It is commonly believed that modern mathematics, medicine and understanding of nature draw their origin from ancient Greek thinking.

However, the Greeks were far from what we would call "modern". Their goals in studying the natural world were completely different from ours.

So,

**What did the Greeks really accomplish?**

The Antikythera mechanism, an astronomical clockwork of probably the second century BC, here on display at the National Archeological Museum at Athens.

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Department of the History of Science

**HSCI 3813: Science in the Ancient World** (asst. professor Rienk Vermij)

Fall 2011

In this course, we will read a selection of ancient sources in translation, e.g. fragments by Epicurus, Aristotle, some pre-Socratic authors, some Hippocratic texts, in order to find out how the ancients explained the natural world.

Confers Core IV – Western Culture General Education Credit