

CC319D: The Ancient Mediterranean World Fall 2009

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Office hours: M 2-3:00; TH 10-11:00; FR 2-3:00
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Lecture: MW 1-2:00 in WAG 101 (all sections)
Section: F 10-11:00 in RAS 313A for 32505 (AHC); 32660 (CC); 36385 (EUS); 39830 (HIS)
F 1-2:00 in MEZ 1.212 for 32510 (AHC); 32665 (CC); 36390 (EUS); 39835 (HIS)
TH 2-3:00 in SZB 286 for 32515 (AHC); 32670 (CC); 36395 (EUS); 39840 (HIS)
TH 4-5:00 in BEN 1.122 for 32520 (AHC); 32675 (CC); 39845 (HIS)

Required Texts

Nagle, Brendan. *The Ancient World: A Social and Cultural History*. 7th ed. (New York) (= **AW**)
Haywood, John. *The Penguin Historical Atlas of Ancient Civilizations*. (London) (= **HC**)
Readings for the discussion sections will be available on **Blackboard**.

Course Description

This course is an introductory survey of the Mediterranean world from ca. 3000 B.C. to ca. A.D. 500 that provides a broad historical overview of the great civilizations of the Near East, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. The ancient Mediterranean is an incredibly fascinating region to study because of the diversity of the civilizations that emerged and developed in a relatively small geographical area. While each had its distinctive character, there was also a vigorous cultural exchange in the region and beyond that led to the assimilation, adaptation, or even rejection by one culture of the ideas and practices of another. In addition to learning about the origin, political and social organization, religion, and cultural interaction of the various Mediterranean and Near Eastern civilizations, the course is intended to help you develop your analytical skills with respect to historical research. This entails introducing you to the wide-ranging tools of the ancient historian – literary texts, documents, artifacts, coins, art, and architecture – and to give you experience in interpreting these primary sources and constructing historical arguments based upon reason and evidence.

Friendly Advice!

Be forewarned, however, that this won't be an easy process. It will require a lot of hard work and careful thought on your part. You will do more reading than you may be used to, and you will be encouraged to contribute your opinions and to feel free to ask questions in class. I want to know what you think. I do not want just a regurgitation of what I think! You will be expected to read the assigned material thoroughly and thoughtfully. Your grade will depend heavily on the effort you make to keep up with the assignments. Look at the syllabus and make sure that you are

willing to put in the time. Finally, make sure that you attend every lecture, as I will often expand on terms and concepts that are inadequately covered in the course readings.

Office Hours

These are meant for you, and we urge you to take advantage of them. We are usually happy to set up meetings outside the listed times - just send an email with CC319D as subject heading. Please feel free to come by and ask questions, or just to chat!

Class Etiquette

I expect you to be courteous and to treat each other and us as you would like to be treated. Turn off your cell phones or prepare to be embarrassed. Don't read newspapers, do your nails, weave baskets or chat during lectures. Arrive on time and don't leave until the end of class - coming and going in the middle is rude to the person lecturing and to your classmates.

Scholastic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty on any graded assignment will result in an **F** on that assignment. A second offense will result in an **F** in the class. Be warned on this! Scholastic dishonesty includes any kind of cheating or collaboration on tests, or submitting work that is not either your own or accurately attributed to its source. For more information, contact Student Judicial Services at 471-2841, or go to <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis.php>

Students with Special Needs

The University of Texas at Austin provides, upon request, appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259 or go to <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

Religious Holidays

If you need to miss a class or other required class activity for the observance of a religious holiday, you must notify me at least 14 days in advance so we can make alternative arrangements for your absence. Go to http://www.utexas.edu/provost/policies/religious_holidays

Important Dates

- August 31 Last day of the official add/drop period; after this date, changes in registration require the approval of the department chair and usually the student's dean.
- September 11 Last day to drop a class for a possible refund.
- September 23 Last day to drop a class without a possible academic penalty.
- October 21 Last day an undergraduate student may, with the dean's approval, withdraw from the University or drop a class except for urgent and substantiated, nonacademic reasons.
Last day a student may change registration in a class to or from the pass/fail or credit/no credit basis.

