

ANTH 161

College of Social Science

Department of Anthropology

Old World Civilizations

Fall 2021

Section 1

Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Marco Meniketti, RPA
Office Location:	465 Clark Hall
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Email:	marco.meniketti@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Mon/Tues 11:00-12:30 or by appt.
Class Days/Time:	M/W 12:30-1:45
Classroom:	Synchronous on-line

Course Web pages:

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas web pages created for this course. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas to learn any updates.

This course is designed to fall under the Department's thematic umbrellas; Human Adaptability and Material Culture, and Knowledge in Action.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the archaeology of ancient civilizations of Europe, Mesopotamia, the Near Eastern and Mediterranean realms. The course will examine in-depth the rise of complex states and kingdoms beginning with the late Neolithic through to the early Roman period.

Through topical research and archaeological reports students will examine the evidence for cultural contact, trade, and political interaction among ancient civilizations that set the foundations cultural traditions experienced to this day. The course has been constructed around Content Units having specific emphases on particular cultures and topics. Students should anticipate and schedule four to six hours weekly for readings and related assignments in

support of the learning objectives. The course combines lecture and group discussion with research activities.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- Students will demonstrate proficiency in the geography of the ancient world and be able to articulate the relationship between environment, geography, and the variable rise of civilizations.
- Students will critically assess the achievements, institutions, and long term impact of cultural interactions in the past as they pertain to the modern world.
- Students will develop proficient topical research skills using library, internet, and archaeological sources.
- Students will recognize, identify and describe key cultural icons of ancient civilizations.
- Students will enumerate key criteria for State level social organization and assess these criteria as they relate to specific ancient civilizations.

Course Objectives: Broadly

- Understanding of the important maritime links that connected ancient empires through trade.
- Recognition of technological, engineering, and artistic achievements in the ancient world.
- Knowledge of environmental interactions and outcomes in the ancient world.
- Comprehensive knowledge of the development and cultural achievements of several ancient civilizations in Europe, Asia, Mediterranean, and Mesopotamian regions.
- Knowledge of the chronological sequence and interactions of ancient civilizations.

Required Texts/Readings

Texts: Required

Barry Cunliffe. 2008. Europe Between the Oceans. Yale University Press, New Haven.

Ralph Mathisen. 2012. Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations. 2012. Oxford University Press, New York.

Recommended

Haywood, John. 2005. Historical Atlas of Ancient Civilizations. Penguin Books, UK.

Additional required readings will be made available on Canvas in pdf format

It is highly recommended that students acquire a writing manual or use on-line tutorials. The expectation is that students enrolled in this course have already completed the 100W requirement.

Library Liaison for Anthropology

Silkie Higgins Martin Luther King Library

silkie.higgins @sjsu.edu

CLO Competency	Assessment	Competency measures
Students will demonstrate proficiency in identifying the geography of the ancient old world and be able to describe the relationship between environment, geography, and the rise of civilizations.	Examination of map skills. Inclusion of geographic information in Topical Paper. Examination questions related to the environmental issues. Correct data presented in Activity A.	Correct exam answers. Accurate information in Topical Paper. 80% or higher reflects competence.
Students will be recognize and critically assess the achievements and the long term impact of interactions in the past as they pertain to the modern world.	Examination objective questions and constructed answer short essays listing achievements. Identification of interactions and relating these to modern systems.	Correct exam answers. 80% or higher reflects competence.

Students will be proficient with topical research skills using a combination of library, internet, and archaeological sources.	Topical research paper using standard research methods. Application of methods to locate source material. Monitored through drafts and bibliographies.	Correct reference and citation standards applied. Quality of sources meet academic rigor. No more than three errors reflects basic mastery.
Students will recognize, identify and describe key cultural icons of ancient civilizations.	Visual exam and examination questions. Activity A and B relevancy. Inclusion of key icons in final products of Activity A and B.	Correct exam answers. 80% or higher reflects competence.
Students will enumerate the key criteria for State level social organization and critically assess these criteria from an anthropological perspective as they pertain to various ancient civilizations.	Examination objective questions. Short answer critical assessment essays supported through citation of appropriate archaeological evidence.	Correct exam answers. 80% or higher reflects competence.

