

Lecture Prospectus Thucydides and the West (weeks 1-4)

Dr Charlotte Spence

This series of four lectures will explore the following four topics:

Greek 'colonisation'/'expansion'

In this lecture, we will examine the patterns of colonisation (or expansion) which will help us set the Sicilian Expedition into a broader context.

Epigraphy

This lecture will begin by introducing epigraphy (corpora, value, dating, scripts, terms) followed by a tour through the epigraphy of the Sicilian Expedition.

Systems of Government in Ancient Greece

Some key questions addressed in this lecture are: 'How did Athenian democracy work?' 'What do we know about Syracusan democracy?' And we will address a specific case study: the various accounts of the assemblies which decided on the Expedition.

Further Themes

The themes covered in this lecture are religion, naval technology, and slavery.