Undergraduate courses abstracts | Winter semester 2024-2025 Department of History & Archaeology, University of Crete

AIΣA 171: Ethnicity and identity in the Hellenistic Period (Lecture course) | Assistant Professor Katerina Panagopoulou

The Achaemenid kingdom's annexation to the Macedonian realm by Alexander the Great in 324 BC brought under the Macedonian rule a broad range of nations within the expanded Macedonian kingdom. Even though Alexander's administrative goals towards the convergence between Greek/Macedonian and Persian culture were not ultimately followed through by the Diadochoi and the Epigonoi, Hellenistic states had achieved some uniformity by the conquest of Egypt by Octavian, in 31 BC. Moving populations (mercenaries, traders, artists, intellectuals, craftsmen, fugitives, slaves) enhanced the integration among ethnic groups, complicating thus the longer-term process towards the unification of the *oikoumene*.

This course seeks to define first the meaning of terms such as "national identity", "ethnic group", "nationality", "identity". A systematic overview of the available evidence concerning each Hellenistic state will prompt us to understand i.e. how people realized that they belonged to a national group; how national groups conceived their differentiation from their counterparts; how they were sustained and gradually transformed, and ultimately how they negotiated with Hellenistic royal administrative systems; finally, in which kingdoms and under which circumstances national revolts or violent disruptions with central authorities took place, and what their outcome was.

Recommended literature

*Χανιώτης, Α., 2021, Η εποχή των κατακτήσεων (Ηράκλειο: Πανεπιστημιακές Εκδόσεις Κρήτης).

*Gehrke, H.-J. 2000., Ιστορία του Ελληνιστικού Κόσμου (Αθήνα: Μορφωτικό Ίδρυμα Εθνικής Τράπεζας).

*Erskine, A. (ed.) 2002, A Companion to the Hellenistic World (London: Blackwell).

Hobsbaum, Ε. 1994, Έθνη & Εθνικισμός (Αθήνα: Καρδαμίτσα).

Smith, A. 2000, Εθνική ταυτότητα (Αθήνα: Οδυσσέας).

Anderson, B. 1997, Φαντασιακές κοινότητες, Στοχασμοί για τη διάδοση του εθνικισμού (Αθήνα: Νεφέλη).

Gruen, E. 2006, «Greeks and non-Greeks», στο G.R.Bugh, The Cambridge Companion to the Hellenistic World (Cambridge: University Press) 295-314.

Jones, S. 1997, The Archaeology of Ethnicity (London: Routledge).

Bulloch, A., Gruen, E., Long, A. and Stewart, A. (edd.) 1993, Images and Ideologies. Self-definition in the Hellenistic World (Berkeley).

*Hall, J.M. 2002, Hellenicity: between ethnicity and culture (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).

Hall, J.M. 1997, Ethnic Identity in Greek Antiquity (Cambridge).

Vasunia, Phirose, «Hellenicity: between Ethnicity and Culture», Phoenix, 2005 59(1/2), 171-173.

Vlassopoulos, K. 2013, Greeks and Barbarians (Cambridge: University Press).

Chaniotis, A. 2002, «Foreign Soldiers-Native Girls? Constructing and Crossing Boundaries in Hellenistic Cities with Foreign Garrisons», in Chaniotis, A. – Ducrey, P. (edd.), Army and Power in the Ancient World (Stuttgart).

Férrary, J.-L. 1988, Philellénisme et impérialisme: aspects idéologiques de la conquête romaine du monde hellénistique, de la seconde guerre romaine à la guerre contre Mithridate (Rome).

AIΣA 337: Polybius the historian and his era (Seminar) | Assistant Professor Katerina Panagopoulou

The historian Polybius, originating in the Arkadian city Megalopolis, was born around the late third century BC and passed away at the age of eighty-two. Of the fourty books he wrote on the period between 218 and 146 BC, five have survived intact, along with the first section of the sixth and with fragments and summaries of the last thirty-four. His *Histories* aimed at showing Rome's preponderance over all earlier large-scale conquests and to describe the process of Rome's conquest of the Eastern Mediterranean. Apparently Polybius had realised that Rome's victories in the Carthaginian and in the Macedonian wars during the second half of the third century BC had paved the way towards the globalization of the *oikoumene* and the formation of the first empire in history.

A thorough study of the author's work, compared to contemporary literary, archaeological, epigraphic and numismatic testimonia, will enable us to delve into the historical

circumstances in which Polybius lived, not least into the role of the political powers which were in action in the Greek world (with an emphasis upon the Achaian League), and into the rapid growth of Roman power and its expansion to the East through to the decisive victory of the Romans over the Carthaginians and that over the Greeks in 146 BC. The nature of the Roman constitution (*res publica*) and of the Roman army are analysed, as they enabled a small city-state to develop and to establish systematically its imperialist expansion to the East.

