

IWC Fall Study Circle

Journey through Classical Greek Culture and Civilization

Note: The pages listed below for the Karen Armstrong book are taken from the hardcopy. The pdf versions of the readings, posted to the IWC website, are scanned from the paperback version and are paginated differently.

- Sept. 12** ***Historical Introduction to Ancient and Classical Greece***
Presentation: YouTube lecture on “Ancient Greece” by Jeff Crowe (45 minutes)
- Sept. 19** ***Greek Religion and Mythology***
1. *The Greek Way*, Edith Hamilton, “The Religion of the Greeks”, pgs. 284-302
2. *Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes*, Edith Hamilton, “How the World and Mankind were Created”, pgs. 87-94
3. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, “Ritual”, pgs. 49-61
- Sept. 26** ***Greek Myths and Human Nature***
1. *Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes*, Edith Hamilton, “Introduction to Classical Mythology”, pgs. 1-12
2. *Ibid*, “Theseus”, pgs. 208-223
3. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, “Kenosis”, pgs. 105-114
4. *Ibid*, “Knowledge”, pgs. 139-143
- Oct. 3** ***Greek Politics: The Emergence of the City State (Polis)***
The Great Transformation, Karen Armstrong, pgs. 101, 138, 144-146, 183-184, 220-222, 229-232
- Oct. 10** ***Greek Philosophy: Conceptual Foundations of Modern Science***
1. *Before and After Socrates*, F.M. Cornford, “Ionian Science before Socrates”, pgs. 1-28.
2. “What is a Cosmos”, David Fideler, *The Alexandrian*, 1996
3. “A Fight for the Soul of Science”, Natalie Wolchover, *Quanta Magazine*, December 16, 2015
4. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, “Suffering”, pgs. 185-190
5. *Ibid*, “Empathy”, pgs. 220-223
- Oct. 17** ***Greek Philosophy: The Sophists and Socrates***
1. *Before and After Socrates*, F.M. Cornford, “Socrates”, pgs. 29-53
2. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, “Concern for Everyone”, pgs. 248-253, 257-265

- Oct. 24** ***Greek Philosophy: Plato on Knowledge and Immortality***
 1. *The Golden Verses of Pythagoras*, Pythagoras, pgs. 18-20
 2. *Before and After Socrates*, "Plato", F.M., Cornford, pgs. 54-84
 3. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, "All is One", pgs. 313-326
- Oct. 31** ***Greek Social Psychology: The Rational and the Irrational***
 1. "Platonically Irrational", Nick Romeo (handout)
 2. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, "All is One", pgs. 326-330
- Nov. 7** ***Greek Theater: Aeschylus: The First Dramatist***
 1. *The Greek Way*, Edith Hamilton, "Aeschylus: The First Dramatist", pgs. 239-257
 2. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, "Empathy", pgs. 225-230
 Presentation: Video excerpt from a play by Aeschylus
- Nov. 14** ***Greek Theater: Sophocles: Quintessence of the Greek***
 1. *The Greek Way*, Edith Hamilton, "Sophocles: Quintessence of the Greek", pgs. 258-270
 2. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, "Empathy", pgs. 231-232
 Presentation: Video excerpt from a play by Sophocles
- Nov. 21** ***Greek Theater: Euripides and the Role of Women***
 1. *The Greek Way*, "Euripides: The Modern Mind", Edith Hamilton, pgs. 271-283
 2. *The Great Transformation*, Karen Armstrong, "Concern for Others", pgs. 253-257, 263-264
 Presentation: Video excerpt from a play by Euripides
- Nov. 28** ***The Greek Arts***
 Reading(s) to be determined
 Presentation: Slides of the Classical Greek arts; architecture, art and sculpture
- Dec. 5** ***Hellenistic Civilization: Ethics and Social Philosophy***
The Great Transformation, Karen Armstrong, "Empire", pgs. 352-356
- Dec. 12** ***Hellenistic Civilization: Mathematics and Science***
 Reading(s) to be determined
- Dec. 19** ***What Have We Learned from Classical Greece?***
 1. *The Greeks*, H.D.F. Kitto, "The Greek Mind", pgs. 169-194
 2. *The Greek Way*, Edith Hamilton, "The Way of the Greeks", pgs. 301-330