**Term list of key people, events and concepts 1. Semester**

**Greece**

**People**

**Cypselus** – first tyrant of Corinth (c. 657- c. 628 BCE). He was encouraged for quest for power by oracle at Delphi. He also founded colonies in northwestern Greece.

**Draco** – first legislator of Athens. In c. 621 BCE he replaced the oral law by a written code.

**Solon** (c. 638 – 558 BCE) – Athenian statesman and lawmaker. Solon tried to prevent economic, political and moral decline in Athens. He set the ground for Athenian democracy.

**Pisistratus** – ruled Athens (561 - 527 BCE). Changed political system to an original form of populism/socialism (reduced privileges of aristocracy, took their land and gave it to the poor, foundation of artistic and religious programs).

**Hippias** – Greek Sophist. He was educated on all subjects and lectured on history, politics, poetry, grammar and mathematics.

**Hipparchus** – Greek astronomer, geographer and mathematician.

**Cleisthenes** was a noble Athenian credited with reforming the Athenian constitution. Historians refer to him as “the father of Athenian democracy”. He also decreased power of nobility and increased power of assembly.

**Themistocles** (c. 524 – 459 BCE) – Athenian politician and general. He was a non-aristocratic politician and used the chances that the young Athenian democracy offered. He was mainly supported by the lower classes because of his populist politics and became archon in 493 BCE. He also concentrated his politics on Athens’ naval power.

**Miltiades** (c. 550 – 489 BCE) played an important role in the Battle of Marathon. He is Cimon’s father.

**Darius I** (550- 486 BCE) also called **Darius the Great** was king of the Persian Empire. Punished Athens for their help in Ionian Revolt.

**Cimon** (510 – 450 BCE) - Athenian statesman and major political figure. He played an important role in creating the Athenian Empire and the failure of the Persian Invasion of Greece. He was seen as military hero and became admiral after the Battle of Salamis. Cimon also led campaign against Pericles; he opposed the democratic revolution and wanted aristocratic party control in Athens.

**Sophocles** (c. 496 – c.405 BCE) – ancient Greek tragedian. His most famous tragedies are known as Theban plays (Oedipus and Antigone).

**Pericles** (c. 495-429 BCE) – most prominent and influential Greek orator and general of Athens. Historians refer to him as “the first citizen of Athens”. He turned the Delian League into the Athenian Empire and promoted arts and literature which made Athens the cultural center of ancient Greece.

**Herodotus** (c. 484 – 425 BCE) – ancient Greek historian. He is known as “Father of history” because he collected materials systematically and tested their accuracy. His best-known work is called “The Histories”.

**Cleon** – Athenian statesman and general in the Peloponnesian War. He was representative of the commercial class although he himself was an aristocrat.

**Thucydides** (c. 460- c. 395 BCE) was a Greek historian and general. He wrote “History of the Peloponnesian War” and became known as “Father of Scientific History”. He analyzed the events by weighing causes and effects without consideration of the gods.

**Plato** (c. 424 – 348 BCE) – philosopher in Classical Greece. He was Socrates’ student and writer of philosophical dialogues. He founded the Academy in Athens and taught Aristotle. Together with Aristotle and Socrates, Plato is one of the founders of Western Philosophy.

**Aristophanes** (c. 446 – 386 BCE) – comic playwright in ancient Athens. His plays classify as pieces of Old Comedy because of which he is known as “Father of Comedy”.

**Aristotle** ( 384 – 322 BCE) – Greek philosopher. Aristotle is with Plato and Socrates one of the founding figures of Western philosophy and covered many subjects in his writings (e.g. physics, metaphysics, music, logic, theater, linguistic, government, politics, ethics, poetry,…). He became the teacher of Alexander the Great.

**Philip of Macedon** (382 – 336 BCE) was king of Macedon (359 – 336 BCE). He was very skilled in military matter and was the father of Alexander the Great.

**Alexander the Great** (260/21 July 356 – 10/11 June 323 BCE) – King of Macedon. He was tutored by Aristotle and created an Empire stretching from the Ionian Sea to the Himalayas. He stayed undefeated in battle and became one of the most successful commanders known; after his death he left a power vacuum which resulted in a series of wars.

