

ANCIENT GREECE Handout

PHILOSOPHY

Socrates sought truth and self knowledge; Socratic Method

Plato favored rule of philosopher-king; wrote the Republic

Aristotle promoted idea of "golden mean"; wrote Politics; Syllogism

Stoicism Zeno was founder; nature is the expansion of divine will; get involved in politics, not for personal gain, but to perform virtuous acts for the good of all; true happiness is found in great achievements; highest goal was pursue virtue and could only be achieved by living in harmony with nature; virtue included common sense, courage, justice, moderation

Sophists taught rhetoric; success more important than moral truth

Cynics founded by Diogenes; avoid luxuries; live a humble, simple life; material things were unnecessary; everything in society is foolish and it is impossible to have anything worth having

Epicurians founded by Epicurus; avoid pain and seek pleasure don't worry about pleasing gods; all excess leads to pain; avoid politics; said gods existed, but did not interact with humans

LITERATURE

Homer first playwright; wrote *Iliad* and *Odyssey*; bard

Aeschylus wrote tragedies; wrote *Orestia*

Sophocles wrote tragedies; wrote *Oedipus Rex*

Euripides wrote tragedies; wrote *The Trojan Women*

Aristophanes wrote comedies; wrote *Lysistrata*

HISTORY

Herodotus historian; wrote *The Persian Wars*

Thucydides historian; promoted unbiased writing of history

MATH / SCIENCE

Pythagoras developed Pythagorean Theorem

Euclid developed basis for geometry; wrote *The Elements*

Ptolemy proposed that solar system was geocentric

Aristarchus proposed that solar system was heliocentric

Eratosthenes determined Earth was round and calculated circumference of Earth

Herophilus of Chalcedon dissected body; found brain to be center of intelligence; discovered pulse and how arteries carry blood throughout body

Hero mechanical puppets; automatic doors; pipe organ; aeolipile (version of steam engine); his ideas have been used to develop inventions from jet engine to water sprinklers

Archimedes mastered the lever and pulley

Hippocrates developed code of ethics for medical profession - Hippocratic Oath

ART

Phidias 42' tall *Statue of Zeus* @ Olympia (one of 7 Ancient Wonders); 38' tall *Statue of Athena* in Parthenon; sculpted in "classical style"

Myron statue of *Discus Thrower*; sculpted people by how they "should" look not how they actually looked; sculpted in "classical style" which mean he portrayed movement

Praxiteles sculptor after Athenian "Golden Age"; smaller sculptures representing grace rather than power; first to sculpt female body nude - "*Aphrodite of Cnidus*"

MYTHOLOGY

Titans elder gods; main god was Cronus; controlled Earth before Olympians overthrew them

Olympians overthrew the Titans; main god was Zeus; home was on Mt. Olympus

Zeus "god of the gods"

Poseiden "god of the seas"

Hades "god of the underworld"

Ares "god of war"

Athena "goddess of wisdom"

Apollo "god of truth"; god of rising and setting of the sun

Aphrodite "goddess of love"

Hera wife of Zeus