)
  - Persian war
  - intense inter-city warfare
- Greek warfare
  - heroic warfare
    - monomachia – the duel
    - bronze weapons
  - hoplite warfare (classical period)
- agriculture
  - wheat, barley, olives
  - poor soil
  - labor intensive (slavery)
- clothing
- pottery
- navigation
- Hellas (nation)?
- ethos (tribe)
- polis (city-state)
  - Athens (40,000 male citizens)
  - 700+ poleis in Greece
- oikos (home)
  - dispersed community
  - self-sufficiency

#### Greek Society

- polis: city-state (political); men
- ethnos: tribes (political)
- oikos: building (home); women

## ARCHAIC PERIOD

- Expansion of Greece
  - population sky rockets
  - people kicked out, forced to expand
- Rise of the Polis
  - monarchy/oligarchy (rule of the many) changed strictly to oligarchy (large numbers, rule of the few)
- Tyranny
  - common in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> century
    - most tyrants located in poleis
    - no tyrants in Sparta
  - usurpation of traditional power
    - member of ruling class
    - popular support
    - autocracy
  - coup d'etat
  - view of tyrants
    - changes to fear at some points
    - money, violence, and poleis
- Athens
  - 6<sup>th</sup> century BC, needed a good tyrant
  - Solon (also see LYRIC POETS)
    - Eupatrid
    - total power
    - reforms
      - ended debt peonage
      - demokratia? (power to the people)
    - exile
- Democratic Athens
  - elections
    - lot citizens
  - council
    - aeropagus (old system)

## LYRIC POETS

- Archilochus of Paros (died around 652 BC)

- Solon
  - the problems of Athens
    - mob leaders (fr.4)
    - Eris?
    - stasis (he is saying your friend might kill you)
  - Solon as an example – he addresses the audience

#### THE PERSIAN WARS

- Ionian Revolt (499-494BC) – destruction of Sardis/Miletus
- Battle of Marathon (490BC)
  - naval expedition sent by Darius
  - one nation vs. forty-six
- Xerxes' Invasion of Greece (480-479BC)

#### THE ATHENIAN EMPIRE

- Delian League
  - very good at marine warfare
- Money was very important

# THUCYDIDES: ON JUSTICE POWER AND HUMAN NATURE

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## THE WORLD OF THUCYDIDES

- Athens
  - *arche*
  - Democracy
  - naval power
- Sparta
  - militaristic
  - Oligarchy
  - leader of the Peloponnesian League

## THUCYDIDES THE MAN

- C. 460-400BC
- Aristocratic family
- Athenian general
  - Amphipolis in 424BC
  - exiled
- Returned to Athens
- Possibly murdered?

## THUCYDIDES: STYLE

- Language
  - antiquated
  - difficulty
- Approach to history
  - sources
  - no transparency
- Speeches
  - major component of work
  - Sophists

## THUCYDIDES: *ARCHAEOLOGY*

- Subject matter
  - Ancient *Hellas* (Greece)
    - origins of the Greeks
    - Greek clothing

- Trojan War
- early tyrants
- Greece and Persia
  - Marathon
  - Persian War
- Sources
  - folk tradition
  - Homer
    - power of Agamemnon
    - size of the Greek force at Troy
  - archaeology
    - Mycene
    - Sparta
  - careful weighing of sources
    - example: size of the force at Troy

## ORIGENS OF THE WAR

- Causes of the war
  - Herodotus 1.5 – Croesus cause of Greek's problems
  - pretexts (complaints for the war)
  - true causes (*aitia*)
- Herodotus
  - Persian *logioi*
  - role of Croesus
  - human prosperity
- Thucydides
  - pretexts (immediate causes)
  - *aitia*

## HUMAN NATURE

- Thucydides looks beyond national characteristics/peace-time human nature
  - Herodotean *nomoi*?
  - National characteristics differ from people to people
    - Athenians
    - Spartans



