

**The Ohio State University**  
**Colleges of the Arts and Sciences New Course Request**

**Greek and Latin**

Academic Unit  
**Classics**

Book 3 Listing (e.g., Portuguese)

**250 Sports and Spectacles in the Ancient World**

Number Title  
**Sprts & Spcts Anc Wrld**

18-Character Title Abbreviation Level Credit Hours

Summer Autumn **X** Winter Spring Year **2006**

Proposed effective date, choose one quarter and put an "X" after it; and fill in the year. See the OAA curriculum manual for deadlines.

**A. Course Offerings Bulletin Information**

Follow the instructions in the OAA curriculum manual. If this is a course with decimal subdivisions, then use one New Course Request form for the generic information that will apply to all subdivisions; and use separate forms for each new decimal subdivision, including on each form the information that is unique to that subdivision. If the course offered is less than a quarter or a term, please complete the Flexibly Scheduled/Off Campus/Workshop Request form.

Description (*not to exceed 25 words*): **The history and social role of gymnastic and athletic competition in Greece and Rome. The evolution of their modern revivals.**

Quarter offered: Distribution of class time/contact hours: **5 cl.**

Quarter and contact/class time hours information should be omitted from Book 3 publication (yes or no):

Prerequisite(s): **None**

Exclusion or limiting clause: **None**

Repeatable to a maximum of \_\_\_\_\_ credit hours.

Cross-listed with:

Grade Option (Please check): Letter  S/U  Progress  What is course is last in the series? \_\_\_\_\_

Honors Statement: Yes  No  GEC: Yes  No  Admission Condition  
 Off-Campus: Yes  No  EM: Yes  No  Course: Yes  No

Other General Course Information:

(e.g. "Taught in English." "Credit does not count toward BSBA degree.")

**B. General Information**

Subject Code \_\_\_\_\_ Subsidy Level (V, G, T, B, M, D, or P) \_\_\_\_\_  
 If you have questions, please email Jed Dickhaut at [dickhaut.1@osu.edu](mailto:dickhaut.1@osu.edu).

1. Provide the rationale for proposing this course: **We wish to expand our options for GEC courses to take the pressure off our very large GEC courses, Classics 101 and Classics 222. We would like to offer some smaller GEC course with more student involvement with faculty and more possibility of writing assignments. We also wish to expand the options for majors in Classical Humanities who typically have only two courses per quarter from which to choose. We are therefore trying to create a series of courses at the 200-level on aspects of ancient culture to be offered annually. We now have two such courses: Classics 230 (Ancient Medicine); and Classics 240 (Classical Archaeology). The subject matter of this course is one that has been in demand by students and that is offered successfully at many universities, but that we have been unable to propose before this because of lack of interested teaching personnel.**

2. Please list Majors/Minors affected by the creation of this new course. Attach revisions of all affected programs. This course is (check one):  Required on major(s)/minor(s)  A choice on major(s)/minors(s)  
 An elective within major(s)/minor(s)  A general elective:

3. Indicate the nature of the program adjustments, new funding, and/or withdrawals that make possible the implementation of this new course.

4. Is the approval of this request contingent upon the approval of other course requests or curricular requests?

Yes  No  List:

5. If this course is part of a sequence, list the number of the other course(s) in the sequence: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Expected section size: **40** Proposed number of sections per year: **1**

7. Do you want prerequisites enforced electronically (see OAA manual for what can be enforced)? Yes  No

8. This course has been discussed with and has the concurrence of the following academic units needing this course or with academic units having directly related interests (*List units and attach letters and/or forms*):  
 Not Applicable

9. **Attach a course syllabus that includes a topical outline of the course, student learning outcomes and/or course objectives, off-campus field experience, methods of evaluation, and other items as stated in the OAA curriculum manual and e-mail to [accurofc@osu.edu](mailto:accurofc@osu.edu).**

**Approval Process** The signatures on the lines in ALL CAPS ( e.g. ACADEMIC UNIT) are required.

1. *[Signature]* Academic Unit Undergraduate Studies Committee Chair Printed Name A. KAUPELLIS Date 2/27/06

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Academic Unit Graduate Studies Committee Chair Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

3. *David Huhm* **ACADEMIC UNIT CHAIR/DIRECTOR** Printed Name David Huhm Date 2/27/06

4. After the Academic Unit Chair/Director signs the request, forward the form to the ASC Curriculum Office, 105 Brown Hall, 190 West 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. or fax it to 688-5678. Attach the syllabus and any supporting documentation in an e-mail to [accurofc@osu.edu](mailto:accurofc@osu.edu). The ASC Curriculum Office will forward the request to the appropriate committee.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ **COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE** Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_ **ARTS AND SCIENCES EXECUTIVE DEAN** Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate School (if appropriate) Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_ University Honors Center (if appropriate) Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_ Office of International Education (if appropriate) Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

10. **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS** Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Classics 250: Sports and Spectacles in the Ancient World**

Instructor: Tom Hawkins ([hawkins.312@osu.edu](mailto:hawkins.312@osu.edu))

Office: 428 University Hall; 292 7647

**Course Description:** Gymnastics and athletic competitions were defining aspects of ancient Greek culture: the male athlete's body epitomized citizen virtue; competitions spurred the production of art and poetry; and the Olympic Games were understood as Panhellenic festivals that defined who was Greek and who not, though cheating was always a persistent problem. Rome, by contrast, was a city of spectacles and imperially-sponsored games: gladiators competed for their lives and the public's favor; wild beast hunts put imperial munificence on display; and cynical poets suspected that the purpose of all this was to numb the minds of an indolent populace. In short, when it comes to sports the modern world has inherited from antiquity a mixed legacy of idealism and corruption. This course aims to examine critically the history and social role of sports and spectacles in the ancient world, examining the literature and archaeological remains that they generated, and also, if there is time, discuss the complex evolution of their revival in modern times.