**Democritus** (c. 460 – 370 BCE) – Ancient Greek philosopher. He contributed by formulating an atomic theory for the universe. He is often considered to be the “Father of Modern Science”.

**Zeno of Citium** (c. 334 – 262 BCE) – Greek thinker. He is founder of the Stoic school of philosophy where he taught. Stoicism dominated philosophy from the Hellenistic period until the Roman era.

**Epicurus** (c. 341 – 270 BCE) – ancient Greek philosopher and founder of Epicureanism (school of philosophy).

**Events**

**First Messenian War** – War between Messenia and Sparta which began in 743 BCE and ended 723 BCE and resulted in a Spartan victory. Messenians who didn’t emigrate were reduced to helots and their descendants were in hereditary subjection until Spartans needed them for defense.

**Second Messenian War** – War between Messenia and Sparta from 685 to 668 BCE, which was started by an uprising slave rebellion.

**First Persian Invasion of Greece** began 492 and ended 490 BCE with the Battle of Marathon and an Athenian victory. The Invasion started because Athens and Eretria supported the cities of Ionia in the revolt against the Persian rule and the Persian king, Darius I, wanted the cities to be punished.

**Battle of Marathon** (490 BCE) – fought between Athens and Plataea against the Persian force. The battle was significant because it showed the Greeks that Persians were opposable and introduced the rise of the Classical Greek civilization.

**Greco-Persian Wars** – series of conflicts between the Empire of Persia and city-states of the Hellenic world from 499 – 449BCE.

**Ionian Revolt** (499 – 493 BCE)– military rebellions by several regions of Asia Minor against Persian rule. Athens and Eretria supported Ionia with troops and threatened the Persian Empire.

**Second Persian Invasion** (480 BCE) was led by Xerxes, Darius’ son, and accompanied by a large army. A significant Persian victory over the Greek was made at the Battle of Thermopylae. However, Persians were defeated at the Battle of Salamis which ended the invasion of Greece.

**Peace of Callias** (449 BCE) – treaty between the Delian League and Persia which ended the Persian Wars.

**First Peloponnesian War** (c. 460 - 445 BCE) – war between the Peloponnesian League (led by Sparta) and the Delian League (led by Athens) during which Athens captures Aegina in 457 BCE.

**Thirty Years’ Peace** (446 BCE) signed treaty between Athens and Sparta. The treaty ended the First Peloponnesian War and was supposed to prevent another outbreak of war. Athens was forced to give up possessions in the Peloponnese and the peace ended after 13 years with Sparta’s declaration of war on Athens.

**Battle of Sybota** (433 BCE) – sea fight between Corcyra and Corinth. This battle was the spark for the next Peloponnesian War.

**Battle of Potidaea** (432 BCE) – battle between Athens and combined army from Corinth and Potidaea. With the Battle of Sybota, the two battles became one of the catalysts for the Peloponnesian War.

**Second Peloponnesian War** (431 – 404 BCE) – war fought by Athens (and its empire) against the Peloponnesian League (led by Sparta). Divided into three phases.

**The Archidamian War** – Sparta launched invasions of Attica repeatedly while Athens raises the coast of the Peloponnese. Concluded in 421 BCE by signing the Peace of Nicias.

**Peace of Nicias** – peace treaty between Athens and Sparta.

**Ionian War/ Decelean War** – last part of the Second Peloponnesian War. Spartans declared war in 413 BCE and occupied Decelea. In 404 BCE, the Peloponnesian army surrounded Athens and Athens surrendered.

**Corinthian Wars** (395 – 387 BCE) – conflict between Sparta and four allied states (Thebes, Athens, Corinth and Argos), caused by a local conflict in northwest Greece and hostility towards Sparta.

**Peace of Antalcidas** (387 BCE) – peace treaty guaranteed by the Persian king, showing the influence Persia’s.

**Battle of Issus** (333 BCE) – significant victory for Alexander the Great in his conquest of the Persian Empire. The victory allowed Alexander to liberate Anatolia and neutralize the Persian navy.