- national characteristics → human nature during peace time
  - human nature during peace and war
- Human nature in *extremis*
- National character (*nomoi*?)
  - Corinthian speech – identifies the national characters of Sparta and Athens
  - Athenian speech – the national character may remain constant, but have different results (freedom fighters/imperialists)
- Funeral Oration of Pericles (2.35-46)
  - first year of the war – minor casualties
  - evaluation of Athenian Democracy
  - private lives
  - Athens is an exemplar to Greece
  - Pericles' focus
    - *nomos*
    - government (2.37)
      - unique
      - equanimity and equality
    - way of life, private lives (2.37)
      - trust
      - live and let live
    - respect for the law (2.37)
    - in peace (2.38)
    - in war (2.39)
- The Plague (2.47-54)
  - Thucydides and medical writers
    - traces the origin of the disease (Ethiopia)
    - survivor's accounts (rare indication of source)
    - detailed description of symptoms
  - medical writers and the historians
  - the darker side of human nature
    - *nomoi*
    - laws
    - pleasure over nobility
- *Stasis* in Corcyra

- Corcyra – one pretext of the war
- divided by factions (book 1)
- democrats murder/execute oligarchs
- Corcyran *stasis* as an example
  - cruelty
  - typical division
  - the effect of war and hardships
- Human nature in civil war (3.82)
  - factions devised artful means for attack and bizarre forms of revenge
  - inversion of concepts/values
  - *nomoi in extremis*
  - the nature of factions
    - deception
    - moderates
    - goals
- Self interest and human nature
  - *Cui bono*
  - a basic motivation of mankind, especially in the time of war is self-interest
    - speech of the Athenians
      - Athenians ruled their *arche* to their advantage (1.75)
      - Spartans

## THE SICILIAN EXPEDITION

- Peace of Nicias (421BC)
  - Athenian losses (Amphipolis)
  - Spartan setbacks (Messeniens)
  - nature of the Peace
- Athens and Sicily
  - earlier in the war
  - 415BC

## THE SICILIAN EXPEDITION: SPEECHES IN THE GREEK WORLD

- Public Deliberation

- assembly (Athens, Sparta)
  - war councils, et al.
- Agonistic
  - *Iliad* 9
  - Athenian political/legal system
    - identity of the speaker
    - decisive factor: public perception of the speaker
  - who is the better speaker?
- Dialogue/Speeches
  - Homer: lengthy speeches = dialogue
  - Tragedians: lengthy speeches and dialogue
  - Herodotus: speeches (uncommon), short statements
- Thucydides
  - creative accuracy
  - "I have made each speaker say what I thought the situation demanded, keeping as near as possible to the general sense of what was actually said." (1.22)
- The function of speeches in Thucydides
  - summarization (simplification) of major opposing viewpoints
    - Mytilenian debate
    - Melian dialogue
    - Sicilian expedition
  - characterization
    - Archidamus: intelligent
    - Cleon: cruel
    - Sthenelaidas: simple
    - Pericles
    - Alcibiades
    - Nicias
- Sets of speeches
  - thematic doublets?
  - repetition and variation
  - similarity of arguments brings out Thucydides' underlining point
    - Cleon and Diodotus
    - Nicias and Alcibiades

- The Speech of Alcibiades
  - Alcibiades' self-assessment
    - lifestyle
    - Alcibiades and equality
  - Alcibiades' view of empire
  - Alcibiades' view of Athens
- The Speeches of Nicias
  - first speech
    - Nicias' self-assessment
    - Nicias' view of the Athenian *arche*
      - current state
      - view others have of empire
    - Assessment of Alcibiades
  - second speech
    - tone
    - demands
- Alcibiades, Nicias, and Pericles – The Thematic Doublet
  - contexts
    - 415: Alcibiades and Nicias
    - 430: Pericles
  - Pericles' last speech (3.60)
    - the individual vs. the state
    - Pericles' self-assessment
    - Pericles' view of empire
    - Pericles' view of Athens

*arche*: subjects or allies

*Hellas*: Greek word for Greece

*aitia*: true causes

*nomos/nomoi*: customs

*stasis*:

*cui bono?*: for who's good?

