

Azusa Pacific University  
Division of Religion and Philosophy  
Course Instruction Plan  
haug@apu.edu

Prepared by: Matthew R. Hauge

Spring 2008

Course: UBBL-451 Greco-Roman World

Prerequisites: HIST-120 World Civilizations To 1648  
UBBL-230 Luke-Acts  
UBBL-330 Life & Teachings of Jesus

Description: The Greco-Roman world, from the time of Alexander the Great to Marcus Aurelius, is covered. Attention is given to historical geography, politics, society, religious movements, and intellectual currents through the study of primary texts as well as secondary studies.

Objectives:

1. Acquire a broad base of knowledge concerning the major events of the Greco-Roman period from circa 300 BCE to 200 CE
2. Analyze and synthesize various aspects of Greek and Roman society, paying particular attention to their social, political, and religious environment
3. Assess critical issues concerning the Greco-Roman world and become familiar with scholarly discourse regarding these issues
4. Examine the significance of the Greco-Roman world as the cultural context of primitive Christianity and discuss options for responding to those issues for the Christian faith

Required

Textbooks: Allan, Tony. *Life, Myth, and Art in Ancient Rome*. Los Angeles: The J. Paul Getty Museum, 2005.

Bernstein, Alan E. *The Formation of Hell: Death and Retribution in the Ancient and Early Christian Worlds*. Ithaca & London: Cornell University Press, 1996.

MacDonald, Dennis R. *The Homeric Epics and the Gospel of Mark*. New Haven & London: Yale University Press, 2000.

Riley, Gregory J. *The River of God: A New History of Christian Origins*. San Francisco: HarperOne, 2003.

Stafford, Emma J. *Life, Myth, and Art in Ancient Greece*. Los Angeles: The J. Paul Getty Museum, 2004.

Recommended

Textbooks: Ehrman, Bart D. *The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to the Early Christian Writings*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

Keener, Craig. *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*. Downer’s Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

*The Oxford Companion to the Bible*. Bruce M. Metzger and Michael D. Coogan, eds. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.

Course

Requirements: **I. Exams.** This course requires one final essay exam, which is based on the class lectures and readings.

April 29 Greco-Roman World

There will be no make-up exams except in the case of a documented illness on the date of the exam. It is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements in such a case. If you know you cannot avoid an absence on an exam date, you must make arrangements prior to the exam date.

Grading scale per exam:

A+	100-98	B+	89-87	C+	79-77
A	97-94	B	86-84	C	76-74
A-	93-90	B-	83-80	C-	73-70
D+	69-67	F	59-0		
D	66-64				
D-	63-60				

**II. Required Reading.** Almost every session will require readings from various sources. These readings must be read for the date assigned.

**III. Critical Book Reviews.** This course requires three critical book reviews. **No late writing assignments will be accepted.** Each review must be five-pages (do not exceed five pages).

Feb 5	<i>The River of God</i>
Feb 28	<i>The Formation of Hell</i>
April 1	<i>Homeric Epics and the Gospel of Mark</i>

*Introduction* (0.5 pgs): Introduce the paper and identify the thesis.

*Argument* (4 pgs): Elaborate on the thesis of the book. What sort of evidence is presented? Please cover the breadth of the book while being as specific as

possible.

*Synthesis* (0.5 pgs): How is this book relevant for our study of the Greco-Roman world?

Please follow these guidelines for the critical book reviews.

- \* The paper must be stapled with a single staple in the top left corner, typed, double-spaced, and left-justified.
- \* It should be written in the third person impersonal at all times.
- \* Use Times New Roman set at 12 dpi with black ink only.
- \* Include page numbers (bottom-center), beginning on the first page of writing.
- \* Include a title page with paper title, course name, instructor's name, student's name, and date (no covers).
- \* Please do not quote the author(s); put it in your own words.
- \* Use correct grammar and spelling.

Grading:	Attendance & Participation	10%
	Critical Book Review I	20%
	Critical Book Review II	20%
	Critical Book Review III	20%
	Exam: Greco-Roman World	<u>30%</u>
	Total Grade	100%

#### Personal

Info: Unfortunately, I do not have an office on campus so I am available by appointment only. Please contact me via email ([hauge@apu.edu](mailto:hauge@apu.edu)) or my website (<http://home.apu.edu/~hauge>).

#### Attendance

Policy: In this class every student is responsible for the entire contents of every class session, regardless of whether or not that student is present. This includes announcements made in class that may revise this syllabus or alter the class schedule. Attendance will be taken occasionally, and unexcused absences will affect your grade.

#### Plagiarism

**Statement:** Students that are found guilty of plagiarism will be reported to the Provost and the Dean of Students, and a memorandum of the plagiarism event will be placed in the student's permanent file in both of these offices.

#### Academic Integrity

**Policy:** The mission of Azusa Pacific University includes cultivating in each student not only the academic skills that are required for a university degree, but also the characteristics of academic integrity that are integral to a sound Christian education. It is therefore part of the mission of the university to nurture in each student a sense of moral responsibility consistent with the biblical teachings of honesty and accountability. Furthermore, a breach of academic integrity is viewed not merely as a private matter between the student and an instructor but rather as an act which is fundamentally inconsistent with the purpose and mission of the entire university. A complete copy of the Academic Integrity Policy is available in the Office of Student Life, the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs, and online.

#### Writing Center

**Statement:** Students are encouraged to make use of the resources available at the Writing Center, offices located in the Marshburn Library on East Campus. The Writing Center is available to help students with all aspects of their writing projects.

