



CLA 2810

**DISCOVERY OF NATURE:
SCIENCE AND MEDICINE IN ANTIQUITY**



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Teaching Assistants:

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Course Website: powered by Blackboard available at <https://campus.fsu.edu>

TEXTBOOKS:

- David C. Lindberg, *The Beginnings of Western Science: the European Scientific Tradition in Philosophical, Religious, and Institutional Context, 600 b.c. to a.d. 1450* (Chicago 2007), SECOND EDITION
- Excerpts from ancient texts and authors representing Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, and the early Islam, posted in the folder "Course Content" on the course Blackboard site <https://campus.fsu.edu>

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES:

A list of websites and search engines which you should use when working on your two (2) paper assignments, is available in the folder "Online Resources" on the **Bb** course website.

PREREQUISITES:

- No background in science, the history or philosophy of science, or ancient civilization is required.
- All readings from the ancient texts are in English translation.
- Willingness to use (or to learn to use) some web-based course materials and a commitment to attend class on a regular basis **are required**.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To fulfill the requirements for Gordon Rule and Liberal Studies Area IV.
- To introduce you to the development of scientific thought in Antiquity, including the civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, Byzantium, and Islam.
- To develop an understanding of the multicultural origins of ancient science and medicine.
- To expose you to the diversity of the scientific, medical, and technological advances in Antiquity.
- To direct you to form an opinion about the relationship between science, religion, and philosophy, the similarities and differences between ancient and modern conceptions of science and medicine, science as a culturally constructed phenomenon, and the boundaries between ancient science and pseudo-science (alchemy and magic).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: The course will be divided in two parts—Ancient Science and Ancient Medicine. Each part will conclude with a paper and an exam.

Exams will consist of two parts: 1) identifications of names, terms and visual images; 2) answering an essay question. Exam-dates are listed in the assignment schedule.

Papers should be short, non-research, but LESS descriptive and MORE analytical essays (1000 words each; approximately 4-5 pages). Further instructions, guidelines, and paper topics will be given later. You will submit paper topics and your papers electronically to the designated assignment folders on Bb. The deadlines for their submission are listed on the Assignment Schedule. The submission of the TWO paper topics will contribute each 1% extra credit to your final grade.

GRADING:

First Exam	20%
Second Exam	20%
First Paper	25%
Second Paper	25%
Participation & Attendance	10%

GRADING SCALE:

A	100-93%	C	77-73%
A-	92-90%	C-	72-70%
B+	89-88%	D+	69-68%
B	87-83%	D	67-63%
B-	82-80%	D-	62-60%
C+	79-78%	F	59% and below

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: You are expected:

- (1) to read the assigned readings ***both*** in the textbook and on Blackboard ***prior to lecture.***
- (2) to come to class and enjoy it (at least partly). See *Class Attendance* below.
- (3) to observe the deadlines listed in the *Assignment Schedule.*

CLASS ATTENDANCE: There is scientific data ascertaining the sound hypothesis that class attendance improves learning and facilitates students to complete successfully the class with a grade higher than the minimum C- which is required to fulfill the college requirements discussed above.

Important Note: The learning experience in the classroom is a symbiosis between reading and lecture. The papers and the exams in the course will reflect dynamically upon the assigned material and the classroom lectures. In order to help yourselves to get the best experience in the course, you will have an attendance quiz once a week which will contain a question pertinent to the lecture. These attendance quizzes will be weighed in the Participation & Attendance portion of your final grade. You are allowed to miss ONE attendance quiz.

MISSED MATERIALS & MISSED EXAMS:

- No late papers will be accepted unless arrangements are made in advance and in person ***with the professor and not with the teaching assistant*** (Voice-mail and email messages ***will not be accepted*** unless in exceptionally dire circumstances).
- No make-ups will be given except in documented cases of emergency and university related matters.
- Missed attendance quizzes cannot be made up.

FSU HONOR CODE: Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code published in the *FSU Bulletin* and the *Student Handbook* and available at <http://dof.fsu.edu/honorpolicy.htm>. The Academic Honor Code is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility to uphold and foster the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work and in the university community.

On a very important personal note, I want to emphasize that I do respect very much the honesty and the privacy of my students and I expect the same high esteem, respect, and honesty from them. I have finally succumbed, however, to the Turnitin and you will be required to submit your papers through it. More details will follow when the appropriate time comes. If a student is caught plagiarizing, the student should expect the most severe consequences provided by the FSU Honor Code.

ADA POLICY: Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation. This should be done during the first week of class. This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to students with disabilities, contact the SDRC, 874 Traditions Way 108, Student Services Building, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167, (850) 644-9566 (voice), (850) 644-8504 (TDD) sdrc@admin.fsu.edu <http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/>.