



## KIIS Greece, Summer 2020

---

### ENG 290 Topics: Women in Ancient Greek Literature

**Instructor:** Dr. Paul W. Ranieri

**Email:** [pranieri@bsu.edu](mailto:pranieri@bsu.edu)

**Instructor's office hours:** on site and by appointment

*Syllabus subject to change*

**1. Course Description:** From goddesses to humans, from Athena, Demeter, Hera, and Aphrodite to Penelope, Helen, Sappho, Artemisia, Lysistrata, Aspasia, Praxithea, and Medea, we will explore many dynamic female characters in ancient Greek literature and how well they reflect to us the lives of women in ancient Greek culture. What was their role in their cultures? How did they define their society for both men and other women? Through readings, discussion, writing, and visits to classical sites, we will investigate how these characters shape how we see women in both classical and contemporary society.

### 2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS creates and offers high-quality education abroad programs for students from diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help transform students into global citizens who have personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizing headlines and outdated cultural clichés to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating in KIIS Study Abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Articulate the relationship between ideas, experiences, and place;
- 2) Develop tools to engage with diverse people in the local cultures; and,
- 3) Explore other peoples' values and clarify their own.

In the equivalent of one, single-spaced typed page, reflect on:

*How has this experience made you think – or act – differently about the world around you? Please consider the 3 SLOs discussed. Please don't consider course content in your response; instead, think beyond it, and be as specific as possible.*

**3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:** This course will examine examples of ancient Greek writings, poetry and dramatic literature to understand how the Greek woman was represented. Additionally, students will study societal influences that affected these ancient examples and how those examples in turn help shape our contemporary viewpoints

of women. In the process students will achieve the following learning objectives: develop an appreciation of Greek literature and historical writings; gain an awareness of ancient conventions and social context (and contemporary examples of their influences); and develop communication skills in writing and discussion.

**4. Major Topics covered in the Course:** Students will be introduced to the environment, both natural and cultural, of the ancient Greeks and visit sites or view artifacts that contextualize the role of women viewed through the spectrum of ancient Greek literature, thus making the writings themselves more vivid. We will read materials pertaining to the ancient Greek ideal of the feminine and discuss historic and contemporary influences. Visits to ancient sites and museums will compliment our readings as we develop, for example, a sense of how the female form has been depicted and how it has shaped our contemporary view of beauty.

**5. Instructional Activities and Field Experiences:** Students will be graded on a series of worksheets which will integrate reactions to the literary texts, sites visited, and other aspects of the Greek experience. A mid-term essay exam and final essay will account for the remainder of the graded work. All three elements—worksheets, mid-term exam, and final essay—will be averaged together for the final grade. Field visits to more than 30 sites and museums throughout the trip will illuminate the context of the ancient Greek world.

**6. Required Readings:**

- *Three Plays by Aristophanes: Staging Women*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Jeffrey Henderson, trans., 2010 (ISBN: 0-4158-7131-X)
- All other readings—essays, literature, reviews—will be downloaded from online sources, or provided by the instructor.

**7. Graded Assignments:** Students' grades will be calculated as follows:

Worksheets	33%
Mid-term Examination	33%
Final Essay (5-7pp)	33%

Letter grades are equivalent to the following percentages:

100--90 = A      89--80 = B      79--70 = C      69--60 = D      59--below = F

**8. Academic Honesty Policy:** Any form of cheating, plagiarism, or other academic dishonesty will result in a penalty, ranging from a zero on the assignment in question, to a failing grade for the course, or expulsion from the program.

**9. Attendance Policy:** KIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

**10. Disability Accommodation:** KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, [haley.mctaggart@wku.edu](mailto:haley.mctaggart@wku.edu), to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, [haley.mctaggart@wku.edu](mailto:haley.mctaggart@wku.edu), if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program. If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will contact your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter. In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

**11. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:** Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / [andrea.anderson@wku.edu](mailto:andrea.anderson@wku.edu)) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / [michael.crowe@wku.edu](mailto:michael.crowe@wku.edu)) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / [joshua.hayes@wku.edu](mailto:joshua.hayes@wku.edu)). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at

270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/titleixbrochure.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.