## HERODOTUS

- Context
  - Persian wars
    - Ionian Revolt
    - Battle of Marathon
  - prose
    - everyday speech
  - Ionian Renaissance
    - cultural nexus
    - medical writers
- Investigative techniques
  - autopsy
    - implicit technique
    - Egyptian autopsy
  - sources
    - oral traditions
    - physical sources
  - investigative authority
  - false authority?
    - Babylon
    - Black Sea
- Style
  - Influences
    - epic influences
      - war narrative – Homer
      - books 7-9 – Iliad
    - tragic influences
      - tragic influences
        - Gyges tragedy
        - Croesus tragedy
        - reciprocity
  - parataxis
    - string of pearls
    - purpose of digressions
  - repetition
    - implicit comparison

- the golden statue
- thematic doublets

## THE LYDIAN LOGOS

- Lydian Dynasty
  - Gyges
  - Croesus – conflict with Persia (546BC)
  - control over Ionia (Greek poleis)
- Why start with Lydia?
  - not the first Persian conquest
  - autopsy
  - primacy
- Tragedy of Gyges
  - placement
  - tragic style
    - subject matter
    - fault of Candaules
    - predicament of Gyges
    - minding you own business
      - one's lot
      - boundaries in Herodotus
    - the queen and the terrible choice
- Tragedy of Croesus
  - Croesus
    - happiest of all men
  - tragic warner/fate
    - Solon
    - oracle at Delphi
- The fall of Croesus
  - lesson of boundaries
    - Gyges/Candaules
    - Croesus/Halys River
  - lesson of fate and piety/impiety
  - lesson of environment and peoples

## TYRANNY

- Peisistratus (1.59-64)
  - what is the nature of tyranny?
  - three attempts to seize power

## DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIE

- Ethnography (books 1-4)
- The Persian War (books 5-9)
- Disjointed
  - loose connections
  - uncompleted promises
  - difficulties of composition
- Unified
  - recurring themes
  - ring composition
  - internal references

## ETHNOGRAPHY

- Greek perspective
  - ethnography
    - *ethnos* = tribe/race; *graphos* = written work
    - the study of the *other*
  - Herodotus uses implicit comparison to his own culture
  - function
    - examining the *other*
- Babylon
  - wonders of Babylon (*thomata*)
    - the walls
    - the temple of Bel
    - reservoir of Nitocris
    - wealth
  - geography
    - rainfall
  - customs
    - crops and food
    - clothes
    - women

- disease
  - death
- Lets you know if they are hard or soft
- *Nomos*
  - Darius' experiment
    - the role of law
    - monarchy and *nomos*

## TRANSFORMATION OF CYRUS

- Young Cyrus
  - elements of Greek myth
  - "King" Cyrus
  - the feast of Harpagus
- The overthrow of Astyages
- Impious activities
  - Croesus on the pyre
  - the division of the Gyndes river
  - Cyrus and the Massagetae
    - Tomyris
    - sacrifice of army
    - drowned in blood

## RISE AND FALL OF IMPERIAL POWER

- Cyrus
  - Lydia
  - Ionia
  - Babylon
    - Gyndes River: divides it to cross
    - characterization
  - Massegetae
    - Artaxes
    - characterization: blood thirsty
- Cambyses
  - Egypt
    - *causus belli*
    - state of Cambyses



- Carthage
- Ammonians
  - barrier, result: disrespects gods (oracle), sandstorm
- Ethiopians
  - barrier, result: lack of supplies, cannibalism

## RISE AND FALL OF AN EMPIRE

- Context
  - Sparta
    - land power
    - poor
    - strategy
  - Athens
    - naval power
    - rich
    - massive *teichos*
    - strategy
- Darius
  - *causus belli*
    - reciprocity
    - Darius at the height of power
  - tragic warner: Artabanus says there is nothing to gain
  - Darius and Oeobazus
  - bridge across the Bosphorus
  - Tearus, Danube
  - Jason and the Argonauts
  - Darius: East -> West
  - mythic Scythia
    - the footprint of Heracles
    - Amazons
  - crossing the Bosphorus
    - the monument of Jason
    - the monument of Darius
  - Darius and the Danube
- Scythians
  - nature of Scythians

- the Scythian council
- the Scythian strategy
- Gelonus
- Darius' retreat
  - sick and wounded
  - Ionians (Miltiades)
- The Ionian Revolt
  - 449-494BC
  - the beginnings of evils
  - burning temples
  - Darius' response
  - the battle of Marathon – 490BC
  - the death of Darius
- Xerxes
  - *causus belli*
    - Sardis
    - Marathon
    - Mardonius
  - tragic warner: Artabanus says again, no profit
  - the son of Pythius
  - pushing boundaries
    - the first bridge
    - the canal at Athos
    - the second bridge
  - omens
- Xerxes and the Defense of Greece
  - conflicting strategies
  - Thermopylae
  - the oracle of the wooden wall
    - Acropolis
    - fleet
  - Themistocles and Salamis
    - the debate
    - fear
  - prelude to Plataea
    - Athens

