

Classics 115
Fall, 2009
cwalker@brandeis.edu
Hours: MW 11-12, 1-3.30; Th 11-12

C. Walker
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“The Invention of History”

- August 27 Introduction: What is History?
August 31 Reading: Miriam Lichtheim, *Ancient Egyptian Literature*, vol. 1:
pp. 18-23; vol.2, pp. 12-15, 29-35, 57-72; vol. 3, 66-84
- September 2 Ungraded Exercise #1 due**
September 3 Reading: Herbert Butterfield, *The Origins of History*, pp. 44-79
September 9 Reading: 1-2Samuel
September 10 Ungraded Exercise #2 due
Discussion for 8/27-9/10: defining “history”: principles, genre, subjects, disciplines, etc.
materials about the past from Egypt, Hatti, Mesopotamia, Israel
evaluating secondary scholars/scholarship
- September 14-30 Reading: Herodotus 1 & 3
September 17 Ungraded Exercise #3 due
October 1 Paper #1 due
Discussion for 9/14-10/1: characterization; causation; temporal limits; myth; rhetoric;
antiquities; audience; purpose(s); political theory; etc.
evaluating Herodotus
- October 7 Reading: Thucydides 1.1-243.70-86; 5.84-116
October 10-22 Reading : Thucydides 6-7
Discussion for 10/7-10/22: characterization; causation; temporal limits; myth; rhetoric;
antiquities; audience; purpose(s); political theory; etc.
evaluating Thucydides
culture and the past
- October 26-29 Reading: Butterfield, pp. 138-57; 221-230
Pan Ku, in *Courtier and Commoner in Ancient China*,
pp. 12-45 & 121-157
Discussion for 10/26-10/29: characterization; causation; temporal limits; myth; rhetoric;
antiquities; audience; purpose(s); political theory; etc.
evaluating Pan Ku
culture and the past
- November 2 Paper #2 due**
November 2 Reading: Livy 1-2.15
November 9 Reading: Livy 5
November 16 Reading: Lucian, “How to Write History”
Mandated conference week
Discussion for 11/2-11/19: a “Greco-Roman” paradigm?

November 23-December 2: Oral presentations by students in consultation with me
Readings as assigned

December 3 All papers due in final draft

December 11 Final Exam (9.15 a.m.)

If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please see me immediately.