**CLAS 1120Q / ARCH 1707**

**The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World**

**Spring Semester 2014**

**SYLLABUS**

**Class**: MWF 2-2:50 pm, Room 108 Rhode Island Hall

**Instructor**: Professor John F. Cherry

**Teaching Assistant**: Stephany Hull

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**Office Hours:** Cherry, Tuesday 2-4 pm, Room 105, Rhode Island Hall

**Office Hours:** Hull, Wednesday 3-5 pm, Foyer, Rockefeller Library

**Class wiki site**: http://proteus.brown.edu/sevenwonders2014/home

**Course Description:**

*“Everyone has heard of the Seven Wonders of the World,” wrote Philo of Byzantium two millennia ago, and it’s still true today. But what is a “Wonder”? And why seven of them? Why make such a list anyway, then or now? This class will use ancient texts, explorers’ accounts, and archaeological investigations to travel through several thousand years of history in the Mediterranean and Near Eastern world. We will consider how the Seven Wonders captured past imaginations; the aura of technological achievements; the intersections of history, memory, invention, and myth; and how members of one culture view another culture’s monuments.*

**Grades will be based on:**

• 3 quizzes + 1 pop quiz (best 3 will count) 15%

• 3 short pieces of writing 15%

• In-class group presentation 5%

• Term paper (~10 pages, including references) 25%

• Final exam 30%

• Attendance, participation, office hours 10%

**Expectations:**

• Regular attendance in class, except where illness or other unavoidable conflicts intervene.

• Completing assigned readings *by the dates indicated in this syllabus*, and coming to class prepared to talk about them or be examined on them in quizzes.

• Submission of all written materials by their due dates.

• Co-operation in contributing to a group in-class presentation

• Willingness to consult me or the class T.A. in office hours about the course, problems you may be experiencing with lectures or readings, and work towards a term paper.

• In taking this class, as all others at Brown, it is presumed that you have read, are familiar with, and will abide by Brown’s Academic Code, particularly as they relate to fair use of sources and avoidance of plagiarism. If necessary, refresh your memory here:

http://www.brown.edu/Administration/Dean\_of\_the\_College/curriculum/documents/principles.pdf

**Textbooks:**

Peter Clayton and Martin Price (eds.), ***The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World*** (London: Routledge, 1988 [2011 digital printing]).

\*Available at the Brown Bookstore.

John Romer and Elizabeth Romer, ***The Seven Wonders of the World: A History of the Modern Imagination*** (New York: Holt, 1995).

\* Available as downloadable pdf files on the class wiki.

Chris Scarre (ed.), [***The Seventy Wonders of the Ancient World: The Great Monuments and How They Were Built***](http://www.amazon.com/Seventy-Wonders-Ancient-World-Monuments/dp/0500050961/ref%3Dsr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1327338124&sr=1-1)(London: Thames & Hudson, 1999).

\*You will need to consult this book, but it’s not required for purchase. Copies available on the reserve shelf on the second floor of Rhode Island Hall

**Wiki site:** <http://proteus.brown.edu/sevenwonders2014/home> [The password to the protected pages on this site will be made known in class.]

**Provisional Course Outline:**

**Week 1**

January 22 Introduction to the syllabus, wiki site, class goals, etc.

January 24 General orientation to the concept of the Seven Wonders

**Week 2**

January 27 Lists

January 29 Wonders

January 31 Wonder-lists, ancient and modern

**Week 3: The Great Pyramid of Giza (Egypt)**

February 3 Introduction to pyramids and the Giza plateau

February 5 *Guest Lecture*: Prof. Laurel Bestock: Death and kingship in ancient Egypt

February 7 Herodotus, Greeks, Egyptians, and imagining “the other” **SWE #1 due.**

**Week 4: The Hanging Gardens of Babylon (Iraq)**

February 10 Babylon: the city and its wondrous walls:

February 12 *Guest Lecture*: Müge Durusu-Tanriöver: Gardens and paradises in the ancient world.

February 14 **Quiz #1.** Not Babylon?

