

AH3015: Sparta in the Greek World

Dr Ellie Mackin Roberts

REFLEXIVE JOURNAL

The purpose of the reflexive journal is to give you a space to think through your ideas about the class content, the scholarship you read, and the ancient sources that you come across for this course. It is an evolving document that maps your thinking process in a guided way.

Your reflexive journal is a private document. There is no need to show it to anyone else in the class, nor to read directly from it during class discussions, unless you wish to do so. You will need to come and see me *a minimum of three times* during the term to validate your reflexive journal. Remember to bring your journal to class, it will help you during discussions.

Scholarly readings

For each individual reading note down:

- A summary of the reading including the argument that was put forward and the evidence used, and how it was employed.
- Some biographical notes about the author including gender, nationality, ethnicity, employment security, and any other pertinent information. Does any of this indicate a bias that might be present in the work?
- Offer a critical assessment of the reading. Was the author successful in arguing their case? Was their use of the ancient material methodologically sound?

In weeks where there are multiple scholarly readings:

- A summary of how the readings worked together. Did the authors agree? If not, why not, and how did each argue their case differently? What is the overall picture presented?

Ancient sources

A critical analysis of the ancient evidence.

After class

After each class you should write a summary of what was covered in lectures, discussions, and presentations, and list three connections to other classes, modules, or prior knowledge. Answer the following questions, along with any lesson-specific questions (these will be distributed at the end of each class, where appropriate):

- Was there anything in the session that you disagreed with? Why? What ancient evidence backs up your understanding of the topic?
- Was there anything covered in the session that you feel particularly interested in? Why?

Extra readings done for presentations, essays, and projects should be represented in the journal in a similar way.