

Response Paper 3: The “Others” – Greeks and Persians

RP 3 Questions:

Please answer ALL of the following questions to the best of your ability in a succinct essay. You should make ample use of the assigned readings in your response. See the General Instructions below for the standard guidelines for response papers.

- 1) What qualities, themes, motifs, or elements does Herodotus’ narrative share with Homer’s *Iliad*? In other words, how are the *Histories* epic?
- 2) What kind of epic figure is Xerxes in Herodotus’ narrative of the Great King’s invasion of Greece? How does he compare to the Greek or Trojan leaders and heroes of the *Iliad*? How does he behave and whom does Herodotus credit or blame for his successes and failures?

General Instructions:

For all the response papers you write this semester, follow these instructions:

- Formatting expectations: 1” margins on all sides, text double-spaced and 12 pt Times or Times New Roman font.
- Length: 1-2 pages; however, I will grade your papers based on their quality, not on the quantity of your words. The “1-2 pages” guideline is meant to give you an idea of the reasonable amount of space that I think should allow you to address these questions.
- You should be succinct, but be sure to answer the questions. You do NOT need to summarize the texts we are reading (remember that I am the audience for these papers), so focus your attention on the questions.
- You absolutely *need* to make use of the texts to answer these questions effectively. Argue a point from the texts; refer to events, characters, words, etc., but do NOT just quote extended passages. I want to see *your* words, not our translators’ words. I do not care about citation techniques, especially since you will not be quoting the texts extensively.
- Unless noted, the response papers are DUE on THURSDAY of the week assigned at the BEGINNING OF CLASS. They are considered late if I receive them after 11:01 AM.