

ANTHROPOLOGY 6198:005  
MEDITERRANEAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Spring 2003  
USF - Tampa

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This is a graduate seminar in Mediterranean archaeology, spanning prehistory and the early historical period in all countries which border on the Mediterranean Sea (clockwise: Spain, France, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Yugoslavia, Albania, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Malta). The purpose of the course is to critically examine a number of themes and topics (e.g. subsistence adaptations, island settlement, trade, metallurgy and other technologies, rise of complex societies, early states, writing, religion and mortuary practices, women in ancient society), emphasizing the similarities and differences within areas of the Mediterranean. In addition to common readings and discussion on the entire Mediterranean region, students will choose a particular geographic area to focus their individual readings and study.

### **PREREQUISITES**

Graduate standing in anthropology, history or related discipline, or consent of the instructor. A working knowledge of archaeology and archaeological methods is expected (e.g. from ANT 3101); prior coursework, reading or experience in Mediterranean history or archaeology is also useful.

### **READINGS**

Each week there will be some common background readings required of all students. Individual students will also be assigned readings on their particular region/topic which they will be responsible for summarizing and presenting to the class. It is critically important that students learn to locate relevant articles and acquire copies in time for their presentations.

## **GRADES**

Grades will be based on weekly presentations and assignments (50%), a significant term paper (35%); a short presentation of your term paper (5%); and class participation (10%). All students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings, and to participate in discussion. Course letter grades will be based on a standardized score with “A+” awarded for 97-100; “A” awarded for 94-96; “A-” for 90-93; “B+” for 87-89; “B” for 84-86, “B-” for 80-83; “C+” for 77-79; “C” for 74-76; “C-” for 70-73; “D+” for 67-69, “D” for 64-66; and “D-” for 60-63.

## **OTHER POLICIES**

This is a small graduate course, and your regular attendance and participation is expected. Students who anticipate being absent from class due to observation of a major religious observance must provide advance written notice of the date(s) to the instructor. Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, will be punished according to University Guidelines, and may result in the receipt of an “F” on a paper (for plagiarism), an “F” in the course, suspension or expulsion from the University. Notes or tapes are permitted for purposes of sale only with the express written consent of the instructor.

## **OPTIONAL**

Excursions to investigate modern Mediterranean architecture (e.g. Tarpon Springs, Ybor City), cuisines (food and beverages) and social life will be organized on a regular basis throughout the semester. Student participation is entirely optional.

## Assignments

### *General Information*

The purpose of these assignments is for each student to prepare reference materials on their region which will be of great use for the course research paper and future work in this area, and useful for other students in the class. Make sure to put your name and date on each handout circulated in class.

### *Geography* (due **January 13**)

Prepare presentation on geographic setting of your assigned region. Should include discussion of geography, topography, environment and climate, resources (stone, metal, etc.). Distribute map(s) with important sites for each major chronological period (paleolithic, neolithic, bronze age, iron age).

### *Chronology*

See separate sheet. Two parts, **first part due January 13, second part due January 27.**

### *Bibliography* (due **February 10**)

Using library and other databases, assemble a comprehensive bibliography (books and articles) for the time period of your interest, and obtain copies (by ILL if necessary) of items necessary for later presentations in the course, and your research paper. Be consistent in your use of an appropriate bibliographic format.

### *Website searches* (Due **February 24**)

Search for and assemble an annotated list of useful websites on your region. If possible, focus on sites created by government agencies, educational institutions and museums, and private organizations, rather than individuals. Be sure to mention what is included at each site, whether it is up-to-date, the audience it is directed at, etc.

### *Museums and other collections* (due **March 3**)

Assemble an annotated list of the museums or other institutions in your region and their collections, as well as museums in other countries which have significant collections from your region (e.g. the British Museum).

### *Research Paper* (proposal due **March 17**; outline due **March 31**; paper due **April 28**)

See separate sheet for details. Major paper (at least 20 pp. double-spaced text, plus bibliography, illustrations, etc.) on a narrow archaeological subject within your region.

