In this course we will examine Greek and Roman feasts and religious festivals through an exploration of mythology, ritual, and sacrifice. While ancient myths revealed tensions between the human world and the natural and divine orders, festivals commemorating the myths offered opportunities to enact and resolve these tensions ritually. As feasts figured prominently in festivals, we will also seek to understand how food and drink, and the contexts in which they were consumed, served as markers of ethnicity, social class, and gender. Lastly, we will investigate the meaning of prohibitions against certain foods, including beans, raw flesh, and human meat.

**Texts:** All readings will be posted on the course website. You can find the website here: go/feastsandfestivals

**Requirements:** You must attend regularly. This class meets twice times a week. You are expected to be in class all days and to participate in some capacity. I understand that not everyone participates in extroverted ways. This course will combine class general and small group discussions, lectures, activities, and short writing assignments in class. There are many ways to participate in this course. Most importantly, you must demonstrate engagement with the readings and material. Consequently...

**Computer/Cell Phones:** Please do not use them in class. There are days when you will need your computer in class. I will send you an email 24 hours in advance to notify you if you need your computer.

**Grading:** There are four different types of assignments for which you will be graded.

| 1) Short Written Assignments = 6% each (there are a total of 5). |
| These assignments are marked by **** in the syllabus. Please note that one is missing from this syllabus. This will allow us to incorporate an activity as we are moved to do so. |
| 2) Papers = 10% each (there are a total of 4; two analytic, one creative, one persuasive). |
| 3) Final Paper = 15% |
| 4) Daily Comments = 15% 20 total. |

There are comments concerning the reading. In your comment please identify the main point(s) of the reading, and what you found most interesting. These comments are not meant to be long—only 200-250 words (for reference, the course description above is 100 words). Sometimes I will offer questions for you to consider as you are reading. Please use these questions to guide your reading. You may wish to respond to one of these questions in your daily comment. **You must submit comments via email by 9.00 am on the day of class in order to receive credit.** Please type them directly into the email. Do not send them as attachments. You are only responsible for submitting these on days when there are no other assignments due in class. There are a total of 22 of these class days. You must submit 20 comments (or the two lowest grades will be dropped). You are responsible for keeping track of many you have done.

**Papers Requirements:** 4-5 pages, spacing 1.5, times/helvetica, submitted by email as word document (or you can share your paper with me through google docs). All papers must be submitted by 7.59 pm unless indicated otherwise. All papers require in-text citations and a works cited page (format MLA). A citation guide for primary sources in classics will be posted under "course materials."

Here is a link to Middlebury’s citation guide: go/citations

You may also find this link useful: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

**Writing and Academic Mentor:** A mentor has been assigned to work with our class. You will meet Delia in the next couple of weeks. She will be available to work with you on your papers. As we approach the date for our first writing assignment, we will discuss the necessary preparations for your first meeting with Delia.
The Honor Code: Please familiarize yourself with the Middlebury’s honor code. You will be required to include the pledge on all submitted papers. We will discuss the honor code throughout the semester, but feel free to ask specific questions if you have any. I am always happy to meet with you in person or to discuss questions over email.

Readings: The dates for the readings listed below reflect the day on which they will be discussed in class. Please note that the syllabus is subject to change. All readings will be posted on the course website. Please be sure to check the course website often. I send out reminders after class concerning the readings and homework for the next class. All emails will be posted on the course website under "course announcements."

Part One: Rome
Unit One, Nature versus Culture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week One</th>
<th>Hesiod, Meat, and Marriage</th>
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<tr>
<td>(R 17 Sept)</td>
<td>Primary Source: Hesiod, Works and Days, lines 1-128; Theogony, lines 492-616.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week Two</th>
<th>Hesiod, Meat, and Marriage/Sacrifice in Practice</th>
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<tr>
<th>Week Three</th>
<th>Library Seminar/Homeric Feasts?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(T 29 Sept)</td>
<td>Library Skills Seminar.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary Source: Homer, Iliad, Book 23.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(R 1 Oct)</td>
<td>Primary Source: Homer, Odyssey, Book 9.</td>
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Thursday, October 1, 6:00 pm: Class dinner hosted by Ross Commons.

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<tr>
<th>Week Four</th>
<th>Cannibalism/Writing Lab</th>
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<tr>
<td>(T 6 Oct)</td>
<td>Primary Source: Selections from Pindar; Seneca, Thyestes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(R 8 Oct)</td>
<td>****Writing Lab: Please come to class with a rough draft or annotated outline of your paper.</td>
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</table>

****Paper 1, Rough Draft: Due Friday, Oct. 9, 7.59 pm. Please email me your paper as a word or google doc. Your paper will be returned to you with comments by the end of the day on Sunday, Oct. 11.

Unit Two, Belonging and Not Belonging

| Week Five | The Athenian Festival Calendar/Eleusis |
Week Six: Research Skills Seminar/Dionysus
(T 20 Oct) Research Skills Seminar
(R 22 Oct) Primary Source: Rice and Stambaugh, "Dionysus," pages 146-57; Euripides, Bacchae.

Week Seven: Insiders and Outsiders at Mealtime
(T 27 Oct) Primary Source: Menander, Dyskolus.
(R 29 Oct) ****Writing Lab: Please come to class with a rough draft of your letter and writing process narrative.

Paper Two, Final Draft: Due Friday, Oct. 30, 7:59 pm. Please email me your paper as a word or google doc.

Part Two: Rome
Unit One: Meat, Wheat, Dining, and Feasts in Rome

Week Eight: Etruscan and Roman Sacrificial Practices
(R 5 Nov.) Primary Source: Shelton, "Religion and Philosophy," pages 378-86.)

Week Nine: Comedic Cooks and Satirical Feasts
(T 10 Nov) Primary Source: Plautus, Pseudolus.
(R 12 Nov) Primary: Petronius' Satyricon, "Trimalchio's Dinner Party."

Friday, November 13, 6:00 pm: Roman food cooking session hosted by Ross Commons.

Week Ten: Roman Festivals
Writing Lab: Please come to class with a rough draft or annotated outline of your paper.

Spotlight on Roman Festivals: Group presentation. (I will provide you with a selection of articles; your task will be to present the article to the class.)

Part Four: Roman Dietary Constraints and Identities

Week Eleven: Athletic Spectacles and Diets

Week Twelve: Medical Approaches and Food Taboos
- **(T Dec. 1)** Primary Source: Galen, selections; Hippocratic Corpus, selections.

Week Thirteen: Bacchanalia/Discussion of Papers
- **(T 8 Dec)** Primary Source: Livy, 39.8-19 (http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/livy39.asp);
  ("Accepting New Gods, Cults, Rituals," pages 83-98.)
- **(R 10 Dec)** Class Debate (preparation for paper four; please come to class with notes for the class debate/Discussion of Final Paper).

Paper Four, Final Draft: Due Friday, Dec. 11, 7.59 pm. Please email me your paper as a word or google doc.

Final Paper: Due Friday, Dec. 18, 7.59 pm. Please email me your paper as a word or google doc.

Summary of Paper Deadlines:
- **Paper 1, Rough Draft**: Due Friday, Oct. 9, 7.59 pm.
- **Paper 1, Final Draft**: Due Friday, Oct. 16, 7.59 pm.
- **Paper Two, Final Draft**: Due Friday, Oct. 30, 7.59 pm.
- **Paper Three, Final Draft**: Due Friday, Nov. 22, 11.59 pm.
- **Paper Four, Final Draft**: Due Friday, Dec. 11, 7.59 pm.
- **Final Paper**: Due Friday, Dec. 18, 7.59 pm.