

Ancient Cities (CLAR 120), Fall 2013
Monday & Wednesday, 7:30-8:45pm, Murphey Hall #204



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Office: Murphey #114
Office Hours: M/W, 7:00-7:30pm

Ancient Cities is an introductory archaeology survey course covering material culture and urban life from its inception (nearly 15,000 years ago) to late antiquity (5th-7th centuries CE). Covering cities in the Near East (Mesopotamia, Asia Minor and the Levant), Egypt, Greece and Italy, this course focuses on the archaeological evidence available for reconstructing ancient civilizations, cities and culture. The student should, by the end of this course, understand: how urbanization developed in the ancient world, and how it was manifested in diverse geographical regions; the major features of the areas and states covered, including the major architectural and artistic features characterizing a particular city; political, social, economic and cultural trends as displayed through archaeological remains. We will especially focus on cultivating the ability to critically analyze the art, architecture and other material culture presented in class; a portion of each class session will be spent exposing the students to archaeological questions and problems, and encouraging them to use material culture to answer larger questions about the development of cities and cultures in the ancient world.

Required Texts (available in Student Stores)

- Gates (Gates, on schedule), *Ancient Cities: The Archaeology of Urban life in the Ancient Near East, Egypt, Greece and Rome*. (2nd Edition)¹
- Additional assigned reading, posted to Sakai (Sakai, on schedule)

¹ Please note that there have been several substantive changes between the first and second editions of this book; if you do end up purchasing the 1st edition, either through Amazon or from a friend, be aware that page numbers are different between the two versions, and that additional material is included in the second edition)

Course Requirements

Short Assignment #1	15%
Short Assignment #2	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Quizzes (Best 4 out of 5)	15%

Exam Schedule

Midterm Exam	October 14
Final Exam	TBA

Quizzes (Best 4 of 5)—40 points, 15% of your final grade

Five random pop quizzes given over the course of the semester during the first five minutes of class. You will be asked to write a short (2 paragraph) response to a prompt based on the previous night's reading.

No make-up quizzes will be allowed. Your lowest pop quiz grade will be dropped.

Short Assignment #1—25 points, 15% of your final grade

Short assignment #1, due **Wednesday, September 11**, is a 3-4 page analytical paper. Taking a cue from David Macauley's 1979 archaeological satire, *The Motel of the Mysteries*, you will be asked to analyze a Starbucks or McDonalds as an archaeologist in 4000 CE. The goal of the assignment is to get you to think critically about how we interpret the physical remains of the past and about the problems inherent in analyzing objects without understanding the socio-historical context of a civilization. For a fuller description of this assignment, see the handout "Future Archaeology Assignment" on Sakai.

Short Assignment #2—50 points, 20% of your final grade

Short assignment #2, due **Monday, November 25**, is a 10-minute podcast on a key aspect of Roman cities (completed alone or with a partner). See the assignment sheet on Sakai.

Midterm Exam—100 points, 25% of your final grade

The midterm exam will be held in-class on **Monday, October 14** during class. The format of the midterm exam is as follows: image analysis, term identifications and one short essay. Please bring a blue book, and some sort of writing instrument.

Final Exam—100 points, 25% of your final grade

The final exam will be held on the exam day assigned by the university's registrar (**TBA**). It will be a traditional test, completed in class without access to lecture notes or your textbook. The exam will be divided into three parts: image analysis, term identifications and two essays. The final exam will largely **NOT** be cumulative, and parts I & II will cover the material from the midterm to the last day of the class; the essay, however, **WILL** be cumulative, and so it may be necessary for you to review the major themes/sites/civilizations from the first half of the course in preparation for the final. Please bring a blue book, as well as a pen (or pencil) to the final exam.

You can prepare for this exam by diligently taking notes and attending class, by engaging in class discussion and by making every effort to participate in class activities.

Class Etiquette

We're all adults, so this should go without saying: be respectful to those around you. Turn off your cell phones, pry yourself away from gchat/facebook/pinterest/amazon/Netflix and come to class on time, be prepared and pay attention. Per university policy we are not allowed food and beverages (except for water) in the classroom. Please also be respectful and professional when addressing other students and the instructor. This is especially important when writing emails! Also, be aware that I will not be checking my email between 9pm-7am; expect responses to inquiries after those times.

Honor Code

As in all courses here at UNC, you are bound by the University's student-administered honor code. If you have any questions about the honor code and your responsibilities under it, please consult the Dean of Students or honor.unc.edu. Please note that the honor code governs your behavior and conduct in class and on all assignments—plagiarism of any kind (purposeful or accidental) will not be permitted. If you have any questions about plagiarism please consult your instructor.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 21: Introduction to archaeology; what is a city?

Reading: Gates Introduction (pp. 1-10)

Class Activity: What is a city? (please bring laptop computers)

Monday, August 26: The Neolithic and the Agricultural Revolution

Reading: Gates Ch. 1 (pp. 13-29); "Origins of Domestic Cattle" mini-article from *Archaeology Magazine* July/August 2012 (Sakai), Banning 2010 Abstract (Link on Sakai)

Class Activity: The origins of agriculture and communal living

Wednesday, August 28: Early Cities in Mesopotamia

Reading: Gates Ch. 2 (30-51)

Class Activity: what do cities need?