Grades

Grades will be determined as follows:

20% Discussion Sections

10% Paper (Due: Friday, December 4)

35% Midterm (Monday, October 19)
35% Final (Friday, December 11)

A= 93-100; A- 90-92; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B- 80-82; C+ 77-79; C 73-76; C- 70-72; D+ 67-69; D 63-66; D- 60-62; F 59 and below.

To earn credit for the course on a CR/F basis you must make at least a C. Half points will be rounded up; fractions less than half will be rounded down.

There will be no curve. If 50% of you score over 93, 50% of you will get an A. If nobody does, nobody will. This is final. Grades are non-negotiable and will not be changed unless there has been an error in the calculation.

Except in the case of a demonstrated emergency or illness (official documentation will be required), students may not take the midterm or final either before or after the scheduled time and date. These students will be allowed to make up that test. Otherwise, the student receives a 'zero' for that test. No exceptions!

Papers handed in after December 4 will be accepted but will incur a penalty of one whole letter grade per day.

Schedule

(I reserve the right to make modifications over the course of this semester, with fair notice)

- Week 1** August 26 (W): Introduction
NO DISCUSSION
- Week 2** August 31 (M): Mesopotamia and Civilization (*AW* 1-6; *HC* 8-13, 18-25)
September 2 (W): Sumer and Hammurabi (*AW* 6-16, 26-30; *HC* 26-33)
Discussion #1: Source Analysis
- Week 3** September 7 (M): LABOR DAY: NO CLASS
September 9 (W): Egypt: Old and Middle Kingdoms (*AW* 16-25; *HC* 54-63)
Discussion #2: Egyptian Wisdom Literature
- Week 4** September 14 (M): New Kingdom Egypt and Hatti (*AW* 30-40; *HC* 36-7, 64-5)
September 16 (W): Israel and Assyria (*AW* 41-52, 58-66; *HC* 42-7)
Discussion #3: Assyrian Campaigns in Palestine and Lebanon
- Week 5** September 21 (M): Persia (*AW* 52-8; *HC* 50-1)
September 23 (W): The emergence of Greek Civilization (*AW* 67-83; *HC* 98-101)
Discussion #4: Hesiod's *Theogony*
- Week 6** September 28 (M): Archaic Greece: Sparta and Athens (*AW* 83-102; *HC* 102-5)
September 30 (W): The Persian Wars (*AW* 103-8)
Discussion #5: Aeschylus' *Persians*

- Week 7** October 5 (M): The Athenian Empire and the Peloponnesian War (*AW* 108-16)
October 7 (W): Athenian Democracy (*AW* 138-55)
Discussion #6: Thucydides' *History*
- Week 8** October 12 (M): The Culture of Classical Athens (*AW* 120-38)
October 14 (W): Greece in the Fourth Century B.C. (*AW* 116-9, 156-9)
Discussion #7: Aristophanes' *Clouds*
- Week 9** October 19 (M): MIDTERM
October 21 (W): Alexander the Great (*AW* 159-64; *HC* 52-3)
Discussion #8: Plutarch's *Life of Alexander*
- Week 10** October 26 (M): The Hellenistic World (*AW* 165-93)
October 28 (M): Early Rome (*AW* 194-210; *HC* 108-9)
Discussion #9: Livy's *History of Rome*
- Week 11** November 2 (M): Building of an Empire (*AW* 211-26)
November 4 (W): Society and State (*AW* 226-40)
Discussion #10: Slavery in Rome
- Week 12** November 9 (M): Transformation of the Republic (*AW* 241-53)
November 11 (W): Fall of the Republic (*AW* 253-67)
Discussion #11: Sallust's *Conspiracy of Catiline*
- Week 13** November 16 (M): From Augustus to Severus Alexander (*AW* 268-81)
November 18 (W): The *Pax Romana* (*AW* 282-308)
Discussion #12: Augustus' *Res Gestae* and Tacitus' *Annals*
- Week 14** November 23 (M): Crisis and Continuity (*AW* 309-24)
November 25 (W): THANKSGIVING: NO CLASS
NO DISCUSSION
- Week 15** November 30 (M): The Transformed Mediterranean (*AW* 325-47)
December 2 (W): Review for Final
Discussion #13: Christianity in the Roman Empire

FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 11, 2-5:00pm