**Week 5: The Statue of Zeus at Olympia (Greece)**

February 17 *Brown Long Weekend February 15-18 — no class*

February 19 The panhellenic sanctuary at Olympia and its games

February 21 Pheidias, chryselephantine statuary, and the statue of Zeus

**Week 6: The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus (Turkey)**

February 24 Lydians, Persians, Greeks, Carians [Lecture by T.A.]

February 26 *Guest Lecture*: Prof. Felipe Rojas: Wonder, the monuments of Anatolia, and the Mausoleum of Halicarnassos

February 28 Reconstructions, copies, and dynastic portraiture **SWE #2 due.**

**Week 7: The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus (Turkey)**

March 3 Ephesus: the city, the goddess, and her cults and processions

March 5 The architecture of the Artemision and competitive temple-building

March 7 **Quiz #2.** Video extracts: *The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World*.

**Week 8: The Colossus of Rhodes (Greece)**

March 10 Colossus: the history of an idea

March 12 *Guest Lecture*: Prof. Felipe Rojas: Technologies of colossus-building

March 14 From Colossus to Colosseum

**Week 9: The Pharos of Alexandria (Egypt)**

March 17 The founding of Alexandria and the construction of the Pharos

March 19 Alexandrine Culture (Lecture by TA)

March 21 Video: *Treasures of the Sunken City* (NOVA [PBS], 1997) **SWE #3 due.**

**Week 10**

*Brown Spring Recess March 22-30 — no classes on March 24, 26, or 28*

**Week 11**

March 31 The Seven Wonders and the Alexander the Great connection

April 2 Visualizing lost wonders in Medieval and Renaissance times

April 4 Artistic imaginings. **Quiz #3**

**Week 12**

April 7 Other ancient wonders (**student presentations**) - I

April 9 Other ancient wonders (**student presentations**) - II

April 11 Other ancient wonders (**student presentations**) - III

**Week 13**

April 14 Modern Wonders-lists; the 2006-7 global vote **Term paper abstract due.**

April 16 *No class; work on term papers*

April 18 *No class; work on term papers*

**Week 14**

April 21 Reports/discussion of progress with term papers

April 23 Review of class for Final Exam (with TA)

April 25 – May 6 *Reading Period*

May 7 **TERM PAPER DUE**

May 7—16 *Final* *Exam Period*

May 13 **FINAL EXAM (2:00-4:00 pm)**

**Schedule of readings (from textbooks or materials on the wiki site)**

All readings should be **completed** **by** (not **started on**) the stated date.

N.B. There will be a few additional, short readings as the class progresses; these will be posted to the wiki

Jan. 27 Philo of Byzantium’s wonder-list (**wiki**); Clayton & Price, pp. 1-12.

Feb. 3 Remainder of Clayton & Price.

Feb. 10 Romer & Romer, Ch. 7, pp. 165-180 (**wiki**); Lundquist (**wiki**)

Feb. 17 Extracts (3) from Herodotus, *History*, Book 2 (**wiki**); Whitehouse (**wiki**)

Feb. 24 Romer & Romer, Ch. 5 (**wiki**)

Mar. 3 Romer & Romer, Ch. 1 (**wiki**)

Mar. 10 Romer & Romer, Ch. 4 (**wiki**)

Mar. 17 Romer & Romer, Ch. 6 (**wiki**)

Mar. 31 Romer & Romer, Ch. 2 (**wiki**)

Apr. 7 Romer & Romer, Ch. 3 (**wiki**)

Apr. 14 Romer & Romer, Ch. 7, pp. 180-229 (**wiki**)

**Dates and deadlines**

Short writing exercise #1 February 7

Quiz #1 February 14

Short writing exercise #2 February 28

Quiz #2 March 7

Short writing exercise #3 March 21

Quiz #3 April 4

Group in-class presentation April 7, 9, 11

Term paper draft (1 paragraph abstract + list of key sources) April 14

Final version of term paper May 6

Final exam May 13 (2:00-4:00 pm)