

What Do the Greeks Mean Today?

THE GREEKS—SECTION

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Today

1. Introduction, Feedback, & Grading Policies
2. Presentations
 - a. [REDACTED]: *Second Maccabees*
 - b. [REDACTED]: Polybius, *Histories*
3. What Do the Greeks Mean Today?
 - a. Small Group Discussion
 - b. Plenary Discussion
4. Conclusion

Presentation

What Do the Greeks Mean Today?

What Do the Greeks Mean Today?

- [P]lacing such “greatness” (as is commonly found in American schools) on the Greeks and their culture is an extremely **eurocentric view of history**. Do you think that Greek history should continue to be taught with this sort of “greatness” surrounding it, or should it be stripped of that “greatness” and be taught for what it is worth?
- [T]o what extent do **Greek concepts in today’s world** (economics, democracy, mathematics) resemble the form and definition they actually held in Ancient Greece [or just mirror the etymology]?
- [I]s Ancient Greek **literature** (poetry, mainly) really great, or do we just think it's great because it was written in Ancient Greece, a place generally thought of as one of the most intellectual in the world during its time?
- What lessons on **democracy** can we take from studying ancient Athens?
- Will ancient Greece continue to be “great” in the future?
- If Greece is *not* “great,” then **why should we study it at all?**
- If one was to argue the ancient Greece was not great, would they be able to argue [that] **any ancient civilization was [great]**?

Conclusion