



SYLLABUS

THE ATHENIAN ACROPOLIS: ARCHAEOLOGY, ART, AND HISTORY

Professor Jeff Hurwit

Contact Hrs: 45

Language of Instruction: English

ATHENS, GREECE

1. Content. The course surveys the art, archaeology, history, and mythology of the Athenian Acropolis from the Neolithic and Bronze Ages to the Roman period, with special emphasis on the monuments of the Periclean “Golden Age.” While the focus is upon the sculpture and architecture of the sanctuary, the course also explores such issues as the nature of Athena (the principal goddess of the rock), the role of the Acropolis in everyday Athenian life, and the modern history of excavation and restoration on the citadel.
2. Objectives. The objective is to combine classroom presentations of the nature and monuments of the Acropolis with direct experience of the site. The result should be an integrated understanding of the history of the Acropolis and first-hand knowledge of its buildings, sanctuaries, and art.
3. Suggested Excursions. Regular (weekly) visit to the Acropolis and its museum. Material first covered in class would be studied in person on site.
4. Methodology. The class would be a combination of lecture and discussion. Material in class is presented in a lecture format, and then, having prepared the students for what they would see on their visits to the Acropolis, conduct discussion of the material when and after viewing the material on site.
5. Evaluation/Grading. Grades would be based on a midterm, final examination, and a short paper (5 pages in length) examining either a particular monument from, or a problem relating to, the Acropolis. Topics would be chosen only after consultation with me.
6. Course Readings. The principal texts would be:
 - a. J. M. Hurwit, The Acropolis in the Age of Pericles (Cambridge University Press 2004)
 - b. J. Neils, ed., The Parthenon: From Antiquity to the Present (Cambridge University Press 2005).

Depending on library facilities and availability, additional readings would be assigned in some of the following texts:

M. Beard, The Parthenon
J. Boardman/D. Finn, The Parthenon and its Sculptures
W. Burkert, Greek Religion

M. Cosmopoulos, ed., The Partheneon and its Sculptures
 R. Economakis, Acropolis Restoration
 J. M. Hurwit (2), The Athenian Acropolis: History, Mythology, and
 Archaeology from the Neolithic Era to the Present
 I. S. Jenkins, The Parthenon Frieze
 J. Neils, Worshipping Athena
 J. Neils, The Parthenon Frieze
 Plutarch, The Rise and Fall of Athens
 J. J. Pollitt, Art and Experience in Classical Greece
 J. Travlos, Pictorial Dictionary of Ancient Athens

7. Proposed daily schedule (assuming three class meetings per week but not including regular visits to the Acropolis). Some class days may be missed due to excursions outside of Athens.

Class 1	Introducing the Acropolis
Class 2	The Goddess of the Rock: Athena in Myth and Legend Hurwit, 1-12; Burkert, 139-143
Class 3	The Goddess of the Rock: Athena and Athenian Cult Hurwit, 12-48
Class 4	The Strong House of Erechtheus: The Acropolis in the Bronze Age Hurwit (2), 67-84
Class 5	The Architecture and Imagery of the Archaic Acropolis (part 1) Hurwit (2), 85-98
Class 6	The Architecture and Imagery of the Archaic Acropolis (part 2) Hurwit (2), 99-129
Class 7	Dedications from the Archaic Acropolis: Who, What, and Why? Hurwit (2), 35-63
Class 8	The Persian Destruction of the Acropolis Hurwit (2), 129-136
Class 9	The Early Classical Acropolis and its Monuments Hurwit (2), 138-153; Plutarch, <u>Kimón</u>
Class 10	MIDTERM
Class 11	The Golden Age: Perikles and the Building Program of Democracy Hurwit, 49-105; <i>Kallet, in Neils, ed., 35-65</i>
Class 12	The Parthenon: The Building and its Refinements Hurwit, 106-122; Hurwit, in Neils, ed.9-33; Barletta in Neils, ed., 67-99
Class 13	The Parthenon: The Message of the Metopes Hurwit, 123-128; Schwab, in Neils, ed., 159-197; Pollitt, 79-83;
Class 14	The Parthenon: The Pediments Hurwit, 128-133; Palagia in Neils, ed., 225-259; Pollitt, 90-97;
Classes 15-16	The Enigma of the Parthenon Frieze Hurwit, 133-146, 224-251; Neils, in Neils,ed., 199-223; Pollitt, 83-90

- Classes 17-18 The Parthenon: The Image of the Athena Parthenos
Hurwit, 146-154; Hurwit (2), 235-245; Lapatin, in Neils, ed., 261-291
- Class 19 The Propylaia
Hurwit, 155-163
- Classes 20-21 The Temple of Athena Nike
Hurwit, 181-191; Pollitt, 111-118
- Class 22 The Erechtheion
Hurwit, 164-180; Pollitt, 131-34
- Classes 23-24 The Lesser Buildings, Shrines, and Festivals
Hurwit, 192-223
- Class 25 The Silver Age: The Acropolis in the Fourth Century
Hurwit (2), 246-260
- Class 26-27 The Hellenistic and Roman Acropolis
Hurwit (2), 261-282, 305-309; Rhodes, 166-186
- Classes 28-29 The Later History of the Acropolis
Hurwit (2), 283-302; Mitchell and Ivanovich, in Bruno, 111-28;
Economakis, 111-135; Osterhout in Neils, ed., 293-329
- Class 30 **Final Exam**

Selection of Possible Paper Topics

A Reconstruction of the Bronze Age Citadel of Athens

The Moschophoros (Calf Bearer): Identity and Meaning

The Sculptures of the Old Temple of Athena Polias

The Statue of Athena Polias

The Function and Meaning of Korai on the Athenian Acropolis
Kouroi and Other Male Statues on the Archaic Acropolis

The Blond Boy

The “Mourning Athena” relief

The Bronze Athena (Promachos)

The Shield of the Athena Parthenos

The Panathenaic Peplos

The Subject of the West Pediment of the Parthenon

The South frieze of the Temple of Athena Nike

The Nike Temple Parapet

The Erechtheion Frieze

The Prokne and Itys of Alkamenes

The Theater of Dionysos

The Sanctuary of Asklepios

The Acropolis Portrait of Alexander the Great