**Battle of Gaugamela** (331 BCE) – battle between Alexander the Great and Darius III of Persia. The battle ended in a victory for the Greeks and was followed by the fall of the Persian Empire.

**Wars of the Diadochi** (322 – 275 BCE) – series of conflicts between Alexander the Great’s generals over the rule of the empire after he died.

**Hellenic War** (323-321 BCE) – Greek revolt against Macedonian control.

**Battle of Ipsus** (301 BCE) – fought between some Diadochi (successors of Alexander the Great). Main battle of the Fourth Diadochi war.

**Pyrrhic War** (280-275 BCE) – series of battles and shifting alliances in Greece. Rome became a major power in the Mediterranean.

**Syrian Wars** – six wars between Successor states of the Seleucid Empire and the Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt which drained material and manpower of both sides and led to their destruction and conquest by Rome.

**Chremonidean War** (267-261 BCE) – fought between a coalition of Greek city-states against Macedonian domination.

**First Macedonian War** (214-205 BCE) – fought by Rome, together with the Aeolian League and Attalus I of Pergamon against Philip V of Macedon. Macedon attempted to gain control over Illyria and Greece but failed.

**Second Macedonian War** (200-197 BCE) – fought between Macedon and Rome allied with Pergamon and Rhodes. It resulted in a defeat of Philip V of Macedon who had to give up all his possessions in Greece.

**Roman-Syrian War** (192-188 BCE) – military conflict between the Roman Republic and the Seleucid Empire. The war resulted from a “cold war” between the parties after trying to settle spheres of influence by making alliances.

**Third Macedonian War** (171-168 BCE) – war between Rome and King Perseus of Macedon. It marked the effective end of Hellenistic Macedonia and the monarchy of the Antigonid dynasty.

**Fourth Macedonian War** (150-148 BCE) – final war between Rome and Macedon. Rome defeated Macedonia which later became a Roman province.

**Concepts**

**Code of Draco** (621 BCE) – first written Athenian laws. Those laws were especially harsh and covered all criminal offenses.

**Solon’s Reforms** – repealed Draco’s code (594 BCE), freed debt-slaves and published new laws. A new social arrangement was introduced in which power was based on land ownership and wealth. Solon also passed economic reforms, supporting export, creating uniform weights and measures, graduating income tax and offering citizenship to skilled workers.

**Archon** – one of the nine chief magistrates

**Boule (Council of 401)** – council of citizens to run daily affairs of the city.

**Ekklesia** – principal assembly of the democracy of ancient Athens open to all male citizens with 2 years of military service.

**Heleai** – judicial branch consisting of 6000 jurors which worked on all cases except treason and murder

**Strategoi** – generals in Athens.

**Delian League** – an alliance of ancient Greek states founded in 478 BCE under the leadership of Athens.

**Peloponnesian League** – military coalition of Greek city-states led by Sparta. The league was an important force in Greek affairs, the Persian invasions and the Peloponnesian War.

**30 Tyrants** – pro-Spartan oligarchy passed in Athens after its defeat in the Peloponnesian War.

**The Academy** – founded by Plato in c. 387 BCE and persisted as a skeptical school until 83 BCE.

**League of Corinth** – federation of Greek states created by Philip II of Macedon in 338 BCE to support his forces in the war against Persia.

**Stoic school** – school of Hellenistic philosophy which taught about destructive emotions resulting from errors in judgment.

**Achaean League** – Hellenistic-era confederation of Greek city states.

**Sparta**

**People**

**Lysander** – Spartan admiral commanded the Spartan fleet in 405 BCE. Therefore he is an important figure forcing Athenians to capitulate and ending the Peloponnesian War.

**Lycurgus** – legendary lawgiver of Sparta. Introduced the military-oriented politics and society in Sparta and the concentration on equality among citizens, military fitness and austerity.