- Sparta
  - the Battle of Plataea
    - role of the Athenians
    - role of the Spartans
  - the Banquet of Plataea (9.82)
- Athens
  - Mycale
  - Sestos
    - role of Athenians
    - role of Spartans
  - the parable of Cyrus (9.122)

*nomos*: custom

*causus belli*: cause of war

## DEMOCRATIC ATHENS – CLASSICAL GREECE

- Franchise
  - 40,000 adult male citizens
  - slavery
- Athenian class system
  - 500 Bushel-men
  - Knights
  - Zeugetes
  - Thetes: very low, barely owned anything; not much of a voice in Athens; rowers in the ships
- Election
  - lot system
  - equality
  - *strategoí*
- Council
  - Areopagus – old system of 400 elites
  - Council of 500
  - reforms of Ephialtes (462BC)
    - Thetes have full political power, could hold any office
- Pnyx
  - quorum of 6,000
  - free speech?
  - ostracism
    - Themistocles
    - Cimon
- Dikasterion
  - jury trial (had to convince majority)
  - private prosecution
  - sycophants (would blackmail people to get money)
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Century Renaissance
  - Literature
    - Tragedy: Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides
    - Comedy: Aristophanes
    - History
  - Philosophy
    - Socrates

- Plato
  - Art
    - Pheidias: The Parthenon
    - Pericles' building program
- The Athenian Empire
  - The Delian League/Athenian *Arche*
    - formation (478BC)
    - The Peace of Callias (450BC)
  - Athens and the Early Empire
    - Athens destroyed
    - strained relations with Sparta
    - influx of wealth
    - Aeschylus
  - role of the fleet/Thetes

## GREEK TRAGEDY IN ATHENS

- The Stage
  - orchestra
  - scene/skene
  - parados
- Tragic Sequence (4 plays per year)
  - *Agamemnon*
  - *Libation Bearers*
  - *Eumenides*
  - Satyr Play?
- Funding of Performances
  - competition
  - prizes: producer, playwright, chorus leader
- Subject Matter of Tragedy
  - Phrynicus' *Fall of Miletus*
  - epic figures and themes
  - current topics disguised in myth
- Importance of Historical Context
- Social Function
  - pathos
  - community: shared suffering → common bond

- resolution: Catharsis
  - funeral of funeral dirge
  - ritual purification
- Audience
  - Athens and public gatherings (The Assembly, The Courts, Festivals)
  - audience numbers (high % of population)
  - composition
    - citizens (men – yes; women – maybe)
    - all social classes
    - prominent foreigners

## AESCHYLUS (525 to 456BC)

- Biography
  - Athenian citizen – Eupatrid
  - Earliest known play in 499BC
  - present at Marathon (490BC), Artemisium (480BC), Salamis (480BC), and Plataea (?479BC)
  - innovations
- Style
  - Aeschylean Meter
    - various meters depending upon situation
    - choruses used a different meter than characters
    - non-epic meter
  - typical themes
    - prophecy, fate, curses
    - *hubris, ate...*
  - large themes – narrow focus
    - opening scenes: narrow focus, high emotional charge (opposite of Euripides)
  - use of time: hope, fear, wait...
  - narrative patterning
    - typical patterns create expectations
    - author may fulfill or disappoint expectations
  - retribution play
    - punishment for past offenses

- *Prometheus Bound*
  - *Seven Against Thebes*
  - *The Persians*
- epic style
  - but tragic meters
  - subject matter
    - *Seven Against Thebes: Monomachia*
    - *Persians: Nostos*
  - epic elements
    - heroes
    - catalogs
    - settings
  - epic simile (*Persians* 200-214)
    - Xerxes: eagle → cowers hare-like
    - Falcon: the Greeks?
  - *ecphrasis* (*Seven Against Thebes*)
  - Homeric account of the battle
  - prophetic knowledge
    - *Persians*: ghost of Darius
    - *Seven Against Thebes*: fate of Oedipus' family
  - why imitate epic?
    - status of the Trojan War in Greek literature
    - comparison of great conflicts to the Trojan War
      - *Persians*
      - Herodotus
      - Thucydides
    - reciprocal nature of wars
      - Trojan War: Europe attacks Asia
      - Persian War: Asia attacks Europe
      - difference: plunder vs. conquest
- ship metaphor
  - war = ocean waves beating upon the state (433f)
  - Eteocles' opening statement