Course Requirements and Assignments

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Lectures are an important aspect of instruction. Considerable material not covered in the readings or text, videos, and supplementary information are provided during lectures which cannot adequately be made up. It is therefore essential that students make every effort to attend class for a more comprehensive learning experience. Attendance is not graded; however, we conduct hands-on group activities which cannot be made up that count in the student’s overall participation grade.

Final Examination or Evaluation

There will be a Final Exam that examines geographical, temporal, and cultural knowledge of the civilizations covered during the semester. The exam will be composed of multiple choice, map, and essay questions.

[University policy S17-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf>) which states that “Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

Assessments:

There will two section exams and a final exam. Each exam addresses material from individual thematic units. Conceptual understanding and application of knowledge is the principal objective of the course and will be targeted by assessment. Exams are short answer oriented. Objective questions are included to assess core content knowledge.

Topical papers. Two focused research papers are designed to elicit critical thinking relating to specific ancient civilizations. Topics are drawn from the readings and will address course themes from an archaeological perspective. Students are expected to use library resources from archaeological journals in completing their project and access archaeological source. Expectation of a minimum 1200 words for each. Topical papers must be based on archaeological site reports and published peer reviewed articles related to specific civilizations. (Archaeological Research 50%, Referencing/citations 25%, Content 25%)

Failure to take the final exam will result in a failing grade regardless of other completed work.

Assessments Rubric:

2 Section Exam 75 pts each (150 pts 42.5%)
2 Research papers 50 pts each (100 pts 28.5%)
Learning Activity 25 pts 7.5%)

Final Exam 75 pts 21.5%)
Total 350 pts

Grade	Points	Percentage
A plus	339 to 350	97 to 100%
A	325 to 338	93 to 96%
A minus	315 to 324	90 to 92%
B plus	301 to 314	86 to 89 %
B	287 to 300	82 to 85%
B minus	269 to 286	77 to 81%
C plus	252 to 268	72 to 76%
C	241 to 251	69 to 71%
C minus	227 to 240	65 to 68%
D	210 to 226	60 to 64%
F	Less than 210	Less than 60%

Policies:

- Students are encouraged to ask questions before, during, and after class and to take full advantage of scheduled office hours or to make appointments to discuss topics of interest.
- The instructor will make every reasonable effort to provide timely and constructive feedback to students concerning performance throughout the semester.
- The instructor will be available through regular office hours, through email, and by appointment.
- Students should expect to actively participate individually, through group work, class discussions, and in Q&A sessions.
- Missed exams may be made-up only if a student provides appropriate documentation for legitimate cause for missing scheduled exam dates (funeral, medical emergency, family crisis; *per university policy*). *Absolutely no make-up will be given for reasons of course overloads, or personal time. Make-up exams will be by scheduled appointment in my office and will include oral discussion section.*
*A word about late assignments: NO. Late research projects **will not** be accepted.* Late assignments will be reduced by 20% per week or fraction. No assignments will be accepted after last day of classes or during Finals week.
- Exam dates will not be altered. ***If you have a conflict with a scheduled examination date please make arrangements in advance. The sooner the better. Exams are given a wide window for completion.***
- The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus content as deemed necessary to facilitate the highest achievement and performance of the class or to introduce new elements.
- To receive a grade for this course you must complete and submit at least half of the assignments.
- Extra credit assignments will not be provided for as a substitute for regular assignments. There is enough to do already.*
- Academic integrity and ethics will be upheld at all times.** Plagiarism is intellectually dishonest and a form of theft. It will not be tolerated. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade in the specific assignment or the course at instructors' discretion.
- All written projects should conform to the citation standards of American Antiquity as designed by the Society for American Archaeology or Chicago Manual Style. Examples will be provided on Canvas for reference.
- Students are expected to attend class. Participation is a vital element in a social science environment and attendance is foundational to academic success. Attendance will be monitored informally.
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University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

Departmental Goals _____

Learn about the goals of the anthropology department and how it can benefit your education. Goals

<http://www.sjsu.edu/anthropology/departmentinfo/goals/index.html>

University Policies _____

Here are some of the basic university policies that students must follow.

Dropping and Adding

Find the procedures and deadlines for adding and dropping classes.

[Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html)

<http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>.

Add/drop deadline

http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/

[Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/)

<http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor

Material

All students must obtain the instructor's permission if they wish to record lectures or distribute materials from the class.

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf) <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>

Academic integrity

Learn about the importance of academic honesty and the consequences if it is violated.

[University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>

[Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

Here are guidelines to request any course adaptations or accommodations you might need.

[Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf

[Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec>

Resources _____

The university provides resources that can help you succeed academically. Just look here.

[Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/>

[Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu>

[Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>

[Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>

ANTH161 / Old World Civilizations Fall 2021 Course Schedule

List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available. The dates given for readings are for when you should have completed the readings.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 19	University First day of instruction We begin Monday Aug 23 Read: Cunliffe Chap 1-2 before next week
2	Aug 25	Concept: The <i>longue duree</i> . Geography of the ancient world. Land between oceans concept. Maritime connections Syllabus quiz on Canvas. Required--Ungraded
2	Aug 25	The first farmers. Impact of agriculture on environment. Rise of complex civilizations in the Middle East. Read: Cunliffe Chp 3-4; Mathisen Chp1
3	Aug 30	Maritime connections. Maritime archaeology. New discoveries. How to do an archaeological research paper for this course. Read: Cunliffe Chp 5
3	Sept 1	Archaeological Landscapes: First Cities 5000 BCE to 3000 BCE Read Cunliffe Chp 6; Mathisen Chp 2
4	Sept 6	Labor Day No Class
4	Sept 8	Examining the archaeology of ancient landscapes. Meanings of Landscape Beyond the realm of cities.
5	Sept 13	The Bronze Age Across Eastern Europe and the Near East 3000 BCE -1000 BCE Read: Mathisen Chapter 2
5	Sept 15	Interaction during the Bronze Age in Europe and Mediterranean World Cycladic zone, Minoans
6	Sept 20	<u>Special Topics</u> : Special Topics: Ancient technologies to build civilization. Water management
6	Sept 22	Troy, Mycenae to the Greek Dark Ages Examining the archaeology of the Bronze Age: Site studies Read: pdf articles on canvas Read: Cunliffe Chp 7
7	Sept 27	Environmental zones. Euro Zones Read: Cunliffe Chp 8 Trade Linking civilizations. Evidence from ancient shipwrecks
7	Sept 29	Mediterranean maritime connections continued. Phoenicians and Egyptians Section Exam 1

8	Oct 4	Iron. Sudden and Lasting Change 800-500BCE Read; Cunliffe Chp 9 Western Celtic realms and interactions Read: pdf on canvas
8	Oct 6	<u>Special Topics: Ancient medicine and Health</u> Due: Topical Paper 1 Due
9	Oct 11	Mediterranean World After 500 BC Read: Cunliffe Chp 10 Examining the archaeology
9	Oct 13	Empires before Rome. Assyrians, Persians Read: pdf articles
10	Oct 18	Persia Read: Mathisen Chp 5 Examining the archaeology
10	Oct 20	The Age of Alexander Read Mathisen Chp 7
11	Oct 25	<u>Special Topics: Hair, apparel, and style.</u>
11	Oct 27	Understanding connections Ancient Trade Networks to the east Section Exam 2
12	Nov 1	Civilizations of the Indus Valley Read: Pdf Harappan Civilization
12	Nov 3	Archaeology of Indus economy Read: pdf Indus Valley
13	Nov 8	Early Dynasties of China Read: pdf on canvas
13	Nov 10	China Consolidation Read: online articles
14	Nov 15	Buffer.
14	Nov 17	Nordic cultures. Read: Cunliffe Chp 11 pgs 394-400; Read: pdf articles.
15	Nov 22	Nordic expansion Read: Cunliffe chp 12 pgs 434-444.
15	Nov 24	University designated Holiday Travel Day. No Class
16	Nov 29	Due: Topical Paper 2 Due <u>Special Topics: Ancient shipbuilding. Comparative study.</u>
16	Dec 1	Modern controversy: national patrimony and curation; The Museum Question. The antiquity trade; blackmarket in cultural heritage.
17	Dec 6	Wrap up. The connected world.

Final Exam Week		Final Exam On-line Dec 7-10 TBA

