

**WS 3383: Women in Antiquity**  
**Fall 2018**

Dr. Lee Ann Westman  
email: lewestman@utep.edu  
915-342-0684

**Course Description:** In “Women in Antiquity,” we will examine the representation of women in archaeology, historical texts, the visual arts, and literature in pre-historical artifacts, in historically significant texts and artifacts by male artists and writers, and the representation of women by fragments of women writers.

**Course Objectives:** “Women in Antiquity” provides students with the opportunity to take an interdisciplinary approach to the art, artifacts, philosophy, and literature as well as religious and political movements that shaped the western world from prehistory to the early Christian period. Students will learn to analyze how gender is shaped and reflected by art, literature, philosophy, religion and politics, and the origins of current cultural issues. Students who are successful in “Women in Antiquity” will have an increased ability to interpret cultural works as part of western cultural history, be able to justify those interpretations with an understanding of the interpretive process, be able to look at works or historical events from different perspectives, and be able to better understand themselves as part of cultures with rich historical perspectives.

TEXTS (REQUIRED):

**Merlin Stone, *When God was a Woman*, ISBN-13: 978-0156961585**

**Fantham, Foley, Kampen, et al. eds., *Women in the Classical World. Image and Text*, ISBN-13: 978-0195098624**

**Aeschylus, *The Eumenides* (any edition) (available online for free at <http://classics.mit.edu/Aeschylus/eumendides.html>)**

**Course Requirements:**

**Three (3) exams worth 100 points each/300 points total.** Exams will consist of essays.

**Response papers worth 100 points.** Typed, 1-2 pages, double-spaced responses to questions about the readings.

**Group Presentation worth 100 points.** Groups are randomly selected by professor. Each group will create a presentation that links an issue from the course to contemporary culture. For example, women’s lives in Ancient Greece were severely restricted: compare this to the driving ban for women in Saudi Arabia today. Or, are there examples today or more repressive regimes such as Sparta where women’s opportunities are more equal to men’s opportunities?

**Online Group Discussions worth 100 points.** You must start the discussion early in the week by posting an individual thread to the group question. Your post should be at least 100 words, and you should post at least three times each week in order to receive full credit. You are welcome to discuss asynchronously, which means at your convenience.

In order to receive full credit for your weekly discussion, your group should submit TWO (2) group reports by 11:30 PM Saturday night.

There are two group reports: 1) attendance report and 2) discussion summary.

Attendance Report: Each week, a member of your group will post a report listing the names of group members who participated in group discussion and how often each group member posted.

Discussion Summary: Each week, a member of your group will post a summary of your discussion.

Duties of Group Members: Group duties will be rotated each week; group members will determine the rotation. There are 3 positions: a group leader, a group recorder, and a group messenger. If there is a fourth or fifth member to any group, those members get the week off.

Group leaders shall act as group organizers, directing group activities, keeping the group on task, and checking that all group work is properly recorded and reported and returned. Group recorder takes notes for the group and submits the Discussion Summary on the group discussion board. The group messenger takes "virtual" attendance each week and posts that information on the group discussion board as well.

Rubric: Discussion Postings

FULL CREDIT	PARTIAL CREDIT	LITTLE TO NO CREDIT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responds fully to question</li> <li>• Gives a realistic response</li> <li>• Expresses ideas clearly and persuasively</li> <li>• Exercises good judgment in selection of relevant ideas</li> <li>• Presents ideas clearly, logically, coherently,</li> <li>• Expresses facts correctly</li> <li>• ideas are well organized and in own wording</li> <li>• Responses are at least 100 words or more</li> <li>• Responses to others are thoughtful and supported with research and practical application</li> <li>• Uses and cites course text/module to support response</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responds adequately to question asked</li> <li>• Selects ideas which are supportive</li> <li>• Presents ideas clearly</li> <li>• Expresses facts correctly</li> <li>• Ideas are organized and in own wording</li> <li>• contains noticeable errors in grammar, punctuation, word choice, spelling</li> <li>• Expresses ideas with some confusion</li> <li>• Expresses ideas clearly and persuasively</li> <li>• 50-75 words</li> <li>• Uses course text/module to support response minimally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partially responds to what the question asks</li> <li>• Responds to question with some errors</li> <li>• Ideas are lacking in support and unclear.</li> <li>• Facts are inaccurate</li> <li>• Copies, wording from sources</li> <li>• Contains substantial errors in grammar punctuation, word choice or spelling throughout</li> <li>• Presents ideas unclearly with little organization</li> <li>• &lt;50 words</li> <li>• Responses reflect general ideas without supporting references to readings and supporting research.</li> <li>• Responses to others are minimal or none. (i.e., "I agree!" or "I like the ideas!")</li> </ul>

### PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

It is expected that you will write all of your own papers and that you will know how to cite sources and quote people appropriately (using MLA style for this course). If you are not familiar with MLA style, the Tutoring and Learning Center located in the UTEP library can help you. Plan ahead for your written assignments. Also, here is a helpful online resource: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r\\_mla.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_mla.html)

**IMPORTANT:** Any indication that you are submitting someone else's work, or that you are adopting statements or ideas of another person without appropriate acknowledgment (plagiarism), will have serious repercussions. Any plagiarism, cheating, or collusion to cheat observed in this class will be reported to the Dean of Students who will initiate disciplinary proceedings. Do not risk your good name and your future based on anxiety about grades, peer pressure, lack of time management, or feeling overwhelmed. Instead schedule an appointment with me about any problems or concerns you have about the course, course assignments, course material, etc.

### STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Please be aware that the Disabled Student Services (Union East, room 106, Tel: 747 5148) provides a program of support and advocacy services to students with disabilities. They can help you obtain the necessary documentation

for any disability (long or short term that you may need to deal with). Come and talk with me if you need additional support because of a disability. I am happy to work with you and the office of Disabled Student Services.

## Course Schedule

### **Week 1: October 22**

#### **Unit 1: Women in Prehistory**

Watch "The Goddess"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdxgmkc01qI>

Watch "Voice of the Goddess: Marija Gimbutas"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-k34hXty4iw>

Review power point on Prehistory

Read Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2 in Stone, *When God was a Woman*

#### **Assignment 1 due by Thursday at 11:30 p.m.**

Review Lecture and power point on Adam and Eve in Art

Read selections from the *Book of Genesis* in the Old Testament

#### **Assignment 2 due by Saturday**

**Group discussion report due by 11:30 p.m. on Saturday**

### **Week 2: October 29**

Read Chapters 3 and 10 in Stone, *When God was a Woman*

#### **Assignment 3 due by Wednesday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Group discussion report due by 11:30 p.m. on Saturday**

**Exam 1 due: Saturday at 11:30 p.m.**

### **Week 3: November 5**

#### **Unit 2: Women in Ancient Greece**

What happened to the Goddess?

Review power point on "The End of the Goddess"

Read Chapter 4 in Stone, *When God was a Woman*

Review power point on *The Eumenides*

Rd *Eumenides* by Aeschylus

Read *Women in the Classical World*, Chapters 1 and 3

Review power point on women in ancient Greece

#### **Assignment 4 due Wednesday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Assignment 5 due on Saturday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Group discussion report due by 11:30 p.m. on Saturday**

### **Week 4: November 12**

Read *Women in the Classical World*, chapters 2 and 4

Review power point on Sparta

Review power point on Amazons

#### **Assignment 6 due Wednesday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Assignment 7 due Friday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Group discussion report due by 11:30 p.m. on Saturday**

**Group discussion report must include topic for group presentation**  
**Exam 2 due Saturday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Week 5: November 19**

Unit 3: Women in Ancient Rome

Read *Women in the Classical World*, Chapters 7 and 9

**Assignment 8 due by Wednesday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Assignment 9 due by Saturday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Group discussion report due by 11:30 p.m. on Saturday**

**Week 6: November 26**

Review power point on women in the early Christian period

**Assignment 10 due by Wednesday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Group discussion report due by 11:30 p.m. on Saturday**

**Group presentation due by Saturday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Week 7: December 3**

**Exam 3 due by Wednesday at 11:30 p.m.**

**Group discussion report due by 11:30 p.m. on Saturday**