## SEVEN AGAINST THEBES

- The Story

- Laius and Oedipus
  - the curse of Oedipus
- Tetralogy: *Laius, Oedipus, Seven, Sphinx*
- Performed in 467BC
  - the Delian League and Persia
  - the Ostracism of Themistocles (c. 472BC)
- Aeschylus' use of Thebes
  - the Other in Greek literature
  - safe exploration of dangerous themes
    - *stasis*
    - *oikos vs. polis*
- Ring Composition
- The Ship Metaphor
  - ship of *polis*
    - Eteocles
    - war (Ares)
    - curious Amphiaraus
  - ship of *oikos*
    - Eteocles abandons the tiller of his (and his family's) fate
    - the new identity of the storm
- Division of the State
  - Eteocles vs. Polyneices
  - Antigone vs. the *polis* and the divided chorus
  - divisions within Athens
    - survived the Persian conquest in 480-479BC
    - leader of Athenian war effort: Themistocles
      - Themistocles ostracized (c. 472BC)
      - Themistocles flees to Persia
- The Chorus: The Women of Thebes
  - the significance of the women
  - fear
    - terrified women
    - growing confidence
    - the return of fear
- Sight vs. Sound
  - the audience's perceptions



- women (chorus)
  - hear the sounds of battle
  - utter sounds of distress
- men (messenger, herald)
  - report the sight of battle
- inversion – Antigone and Ismene
  - the fates of Eteocles and Polyneices
  - herald reports the decree of the *polis*
  - Antigone (to herald): “Spare me the long speech...”
- Lots
  - The Argive heroes are assigned gates by lot
  - Greek heroes and Troy draw lots to duel with Hector
  - function of the lot in Athenian politics
  - emphasizes the theme of division
- Shields
  - arrangement of passage
    - paired speeches
    - the shields form an omen that Eteocles must interpret and respond to
    - attackers and defenders are matched/mirror opposites of each other
    - early shields represent methods of the city’s capture or destruction
- Pairings
  - Tydeus vs. Melanippus
    - Tydeus (full moon with stars)
    - Melanippus
  - Capaneus vs. Polyphontes
    - Capaneus (naked man with a torch)
    - Polyphontes
    - Eteocles
  - Eteocles vs. Megareus
    - Eteocles (man in armor with ladder)
    - Megareus: from the sown men
  - Hippomedon vs. Hyperbius
    - Hippomedon (huge shield with Typho = Typhoeus)

- Hyperbius (Zeus)
  - Parthenopaeus vs. Actor
    - Parthenopaeus (sphinx)
    - Actor
  - Amphiaraus vs. Lasthenes
    - Amphiaraus (no device)
    - Lasthenes
  - Polyneices vs. Eteocles
    - Polyneices (justice)
    - Eteocles
- Closure – *Kommos*
  - divisions healed and renewed
    - Antigone and Ismene vs. the herald
    - the division of the chorus
  - gender redefined
    - masculine Antigone and Ismene
    - effeminate herald

*strategoí*: generals

*Pnyx*: the assembly

*Dikasterion*: law-court

*ostracism*: sending too-powerful people out of the country

*pathos*: intense emotion

*nostos*: homecoming

*ecphrasis*: lengthy description

*oikos*: home

*polis*: city-state

*stasis*: civil war

*monomachia*: the duel

*hubris*: pride

*skene*:

*kommos*: closure, end; chorus walks off the stage

## TYRANNY AND THE STATE

- The *tyrannos* in Greek society
  - three generation "rule"
  - prevalence in 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> centuries
  - Sparta: anti-tyranny
- The popularity of the tyrant
  - suppression of political opposition
  - invasion of the *oikos*

## TRAGEDY AND TYRANNY

- Nature of the *tyrannos*
  - invasion of the *oikos*
  - suppression of political opposition
    - money
    - force
- The Athenian *demokratia* and ostracism

## GREEK TRAGEDY AND SETTING

- Aeschylus
  - *Persians* → Susa
  - *Seven Against Thebes* → Thebes
- Sophocles
- The Utility of the Other

## THE ATHENS OF SOPHOCLES

- The Athenian *Arche* (Empire)
  - supreme naval power; control over Aegean Sea
  - many subject states
  - rebuilding of Athens (tribute)
  - tyrant *polis*
- Athens and Sparta
  - allies to rivals (479-450sBC)

