

PERSEUS I.O INTERACTIVE SOURCES AND STUDIES ON ANCIENT GREECE

Named after the mythological hero who explored the limits of the known world, *Perseus* is a multimedia interactive library that will advance the ways in which ancient Greek literature, history, art, and archaeology can be examined. This database of text and images, published on CD-ROM and videodisc, provides a solid introduction to Greek antiquity for beginning students in many fields as well as advanced tools and resources for specialists. The initial edition of *Perseus* includes an overview of fifth-century B.C. Greek history, works in Greek and in translation by ten authors from the archaic and classical periods, an on-line version of the Liddell-Scott *Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon*, and a collection of short articles and glossary entries on topics in *Perseus* including geographic regions, architectural terms, vase shapes, and biographies of ancient authors. Among its thousands of illustrations are interactive maps of Greece annotated with place names, views — both still shots and motion pictures — of sites and scenes throughout Greece, and a catalog of several hundred objects of Greek art, illustrated with color images and drawings.

Comprehensive, authoritative, flexible, exciting, and easy to use, *Perseus* is:
— A powerful research tool for archaeologists, cultural anthropologists, historians, philologists.

— An essential reference tool for undergraduates, graduates, anyone interested in the study of ancient Greece.

— An important teaching tool for all courses in classics, art history, history, western civilization, anthropology, comparative literature.

Perseus can be used in academic departments, libraries, electronic classrooms, learning laboratories, your personal workstation.

THE “PERSEUS” MULTIMEDIA LIBRARY

Information in *Perseus*, unlike that in a conventional library, is cross-linked so the user can move quickly across traditionally separate types of information in a non-linear, non-sequential way. Students of ancient Greek civilization will benefit from the interplay of the diverse and interactive source materials, which have never before been integrated into one comprehensive database.

Perseus also gives its readers the power to annotate and reorganize information according to their needs and interests. The “Paths” feature can be used as a note-taking device for individual research and as an expository tool. In ad-

dition to the paths and links already found in the database, users can create and save their own "electronic essays" to navigate through the data.

Perseus 1.0 will support teaching and study in:

Literature

Perseus includes the complete works of the following authors: Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Herodotus, Thucydides. It also includes: Hesiod (*Works and Days*, *Theogony*, *Shield of Herakles*); Pindar (*Odes*); Pausanias (*Description of Greece*); the handbook of mythology attributed to Apollodorus (with notes and index by J. G. Frazer); a selection of the Greek lives of Plutarch.

Many of these Greek texts and translations are from the Loeb Classical Library. Some are accompanied by notes.

Art, Archaeology, and Architecture

The *Perseus* image database is the largest corpus of Greek art ever published electronically and the widest photographic database of mainland Greece ever distributed.

It features: a catalog of several hundred objects of Greek art; 2,400 views of 137 vases, some with fifty or more individual views; a key word index for all art objects; an extensive archaeological catalog with thousands of accompanying illustrations; 2,300 images illustrating about 800 sites, some with textual descriptions; 150 site plans, many with interactive video buttons that allow the user to call up corresponding views on the videodisc; 1,060 views of 527 coins; descriptions of 310 buildings with illustrations, plans, and text; extensive coverage of the Parthenon sculptures and several hundred details illustrating the pediments from the temple of Aphaia on Aegina.

Language

An on-line version of the Liddell-Scott *Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon* and an index of all English definitions, together with complete morphological databases for all Greek texts in *Perseus*.

History

A historical overview which gives a brief survey of major historical and cultural events in the fifth century B.C., written by Thomas Martin. This chronological narrative has links into the primary material.

Reference

Some additional reference materials that will enhance your study of ancient Greece: an atlas with general and regional maps (about 800 sites in all may be plotted on these maps); a classical encyclopedia that is a collection of short arti-

cles and glossary entries on topics mentioned in *Perseus* (this includes vase shapes, architectural terms, geographic regions, and biographies of ancient authors).

THE "PERSEUS" PACKAGE

CD-ROM's large and flexible storage capacity makes it the ideal medium for the *Perseus* database. The *Perseus* CD-ROM turns your Macintosh into a multimedia library complete with interactive text, illustrations, color images, maps, and on-line reference materials.

Videodisc

The videodisc companion to the *Perseus* database contains nearly 6,000 still images and fifteen minutes of motion video and narration of scenes and sites throughout Greece. It is the largest photographic collection of Greek art and views of Greece ever published electronically. The videodisc is fully inter-active with the rest of the database so users can simultaneously integrate text and images in their study. It is also accompanied by a 70-page booklet that indexes the images with brief descriptions and frame sequences so that users can access the images directly with their videodisc remote control.

User's Guide

The User's Guide provides an introduction to the project and clear, concise instructions for using *Perseus*. It is an excellent reference for users and offers suggestions on how to enhance and expand your use of the database.

The Perseus Demonstration Video

A 22-minute preview and demonstration video (VHS format) is now available. In the video, Professor Crane illustrates some of the many applications of *Perseus*. This ;10 video is an excellent way to preview *Perseus*, and it can also be used to further explore the database after your purchase.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:

Perseus is distributed in Hypercard™ 2.1 and runs on Macintosh computers. The minimal configuration is a Mac Classic with a hard disk, 2Mb of RAM, and an Apple-compatible CD-ROM player. The optimal, which allows the use of digital images, is a Macintosh LC or better with a hard disk, at least 4 Mb of RAM, a color monitor and 8-bit graphics board, and an Apple-compatible CD-ROM player. A videodisc player and video monitor can be used with either of these configurations to take advantage of the full-color still and motion images on the videodisc.

THE BUILDERS OF "PERSEUS"

PERSEUS was developed by a large team of classicists, including philologists, historians, and archaeologists. Major funding is provided by the Annenberg/CPB Project, with additional support from Apple Computer, the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as the Packard Humanities Institute, Xerox Corporation, Boston University, Bowdoin College, and Harvard University. The *Perseus* Project is a non-profit enterprise located at the Department of the Classics, Harvard University.

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