## RESEARCH PAPER

A term paper on a topic of your choice is worth 35% of your course grade. The topic must be approved in advance, and the format of the paper must follow the guidelines below. **Papers are due on April 28 by 5:00 pm.** Your grade will be based on the thoroughness of your research; the clarity and organization of the subject matter in your paper; and adherence to the format guidelines.

1. Choose a topic relevant to Mediterranean archaeology. The subject should be narrowly-focused on a thematic or problem-oriented issue as much as possible, rather than a broad overview of the archaeological evidence for a particular cultural period. Some examples: Biogeography and the colonization of the Mediterranean islands; the role of women in Etruscan society; core-periphery relationships with state-level societies.
2. Determine that sufficient published material exists to write a paper on this subject (see below).
3. Submit a one-page proposal which identifies the subject of your paper, and lists the bibliographic references you have found so far. **The proposal is due March 17.** I am available at any time beforehand to assist you come up with a topic; planning ahead is necessary in case you need to obtain materials by inter-library loan.
4. After your topic is approved, you should submit a detailed outline of what you will cover in your paper. **The outline is due March 31.** Go ahead and write your paper. Graduate papers should be about 5000-7500 words in length, however it is quality not quantity which will be graded. Please use 12-point type, 1-inch margins, and number your pages.
5. Papers must include the latest discoveries and research questions on the subject, cite the most well-known experts on the topic, and relate any areas of debate or controversy. The paper should be organized into the following sections:
  - Introduction. A brief statement of the content of your paper, why it is of archaeological or anthropological interest/importance, etc.
  - Geographic and Chronological Background. Presentation in moderate detail of the time and place relevant to your topic.
  - Archaeological Evidence. Organized presentation of the archaeological evidence, specifically the stratigraphic context, association, dating, or laboratory analysis of the finds.
  - Other Evidence. Stylistic comparisons, historic writings, ethnographic analogies, etc.
  - Discussion. In your own words, a critical evaluation of the evidence and its interpretation.
  - Conclusion. In your own words, a summary of the important evidence (or lack thereof) and the most plausible interpretation(s).
  - References. You must consult (and cite in your text) at least 20 references on your subject. The references must include at least 10 journal articles, in addition to any books and other scholarly publications. Websites are appropriate only if they include primary research data or bibliographic references (e.g. the home page for an excavation project). References must be cited properly in the text, with the full bibliographic reference at the end of your paper (in alphabetical order), using a scholarly format such as that used in the journal *Antiquity*. Look at a recent issue to see how it's done.
6. Spell-check, grammar-check, and proofread your paper. Sloppy presentation makes the contents of your paper suspect as well. Appropriate illustrations (relevant maps, tables, etc.) are expected and may be inserted in the text or bunched at the end.
7. I am available throughout the semester to consult with you on your term paper; I will even read and comment on a draft of your paper if you get it to me by April 11.

## Class Schedule

- Jan. 8 Confirm geographic areas. **Quiz.** Chronological and bibliographical research instruction.
- Jan. 13 Geography and Environment; Regional Chronology and Culture Sequence.  
Horden, P. & N. Purcell. 2000. *The Corrupting Sea: A Study of Mediterranean History*.  
Oxford: Blackwell. See twin reviews in *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 13.2  
(2000): 226-236.
- Jan. 20 *No class. Martin Luther King Day*
- Jan. 27 The First Mediterranean Peoples  
**Radiocarbon exercise due**
- Feb. 3 Post-Glacial Subsistence Adaptations
- Feb. 10 Seafaring and Island Settlement
- Feb. 17 Trade and Exchange
- Feb. 24 Ancient Technologies  
**Website exercise due**
- Mar. 3 Religion and Mortuary Practices  
**Museum exercise due**
- Mar. 10 *No class. Spring Break*
- Mar. 17 Rise of Complex Societies  
**Research paper proposal due**
- Mar. 24 Early States
- Mar. 31 After the Romans  
**Outline due**
- April 7 Current Issues in Mediterranean Archaeology
- April 14 *No class (Italian Archaeology Conference, Groningen)*
- April 21 Presentations
- April 28 **Research Papers due**