## SOPHOCLES: THE MAN

- Athenian citizen (495-406BC)
  - son of a craftsman (non-Eupatrid)

- Seven extant plays (arrangements unknown)
  - *Ajax* (c. 440sBC)
  - *Philoctetes* (c. 409BC)

## SOPHOCLES: STYLE

- Pacing
  - Aeschylus
    - ring composition
    - emotional peak
  - Sophocles
    - linear progression of events
    - height of *pathos* at the end of the work
- Opening
  - Aeschylus
    - narrow focus
    - slow revelation
  - Sophocles
    - focus upon a/the main character(s)
    - explicit description
- Characters
  - Aeschylus
  - Sophocles
    - common man brings comedic sense of relief
    - often a narrator in Sophocles and Euripides
- Tragic Meter
- Similes
  - animal imagery
  - weather imagery
- The Commoner (Messenger)
  - language
  - humor
- Gender Opposition
  - Aeschylus
    - character vs. chorus
    - character vs. character
  - Sophocles

- character vs. chorus
- character vs. character
- symbolism of women
- symbolism of men

## THEMES

- *Oikos vs. Polis*
  - Pericles' *Funeral Oration* 2.40
  - "Moreover, the very men who take care of public affairs look after their own at the same time; and even those who are devoted to their own businesses know enough about the city's affairs. For we alone think that a man who does not take part in public affairs is good for nothing, while others only say he is 'minding his own business.'"
  - Homeric society (*oikos*)
  - development of the polis
  - the tension between politics and personal affairs
    - Cimon the Athenian
    - Pericles the Athenian
    - Pericles' citizenship
  - *Ajax*
    - Ajax's crime
      - the madness of Ajax
      - judgment of Ajax
    - questionable status/social standing
      - Ajax
      - Eurysaces
      - Tecmessa
      - Teucer (later)
    - Tecmessa's voice
      - Athenian women: proper behavior
      - Tecmessa's silence
      - retirement of Ajax
      - arrival of Teucer
    - Tecmessa's role
      - the burial of Ajax

- *oikos* vs. *polis*
    - the burial of Ajax
      - Tecmessa's dilemma and role (915)
      - the *polis* (1060, 1082)
    - nobility vs. common man
      - Menelaus vs. Teucer (1072)
    - native vs. foreigner
      - Teucer vs. Agamemnon (1235)
      - Teucer (1289, 1302)
- Religion
  - Aeschylus
    - religion practiced, but not explained
    - funeral rites
  - Sophocles
    - the burial of Ajax
      - Odysseus and the gods (1330)
      - self-interest?? (1365)
    - the *hubris* of Ajax (127)

*tyrannos*: tyrants

*oikos*: home

*demokratia*: democracy

*arche*: allies, empire

*pathos*: emotion

*polis*: city-state

*hubris, ate, nemesis*: too much pride, blindness, enemy

## EURIPIDES: THE MAN

- c.485BC – 406BC
- Mother
- Rival of Sophocles
- 19 extant plays (438BC to 405BC)
- *Hecuba*
- Popularity
  - 4 victories
  - Aristophanes
  - Trendy?

## EURIPIDES: NEW TRAGEDY?

- Prevalence of Women
  - viewpoint
  - psychological aspect
- Debunker of heroic myth?
- Immorality of his characters?
- Adventurous
  - meter solo aria
  - new plot forms (*Trojan Women*)

## EURIPIDES: STYLE

- Realism
  - Sophocles
  - Euripides
- Extreme *pathos* (Aristophanes)
- Themes
  - brutality of war
  - psychology of women
  - internal vs. external force

## HECUBA: CONTEXT

- Performed 425BC or 423BC
- Athens
  - plague
  - repeated invasions

- Beyond Athens
  - conquest
  - enslavement

#### HECUBA: PARALLELS

- Burial of Polydorus (45-50)
  - child of Hecuba
  - powers below
  - revenge
- Hecuba beseeches Odysseus (275f)
  - Hecuba's state/clothing
  - desire
- Burial/Honoring of Achilles (106-139)
  - Polyxena
  - Greeks
  - prize
- Odysseus beseeches Hecuba (240f)
  - Odysseus' state/clothing
  - desire
- Odysseus as beggar
  - recognition
  - intercession
- Sacrifice of Iphigenia
  - beginning
  - winds/Artemis
  - wedding
- Sacrifice of Polyxena
  - ending
  - winds (898f)
  - wedding

