

ClassGen 34: Ancient Athletics
Section: Week 2

Assignment: Please watch the following clips and be prepared to incorporate them in the breakout section and your follow-up paper. Once you have watched the clips, virtually 'sign your name' (following the honor code) to the accompanying online document (linked [here](#)).

1. On the gymnasium:

Start with this 2-minute sequence from Romano's *The Ancient Olympics: Athletes, Games, Heroes, pt. 1* (18-19.28 minutes)

<http://youtu.be/xPTCS7SVg9k?t=18m>

Questions: How is the gymnasium organized? How does this organization effect athletic activity?

2. On wrestling and boxing:

Romano's *The Ancient Olympics: Athletes, Games, Heroes, pt. 2* (1-4.40 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zF2qhrGuudY>

Greco-Roman wrestling techniques. Watch the following representative sequences: for stances (2:35-4:15), takedowns (35:13-35:55), and the body on the floor positions (55:49-56:40).

<http://youtu.be/HHVKGMe7YiY?t=2m35s>

Short highlight film by Ryan Mango—a Stanford wrestler (3 minutes or so)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzd_2hmoU70

Questions: How did you react to video of modern wrestling? Do you see similarities in the way in which the Mango brothers presented themselves in the video (e.g. music, editorial choices, characterization of opponents, etc.) in comparison to how we imagine an ancient athlete presented himself?

3. On the Real Olympics:

From *the Real Olympics*—Running (5:45-11:00); The Gymnasium and the description of discus, javelin, and jumping (25:00-32:40); Boxing (34.31-37.40); and Wrestling (37:40-39:51).

<http://vimeo.com/5059505>

Questions: How do you react to the violence of ancient boxing and wrestling in comparison to modern? How do we deal with violence in sports in modern society?