Monday, September 2: NO CLASS—LABOR DAY

Wednesday, September 4: Early Cities in Mesopotamia II

Reading: Gates Ch. 3 (pp. 52-65—skip the Kassites)

Monday, September 9: Towards Egyptian Cities

Reading: Gates Ch. 5 (pp. 78-97; skim pp. 96-97), Ch. 6 (pp. 98-117)

Wednesday, September 11: Minoans

DUE: Short Assignment #1

Reading: Gates, Ch. 7 (118-128 ONLY); "The Birth of Bureaucracy," from *Archaeology Magazine* July/August 2012, pp. 33-39 (Sakai)

Class Activity: who were the Minoans?

Monday, September 16: Bronze Age Cities (Mycenaeans and Hittites)

Reading: Gates Ch. 7 (pp.129-137); Gates Ch. 8 (pp. 138-152)

Wednesday, September 18: Geometric Greece

Reading: Gates Ch. 12 (pp. 205-218)

Monday, September 23: Geometric and Archaic Athens

Reading: Gates Ch. 13 (pp. 219-227)

Wednesday, September 25: The Archaic Agora & Acropolis

Reading: Gates Ch. 14 (pp. 228-237)

Monday, September 30: Classical Athens

Reading: Gates Ch. 16 (pp. 252-268); “Athens Murder Court” mini-article from *Archaeology Magazine* July/August 2012

Wednesday, October 2: Classical Athens: The Acropolis

PODCAST TOPIC SELECTION

Reading: Review Gates Ch. 16; Athenian myths PDF (Sakai)

Monday, October 7: Royal Hellenistic Cities and Tombs

Reading: Gates Ch.17 (pp. 269-270, 282-285), Ch. 18 (pp.286-287, 289-299) → Historical Introduction, sections on Pergamon and Alexandria)

Wednesday, October 9: Hellenistic Cities: Delos; Midterm Review

Reading: Gates Ch. 18 (pp. 299-303)

Monday, October 14: MIDTERM EXAM

Wednesday, October 16: NO CLASS—FALL BREAK

Monday, October 21: CLASS CANCELED

PODCAST LIST OF 5 SOURCES DUE

Reading: Gates Ch. 19 (pp. 317-327)

Wednesday, October 23: Etruscans

Reading: Gates Ch. 19 (pp. 317-327)

Monday, October 28: Early Rome

PODCAST 2 SENTENCE SUMMARY DUE

Reading: Gates Ch. 20 (pp. 328-331), “Early Rome” PDF (Sakai)

Wednesday, October 30: Rome Under the Republic

Reading: Gates Ch. 20 (pp. 331-347)

Monday, November 4: Augustan Rome

Reading: Gates Ch. 21 (pp. 348-355), Favro 2005 “Making Rome a World City”, pp. 234-263 (Sakai)

Class Activity: Digital Augustan Rome Assignments (please bring laptop computers)

Wednesday, November 6: Augustan Rome

Reading: Gates Ch. 22 (pp. 356-366 ONLY)

Monday, November 11: Augustan Rome; begin Pompeii

PODCAST—1 PARAGRAPH ON YOUR PROGRESS, WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

Reading: Gates Ch. 22 (pp. 367-370 ONLY)

Wednesday, November 13: Pompeii, Ostia

Reading: Gates Ch. 22 (pp. 367-370 ONLY)

Class Activity: Ostia Antica project (please bring laptop computers)

Monday, November 18: Rome and the Emperors (Julio-Claudians & Flavians)

Reading: Gates Ch. 23 (pp. 371-392), Zanker 2010 “By the Emperor, for the People” pp. 45-87 (Sakai)

Wednesday, November 20: Understanding Communities and Cultures: Roman Tombs

DUE (OPTIONAL): PODCAST (RECORDED PODCAST, TRANSCRIPT, BIBLIOGRAPHY)

Reading: “Ch. 1: Learning From the Dead,” by Mike Parker Pearson (in *The Archaeology of Death and Burial*, 1999), pp.1-20 (Sakai)

Monday, November 25: Rome in the Provinces (the West and North Africa)

Reading: Gates Ch.24; “London 2012: Archaeology and the Olympics” from *Archaeology Magazine* July/August 2012, pp. 24-27 (Sakai)

Class Activity: Romanization Debate

Wednesday, November 27: NO CLASS—THANKSGIVING BREAK

Monday, December 2: Rome in the Provinces (the East)

DUE: PODCAST (RECORDED PODCAST, TRANSCRIPT, BIBLIOGRAPHY)

Reading: Gates Ch.24

Class Activity: what does it mean to be Roman?

Wednesday, December 4: Rome and the Emperors (the Adopted Emperors and the Severans)

LAST DAY OF CLASSES

Reading: Gates Ch. 23 (pp. 371-392) (Bring laptop computers)

FINAL EXAM: 3-HOUR TIMED EXAM AVAILABLE ONLINE VIA SAKAI WEBSITE DECEMBER 6, 12:01 AM-DECEMBER 7, 11:59 PM. NO MAKE-UPS WILL BE ALLOWED.