#### HECUBA: THE "WEDDING" OF POLYXENA

- The Wedding Procession (342f)
  - desire
  - new life as a slave
  - Polyxena's bed



- departure scene
  - Persephone (Kore)/Demeter (409f)
  - Odysseus as attendant (432) – *inversion*
- Inversion
  - the groom's side
    - young Achaeans (Greeks) (525)
    - Neoptolemus
  - Polyxena's speech (547f)
    - disrobing
    - the sword
    - modesty and the virgin bride
  - Greek Reaction
    - approval (545)
    - attendants (576)

#### HECUBA: OBLIGATIONS AND VIOLATIONS

- Obligations
  - burials
    - Polydorus
    - Achilles
  - *xenia* and Polydorus
  - Odysseus' debt to Hecuba
  - Cassandra and Agamemnon
- Violations
  - leads to...
    - violation of *xenia*
    - sacrifice of Polyxena
  - murder of Polymestor
  - sacrifice of Polyxena
  - murder of Polymestor

#### HECUBA: DYSTOPIA

- The Dead Speak
  - Polydorus
  - Achilles
- Freedom and Slavery

- Hecuba's initial state
  - Greek control over Polyxena (140)
- Escalating Demands
  - Polydorus
  - Achilles
- The Truly Free
  - Hecuba and Agamemnon (850)
  - Polyxena and the Greeks (551)
- Reciprocity
  - *Xenia*
    - Polymestor
    - Agamemnon
  - Revenge
    - Achilles
    - Hecuba
- Women Acting as Men
  - Polyxena (wedding)
  - dysfunctional Hecuba
    - new state (668, 807f)
    - insanity (684ff)
    - acclimation (609)
- Hecuba in Control
  - Freeing Agamemnon (864)
  - Methods and murderous women
  - Hecuba as Bacchant
    - Dionysus and female worship
    - Thracian King
    - Polymestor as the four-footed beast (1055)

## HECUBA: RESTORING THE BALANCE

- The Trial
  - Athens
  - bias of Agamemnon
- Resolution
  - Polymestor as seer
  - fate of Agamemnon

*xenia*: hospitality

## ARISTOPHANES: THE MAN

- c.448BC to 380BC
  - younger contemporary of Euripides and Sophocles
  - politically active at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> c.
- The greatest Athenian comedic playwright?
- Works
  - first play (428BC): *Daitaleis*
  - last play (388BC): *Plutus*
  - 2 works produced by his son
- Controversy of Works
  - he got in trouble for making fun of major Athenian politicians
  - Kleomynous

## ARISTOPHANES: THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR

- The Balance of Power
- Archidamian War (431BC to 421BC)
- "Peace" of Nicias (421BC)
- The Peloponnesian War
  - the Sicilian Expedition (415BC to 413BC)
    - the desecration of the Herms
    - failure in Sicily and the Council for Public Safety
  - the Land or Peace Party
    - the toll of the Spartan invasion
    - resentment of the power of the navy and the *thetes*
  - factionalism in Athens
  - the Revolution of 411BC

## OLD COMEDY

- The Origins of Comedy
  - the satyr play
  - *komos* (not *kommos*) – Revel
  - comedy as a genre c. 450sBC
- Political (*polis*-centered) Comedy
  - politics
  - notable figures (e.g. Socrates in *Clouds*)
  - everyday life

- Organization
  - prologue
  - *parodos*
  - *agon*
  - *parabasis*
  - episodes
  - *exodos*
- Similarities to Tragedy
- Types of Humor
  - physical humor
    - sight gags
    - slapstick and pratfalls
  - word play – the Triballo
  - sexual humor
    - the phallus in Greek comedy
    - women as sexual objects
  - topical humor
    - literary jokes
      - Aristophanes and tragedy
      - knowledgeable audience
    - political humor
    - character assassination
  - breaking the 4<sup>th</sup> wall

## THE BIRDS

### THE BIRDS: *POLIS* AND *OIKOS*

- The Problems of Athens
  - Pericles' *Funeral Oration*
  - litigious Athens
  - troubles come to Cloudcuckooland
    - freeloaders
    - bureaucrats
    - hooligans

