

**Faculty of Humanities
CLCV 2103/RELI 2735:
Greek Religion
Academic Year 2019-2020**

George W.M. Harrison
Office Location: Paterson 2A53

Class Hours: Tues/Thurs 8:35 – 9:55
Class Location: Southam Hall Room 518
(Make sure to confirm the location, day and time in January)

Preferred email: George.Harrison@Carleton.ca

Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 10:15 – 12:30; other times by appointment

Course Description:

Course will look at Greek religion through textbook ordered for the course (Emily Kearns, *Ancient Greek Religion: A Sourcebook*, 2009) plus chapters in .pdf from several important and provocative books on the subject. The course will examine Greek religion from several different viewpoints: from religion as personal response and devotion, religion and social coherence in small societies, religion as explanation and response to the inexplicable.

By preference when possible, class discussion will look at ancient Greek sources in translation and ancient Greek remains to foreground the Greeks' own understanding of their society as opposed to modern interpretation. Continuity of cult and observance means that class will sometimes go beyond pagan Greek antiquity for comparative information from the first centuries of Christianity in Greek lands.

Learning Outcomes:

As a 2000 level course (cross-list CLCV 2103/RELI 2735), the work-load expectation is a chapter per class, depending on the complexity of the material (and the length of the chapter). As an advanced introductory course, emphasis remains on acquisition of knowledge but there will be equal emphasis on critical judgement of the ancients' awareness of their own institutions and assessment of which ancient authors were more astute observers of their own world. Chapters in .pdf will allow exploration of different analytic methodologies as well as trends and fashions in modern analysis of ancient religion.

2000 level courses do not require term essays. There is, however, an option to substitute a term essay for a test that has been missed or a test on which one would have hoped to do better. Final exam is an essay test (four of five questions that will be announced in advance). It is hoped that students will consider submitting term essay to an undergraduate publication, such as Carleton's *Corvus*, or undergraduate essay competition, such as that of the Classical Association of Canada. Links will be provided in course web-site.

Class visit by research specialist from library is being arranged.