**Concepts**

**Spartan Code** – Spartan Values (Discipline, Unity, Uniformity, Loyalty, Obedience, Endurance, Courage, Competition, Honor, and Reverence for Elders), Eugenics (right to live wasn’t granted), military and harsh education of boys, athletic and domestic education of girls, Xenophobia,…

**Spartan Caste System**

**Spartiates** – Spartan citizens who enjoyed full rights

**Mothax** – non-Spartan free men raised as Spartans, could fight in wars

**Perioeci** – freedmen; traders and manufacturers. They were allowed to travel to other cities (unlike Spartans)

**Helots** – state-owned serfs, enslaved non-Spartan local population; belonged to the state and couldn’t be sold

**Spartan Constitution** – orally passed laws; Hybrid state (Monarchy, Aristocracy, Democracy); inspiring for British Constitutional Monarchy and the American Founding Fathers

**Power Structure**

**Kings** – 2 hereditary kings, equal in authority. They had religious (chief priest), judicial and military functions.

**Ephors** – Executive branch; They were supposed to prevent tyranny of Kings. Ephors are important for foreign policies and arose from the need for governors while kings were leading their military in wars. Elected annually without re-election.

**Gerousia** – Council of Elders/ Senate (upper house). Its 30 members (28 60+ year old Spartan and 2 kings) were elected for life though the elections may have been shady.

**Apella** – All 30 year old male Spartans could attend. The Apella voted on the legislations drafted by the Gerousia (yes-no-votes), on peace and war, elected ephors and elders.

**Rome**

**People**

**Hamilcar Barca** (c. 275 – 228 BCE) – Carthaginian general and Hannibal’s father. He commanded the Carthaginian army in Sicily (247-241 BCE) during the late stages of the First Punic War.

**Hannibal** (247 – 182 BCE) – Punic Carthaginian military commander. Hannibal is considered one of the greatest military commanders. He became most known for marching with his army which included war elephants over the Pyrenees and the Alps into northern Italy.

**Scipio Africanus** – (236 – 183 BCE) – Roman general in the Second Punic War. He is famous for defeating Hannibal at the battle at Zama. He is sometimes called “the Roman Hannibal” and is counted to the list of the finest military commanders in history.

**Tiberius Gracchus** – Roman Popularis politician. He was a plebeian tribune and reformed the agrarian legislation which caused political trouble in the Republic. He and many of his supporters were killed by members of the Senate because his reforms threatened holdings of landowners in Italy.

**Gaius Gracchus** (154 – 121 BCE) – Roman Popularis politician. Gaius was Tiberius’ brother and became tribune in 123 and 122 BCE whose reforms ended in a constitutional crisis and his murder by the Roman Senate.

**Gaius Marius** (157 – 86 BCE) Roman general. He was consul seven times and reformed the Roman army (recruitment and military formations). He also defeated the Germanic tribes and became “the Third Founder of Rome” and is significant for the transformation Rome’s from Republic to Empire.

**Lucius Cornelius Sulla Felix** (c. 138 – 78 BCE) best known as Sulla, Roman general. While he was consul he put down Italian rebels from the Social War and became dictator after a civil war in Rome.

**Marcus Tullius Cicero** (106 – 43 BCE) – Roman philosopher, lawyer, orator, consul and constitutionalist. His writings are a significant source for information about e.g. the fall of the Roman Republic.

**Pompey** (106 – 48 BCE) – military and political leader of the late Roman Republic. His success as general allowed him to become consul without meeting the requirements for office; he was consul three times. He was also successful in Sulla’s Second Civil War.

**Julius Caesar** (100 – 44BCE) – Roman general, consul and dictator. He played a significant role in the fall of the Republic and the rise of the Roman Empire. In 60 BCE Caesar, Crassus and Pompey formed a political alliance.

**Events**

**Samnite Wars** – between the Roman Republic and the tribes of Samnium.

**First Samnite War** (343 – 341 BCE) – war started as result of Samnites trying to expand westwards and resulted in Rome capturing Campania and Capua

**Second Samnite War** (326 – 304 BCE) – war started because of Roman expansion to the south, reasserting control of Campania and establishing a colony at Fregellae. The war was won by Rome and extended its power.

**Thirst Samnite War** (298 – 290 BCE) – war started because Samnites intervened in Roman expansion and became the last Samnite attempt to remain independent which. It was fought by the Etruscans, Umbrians and the Gauls against Rome and became a Roman victory.

**First Punic War** (254 – 241 BCE) – war between Carthage and the Roman Republic. As result, Rome gains the Provinces of Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica.