### THE BIRDS: THE UTOPIA

- The ideal state of Euelpides and Pisthetairos
  - *oikos*
  - food
  - sex
  - note: homosexuality in Athens
- Euelpides' View
- Pisthetairos' Plan
  - the characteristics of a *polis*
  - the *teichos* and the *polis*
  - the Athenian *teichos*
  - a Babylon in the air

#### EUELPIDES AND PISTHETAIROS

- Euelpides (Hopeful)
  - the Athenian attitude
  - status
  - losing hope
  - the follower
- Pisthetairos (Plausible/Believable)
  - the schemer
  - the leader
  - Sophist

#### THE TRANSFORMATION OF PISTHETAIROS

- The *demokratia* of the birds
- The rule of Pisthetairos
- The Orientalizing of Pisthetairos
  - Pisthetairos' bow
  - Iris
  - prostration of the herald
  - the whip
- Treatment of the Birds
  - birds on the Athenian plate
  - Hoopoe
  - the leader of the birds
  - the birds as gods

- the bearer of wings
- the jailbirds
- the worship of the birds

## THE CHARACTERIZATION OF THE ATHENIAN

- The Utopia of Pisthetairos
  - walls
  - blockade of enemy
  - tribute
  - allies?
- The Irony of Pisthetairos' Utopia
  - the Athenian *arche*
  - escape or embrace?

*thetes*: low working class in Athens (farmers, light soldiers)

*polis*: city-state

*komos*: drunken party

*kommos*: lyrical song of lamentation

*parodos*: the chorus enters singing and chanting

*agon*: the problem or struggle occurs

*parabasis*: the actors leave and the chorus talks to the audience directly

*exodos*: everyone leaves

*oikos*: home/the household

*teichos*: wall

*demokratia*: democracy

*arche*: a Greek rule or power

## SOCRATES THE MAN

- 469 to 399 BC
- Son of a craftsman
- Hoplite (Delium, p.3)
- "Gadfly" of Athens
- Socrates and the Thirty (404/3)
- Trial and execution

## PLATO (c.427 to 348 BC)

- Wealthy, noble family
- Relationship with Socrates
- Travels
- Political life
  - Oligarchy of the Thirty (404 BC)
  - Restored democracy (404 BC →)
- Writer
- Founded the Academy (outside of the city of Athens)

## PLATO THE EDUCATOR

- Plato's venue
  - Socrates: agora
  - Plato: academy
- Plato's message
  - frustrated politician
  - education of citizens
    - morality
    - civic duty
  - didactic literature

## PLATO THE WRITER

- Style
  - language
    - prose
    - everyday speech (colloquialisms)
  - artistry of language?
  - setting and characters



- opposing viewpoints
  - Lysimachus
  - Laches and Nicias
- demonstration of knowledge (re: courage)
  - the knowledge of Laches and Nicias
  - the knowledge of Socrates
- efficacy
- authorial authority
  - Homer: the muses
  - Solon: refused tyranny
  - Herodotus and Thucydides: persuasive analyses
- Plato's authority
  - gods and muses?
  - Plato in Plato?
  - Socrates and other characters
- Characters
  - Socrates as protagonist
    - the rehabilitation of Socrates
    - the presence of Socrates
    - the authority of Socrates
  - the selection of other characters
    - philosophers/sophists: Protagoras, Gorgias
    - writers: Agathon, Aristophanes
    - politicians: Critias, Alcibiades
    - military leaders: Nicias and Laches
- Organization
  - pleasantries
  - the problem
  - appearance of Socrates
  - initial forays
  - redefining the problem
  - reduction to basics
  - conclusions
- Changes
  - early dialogues (pre-387 BC)
    - Socrates

- *Laches*
- aporetic dialogues
- question and answer
- middle dialogues (post-387 BC)
  - *Republic*
  - theory of the Forms
  - question and answer and dialect
- late dialogues (nearer death)
  - revision
  - collection and categorization
  - role of Socrates

#### PLATO: THEMES

- Division of philosophy
  - natural philosophy
  - ethics/philosophy
- Identification of core ideas
  - virtue
- Application

Laches: *lock-ees*

# FINAL EXAM

12/17/2008 9:38:00 AM

## FORMAT

- six short answer questions (choice of 8)
- two long essays
  - one on reading after midterm
  - one on all readings