#### Students with Disabilities:

Students in this course who have a disability that might prevent them from fully demonstrating their abilities should meet with an advisor in the Learning Enrichment Center as soon as possible to initiate disability verification and discuss accommodations that may be necessary to ensure full participation in the successful completion of course requirements.

#### University Mission

**Statement:** Azusa Pacific University is an evangelical Christian community of disciples and scholars who seek to advance the work of God in the world through academic excellence in liberal arts and professional programs of higher education that encourage students to develop a Christian perspective of truth and life.

Greco-Roman World  
Class-Schedule  
Spring 2008  
(subject to revision)

Jan 8            *Introduction to the Course*  
Reading: Read the entire syllabus.

Jan 10          *Methodological Considerations*  
Reading: Read the “Apollonius of Tyana” handout.

**Part I: Survey of the Greco-Roman World**

Jan 15          *The Story of the Greeks*  
Reading: Stafford, 6-47.

Jan 17          *The Life of the Greeks*  
Reading: Stafford, 48-113.

Jan 22          *The Soul of the Greeks*  
Reading: Stafford, 114-135.

Jan 24          *The Story of the Romans*  
Reading: Allan, 6-53.

Jan 29          *The Life of the Romans*  
Reading: Allan, 54-107.

Jan 31          *The Soul of the Romans*  
Reading: Allan, 108-135.

**Part II: History of Religions Case Study**

Feb 5            *The River of God*  
Reading: Riley, 1-21.  
**Critical Book Review I Due**

Feb 7            *Greek Science and the Monad*  
Reading: Riley, 22-49.

Feb 12          *Gnostic Emanationism*  
Reading: Riley, 50-89.

- Feb 14      *Zoroastrian Dualism*  
Reading: Riley, 90-132.
- Feb 19      *Platonic Dualism*  
Reading: Riley, 133-169.
- Feb 21      *The Divine Savior*  
Reading: Riley, 170-218.
- Feb 26      *Sacred Stories*  
Reading: Riley, 219-237.

### **Part III: Diachronic Case Study**

- Feb 28      *Neutral Death*  
Reading: Bernstein, ix-49.  
**Critical Book Review II Due**
- Mar 4        *Moral Death*  
Reading: Bernstein, 50-83.
- Mar 6        *Porous Death*  
Reading: Bernstein, 84-106.
- Mar 11      *Useful Death*  
Reading: Bernstein, 107-129.
- Mar 13      *Biblical Death*  
Reading: Bernstein, 205-265.
- Mar 18      *Easter Vacation*  
 No class today.
- Mar 20      *Easter Vacation*  
 No class today.
- Mar 25      *Christian Death*  
Reading: Bernstein, 269-333.
- Mar 27      *Banishing Death*  
Reading: Bernstein, 335-341.

## Part IV: Compositional Case Study

- April 1 *Homer and the Paideia*  
Reading: MacDonald, 1-14.  
**Critical Book Review III Due**
- April 3 *Suffering Carpenters*  
Reading: MacDonald, 15-43.
- April 8 *Recognitions*  
Reading: MacDonald, 44-76.
- April 10 *Femme Fatales*  
Reading: MacDonald, 77-110.
- April 15 *Anointing Women*  
Reading: MacDonald, 111-134.
- April 17 *Violent Deaths*  
Reading: MacDonald, 135-168.
- April 22 *The Triumph of Christianity*  
Reading: MacDonald, 169-200.
- April 24 *Greco-Roman World*  
Reflections upon the materials covered in this course.
- April 29 **Exam: Greco-Roman World (9:45-11:45am)**

## Selected Bibliography

- The Ancient Mysteries: A Sourcebook*. Meyer, Marvin, ed. San Francisco: Harper & Rowe, 1987.
- As the Romans Did: A Source Book in Roman Social History*. Shelton, Jo-Ann, ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.
- Beard, Mary, John North and Simon Price. *Religions of Rome*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.
- Burkert, Walter. *Greek Religion*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1985.
- Documents for the Study of the Gospels*. Cartlidge, David R., and David L. Dungan, eds. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1994.
- Green, Peter. *Alexander of Macedon*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1991.
- Klauck, Hans-Josef. *The Religious Context of Early Christianity*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2003.
- Koester, Helmut. *History, Culture, and Religion of the Hellenistic Age*. New York: Walter De Gruyter, 1995.
- Lane Fox, Robin. *Pagans and Christians*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1987.
- MacMullen, Ramsey. *Paganism in the Roman Empire*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University, 1981.
- Malina, Bruce J. *The New Testament World: Insights from Cultural Anthropology*. Louisville: John Knox Press, 1993.
- The Oxford Classical Dictionary*. Hornblower, Simon, and Antony Spawforth, eds. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.
- The Oxford Companion to Classical Literature*. Howatson, M. C., ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989.
- Paganism and Christianity: 100-425 C.E.: A Sourcebook*. Lane, Eugene, and Ramsay MacMullen, eds. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1992.
- Turcan, Robert. *The Cults of the Roman Empire*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1996.
- Wilken, Robert L. *The Christians as the Romans Saw Them*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1984.

**Student Information Sheet**  
**UBBL-451: Greco-Roman World**  
**Spring 2008**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. APU Box No. \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Home Address (Residence/Campus):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code

City

State

4. Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Why did you choose this major? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Previous Bible Classes: \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Present Standing: \_\_\_\_\_ Sr. \_\_\_\_\_ Jr. \_\_\_\_\_ Soph. \_\_\_\_\_ Fr.

7. Career Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

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8. Comments / List any information you'd like me to know about you: \_\_\_\_\_

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