**Second Punic War/ Hannibalic War** (218 – 201 BCE) – second major war between Carthage and the Roman Republic. During this war Hannibal crossed the Alps with his elephant and won several important battles without capturing Rome. Meanwhile Scipio Africanus attacked the Cargaginian homeland and decided the war for Rome.

**Jugurthine War** (111-104 BCE) – war between Rome and Jugurtha of Numidia. It was a Roman victory however it also portrayed flaws in the Republic as well as a moral and ethical decline in Rome.

**Social Wars** (91-88BCE) – war between Roman Republic and other Italian cities which resulted in a military victory for Rome and more rights guaranteed for Italians.

**First Mithiridatic War** (89 – 85 BCE) – war between Pontus and the Roman Republic to challenge Rome’s expansion and resulted in a Roman victory and a hasty agreement.

**First Roman Civil War** (83 – 82 BCE) – war between Sulla and the popular faction which was won by Sulla and he became the dictator.

**Second Mithridatic War** (83 – 81 BCE) – war between Pontus and the Roman Republic. It resulted in a Pontic victory

**Third Mithridatic War** (73-63BCE) – longest war between Pontus and the Roman Republic. It ended in a Roman victory (led by Pompey) and ended the Pontic Kingdom.

**Servile Wars -** series of three slave revolts [(135 – 132 BCE); (104 – 100 BCE); (73-71 BCE)] in the Roman Republic, the last of which was led by Spartacus.

**Gallic Wars** (58-50 BCE) – series of military campaigns waged by Julius Caesar against several Gallic tribes which resulted in a Roman victory and conquer of Gaul.

**Second Roman Civil War** (49 BCE) – war between the conservative faction and Pompey.

**Third Roman Civil War** (44-42 BCE) - war between Caesar’s assassins and Caesar’s heirs

**Concepts**

**Particians** – aristorcratic group with political power (state and military affairs)

**Plebeians** – rather common and mostly poor people who could still speak openly but had less power than particians

**Senate** – council of elders to advice kings

**Comitia curiata** – assemblies to elect magistrates and pass laws

**Comitia centuriata** – assemblies for military purposes and policies

**Concilium plebis** – since 471 BCE the assembly of plebeians

**Consuls** (two) – chief magistrates elected for one year terms; only open to particians; consuls were commanders in army, administrators in state business and supervisors of finances

**Quaestors** – assisted consuls; in charge of treasury and prosecution of criminals

**Praetors** – in charge of consuls’ offices when absent

**Censors** – in charge of supervision of public moral, qualification of senate members and registration of citizens

**Ius civile** – set of rules to regulate lives and relations and to protect property, life and reputation

**Ius natural** – all laws that made sense to a reasonable person

**Ius gentium** – international law

**Aediles** – supervisors of publicity; markets, streets, festivals

**Paterfamilias and clientage** – paterfamilias: head of household/ family with absolute power over wife and children; offered help to people and expected political support in return (clientage)

**First Secession of the Plebs (494)**

**12 Tables** – foundation of Roman law. It was the centerpiece of the constitution of the Roman Republic.

**Hellenism** – spread of Greek culture, language, etc.

**Scipionic Circle** – group of Hellenistic artists, philosophers, historians, poets,… supported by Scipio

**Licinian-Sextian Rogations** (376 BCE) – Roman law which restored the consulship, introduced one of the two consuls position to a plebeian and set new limits on possessions of conquered land.

**Tribal Assembly** – democratic assembly of Roman citizens when the Roman Republic was organized in thirty-five tribes. The assembly had legislative, electoral, and judicial purposes in which each tribe received one vote and could elect three different magistrates (quaestors, curule aediles and consular tribunes).

**Latin League** – (7th century BCE – 338 BCE) – confederation of about 30 tribes and villages new ancient Rome in alliance for mutual defense.

**First Triumvirate** – political alliance between Julius Caesar, Marcus Licinius Crassus and Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus (Pompey). It had a strictly unofficial power in the Roman Republic and was kept a secret for some time.

**Roman Empire** – post-Republican period of ancient Rome. It was characterized by an autocratic form of government and large territorial holdings.