### **Required Books** (available at SBX)

SSAG = Mark Golden, *Sport and Society in Ancient Greece*, Cambridge, 1998.

AR = Stephen Miller, *Arete: Greek Sports from Ancient Sources*, California, 1991.

NO = Tony Perrottet, *The Naked Olympics: The True Story of the Ancient Games*, New York, 2004.

There is also a Coursepack (CP) available at \*\*\*.

### **Course Requirements**

1. **Attendance and Participation.** You are expected to be in class every day ready to join in to class discussions. An important component of this is being sure to complete all assigned readings before arriving in class. Please note that reading does not mean passing your eyes over the written words; it implies an active engagement with the text in relation to the larger themes and topics of the course. This process will lead you into both greater understanding of important issues and, inevitably, occasional confusion. Please raise questions whenever they arise in lecture, office hours or by email.
2. **Projects.** You will have three equally weighted written projects to pursue throughout the term. All projects are to be turned in on the day noted on the Course Schedule. There will be a strict 3-page limit to each project (double spaced, 12 point font). We will discuss each project in greater detail at the appropriate time, but for the moment here is a quick preview.

- a. **Project Athlete** – You will be given a name of an athlete who won a competition at one of the major Greek festivals. Your job is to write a 3-page dossier of this person.
  - b. **Project Art/Archaeology** – You will select one piece of art, an object or an archaeological site upon which to write a museum-style essay. Again, each subject will have a different set of available evidence so each paper will have an individual approach.
  - c. **Project Literature/History** – This is the most free-ranging project. Focusing on a literary text or an historical event, write short essay in terms of the relevant relationship to athletics. This project can be molded in any direction that suits your interests and skills.
3. **Midterm and Final Exam.** Each exam will involve a slide component and a short-answer section. Questions will draw upon topics discussed in lecture and readings.

**Grade Formula:**

15%	Project Athlete
15%	Project Art/Archaeology
15%	Project Literature/History
25%	Midterm
30%	Final Exam

**Academic Misconduct** Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and the University's policies will be followed in all cases. To download the Code of Student Conduct, go to <http://www.usas.ohio-state.edu/handbook/> under 'Policies and Procedures,' or go to <http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/faq.html#whatisacademicmisconduct>

**Disability services:** If you need special accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you should contact the instructor as soon as possible. We can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs, and explore potential accommodations. We rely on the Office For Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, we encourage you to do so now.

## Analytical Syllabus

### WEEK ONE

Introduction

Homer and anti-Homer (SSAG 1-10, 46-56, 88-95; AR 1-2).

### WEEK TWO

#### **The Olympic Games**

Founding Myths (SSAG 10-45, 56-73; CP: mythic sources)

Religious Roots (SSAG 54-60; CP: W. Burkert, *Homo Necans* (1983), 93-103)

Preparation for the Games (NO 1-91)

### WEEK THREE

#### **The Olympic Games (cont.)**

Events and Equipment (AR 3-80)

Organization and Administration (AR 81-118)

More Olympics (NO 91-185)

### WEEK FOUR

#### **Other Competitions**

Crown Games – Nemean, Isthmian, and Pythian Games (CP)

The Panathanaea and other Civic Games (AR 119-127)

#### **Praise Poetry**

Pindar and the Idea of Epinician (SSAG 74-84; CP: selection from Pindar)

**Due: Project Athlete**

### WEEK FIVE

#### **Praise Poetry (cont.)**

Reading Pindar (CP: selections from Pindar)

Kudos and Agalmata in Pindar (SSAG 84-88)

The Athlete as Hero (AR 163-175)

#### **Midterm Exam**

### WEEK SIX

#### **Athletics and Society in Ancient Greece**

Rites of Passage (SSAG 95-103; CP: Sophocles' *Electra*)

Education (AR 179-189; CP: Aristophanes' *Clouds*)

Erotics and Aesthetics (AR 248-256; CP: Plato's *Charmides*)

## WEEK SEVEN

### **Roman Spectacles**

Greek Athletics in the Roman World (AR 200-204, 176-178)

Gladiators and Caesars (CP: "Bread and Circuses")

Nero, The Spectacular Emperor (CP: Suetonius' *Life of Nero*)

**Due: Project Art/Archaeology**

## WEEK EIGHT

### **Athletics in the Empire**

Hellenistic Judaism and Greek Athletics (CP: 1 and 2 Maccabees; Josephus)

Saint Paul and the Jewish-Christian Athletic Metaphor (R. Garrison, "Paul's use of the athlete metaphor in I Corinthians 9")

Christian Rejection of Athletics and Spectacle (CP: selections from Tertullian, Novatian, the Apostolic Constitutions)

## WEEK NINE

### **Christian "Athletes"**

Persecution and Athletics as a Rhetoric of Resistance (CP: Martyr Stories)

Monasticism and the Ascetic as Athlete (CP: selections from Theodoretos of Cyrrhus' *Historia Religiosa*)

## WEEK TEN

The Death of Hippolytus and the Death of Hippolytus – Athletics as Intertext

The Nazi Olympics

**Due: Project Literature/History**

**Final Exam**