Recommended literature

- Sacks, K. (1981), Polybius on the writing of History (California).
- •Champion, C. (2004), Cultural Politics in Polybius's Histories (Berkeley: University of California Press).
- •Cuypers, M., "Historiography, Rhetoric, and Science: Rethinking a Few Assumptions on Hellenistic Prose" στο: J.J. Clauss-M. Cuypers ($\epsilon \pi \iota \mu$.), A Companion to Hellenistic Literature, σελ. 317-336.
- •Dobson, M.J. (2008), The Army of the Roman Republic: the second century BC, Polybius and the camps at Numantia, Spain (Oxford, UK Oakville, XT: Oxbow/D. Brown Book Co.)
- Kagan, D. (1965), The Great Dialogue: History of Greek Political Thought from Homer to Polybius (History of Western Political Thought) (N.York: Free Press).
- Pédech, P (1964), La Méthode Historique de Polybe, Paris.
- •Marincola, J. (2007), A Companion to Greek and Roman Historiography (Malden, MA/Oxford : Blackwell).
- Gowing, A., "From Polybius to Dionysius: The Decline and Fall of Hellenistic Historiography" στο: J.J. Clauss, M. Cuypers (επιμ.), A Companion to Hellenistic Literature, pp. 384-394.
- Marincola, J. (2001), Greek Historians (Oxford: University Press)
- Walbank, F.W. (1970). A historical commentary on Polybius, τόμ. I-III, Oxford.
- Walbank, F.W. (2002). Polybius, Rome and the Hellenistic World. Essays and Reflections (Cambridge: University Press).
- Walbank, F. W. (1985), Selected Papers, Studies in Greek and Roman history and historiography (N.York: Cambridge University Press).

BIΣA 002: Peasants and masters: an introduction to the history of agrarian society in Byzantium (Lecture course) | Assistant Professor Demetrios Kyritses

-This is an introductory course for incoming students and is NOT available to Erasmus+ students.

BIΣA 354: Coins and seals as sources for Byzantine history (Seminar) | Assistant Professor Demetrios Kyritses

-Seminars require the active participation of students in class meetings, therefore they are not open to Erasmus+ students, unless they possess the necessary language skills in Greek. In the latter case, they are encouraged to contact the instructor directly.

IMXA 001: Introduction to European Medieval History: a toolkit for the Middle Ages (Lecture course) | Assistant Professor Nickiphoros Tsougarakis

This module aims to give a general overview of western medieval history and to introduce students to some of the basic concepts and key historiographical debates surrounding this period. The module focuses especially on the examination of certain religious, political and cultural developments that occurred during the long period known as the Middle Ages, such as the Christianisation of Europe; the development of relationship between Church and State; and the evolution of the political institutions of Europe. At the same time, through the discussion and analysis of primary sources in class, it aims to acquaint students with medieval mentalities and world views, which were, of course, very different from our own.

Though the Middle Ages were a very long period that shaped in many ways the world in which we live, it remains a period that is largely unknown and often misunderstood by the wider public. This module hopes to show that medieval history is a very exciting field of study and that the Middle Ages still affect us today in a variety of ways.

IMXA 343: The Middle Ages on Screen: Cinema and the uses of history (Seminar) | Assistant Professor Nickiphoros Tsougarakis

Since the birth of cinema, the history and mythology of the Middle Ages has inspired filmmakers. Studio and audience interest in the Middle Ages continues unabated to our day, with new 'medieval' productions reaching our screens every year (some of which prove to be extraordinarily popular). Though the primary purpose of those films is to entertain, their success and popularity means that they influence the way in which we -the audience-

perceive the past. Cinematic depictions of the past deserve, therefore, to be researched, as they are intimately connected to the public's understanding of history.

In this module we shall examine cinematic representations of thee Middle Ages, from different periods and different national film industries. Among other things, we will consider:

- How do different film industries and filmmakers treat the Middle Ages?
- Why do they choose to depict the Middle Ages in particular ways?
- What part do cinematic representations of history play in the development and shaping of national identities?
 - Can cinema contribute to a deeper understanding of history?
 - How should historians respond to 'historical' films?

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Critically analyse cinematic representations of history.
 - Analyse films, using appropriate theoretical approaches.
- Present a cogent argument on the matter of public perceptions of history and on the formation of national identities.
- Critically analyse the uses made of the European Middle Ages in modern popular culture, and the connection of such uses with particular political ideologies.
- Work to a particular brief and produce research conforming to acceptable academic standards.

IMXA 228: War, economy and society in the Middle Ages (Lecture course) | Associate Professor Eleni Sakellariou

The subject of the lecture course is war in the medieval period. The impact of war permeates many important areas of the medieval world. In this semester we will select and examine this impact in the social, economic and political-institutional spheres. We will trace how war became the exclusive prerogative of the aristocracy, how the figure of the mounted warrior came to dominate, and the processes, economic, political and social, that led to the loss of the monopoly of warfare for the aristocracy and the knightly class. We will also explore how war was linked to taxation and the reconstruction of state power. Issues such as war tactics, big medieval battles, weaponry etc. will also be of concern to us, insofar as they interacted with these three themes.

TOYA 109: An introduction to the history of the Ottoman Empire (Lecture course)

Associate Professor Antonis Anastasopoulos

Course summary

This course offers an overview of Ottoman history from the first historical mention of Osman, the founder of the Ottoman dynasty, in the early fourteenth century, until the establishment of the Turkish Republic in 1923. During classes we will not restrict ourselves to the presentation of the important political and military events that shaped Ottoman history, but we will also put emphasis on issues related to the structure, organization and institutions of the Ottoman state, while we will also examine issues related to society and economy in the Ottoman period. Furthermore, we will discuss historical sources that illuminate various aspects of Ottoman history. As an "Introduction", this course is highly recommended for first-year students.

Course structure

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: 14th century

Week 3: 15th century

Week 4: 16th century

Week 5: Ottoman institutions and state administration (Part I)

Week 6: Ottoman institutions and state administration (Part II)

Week 7: Ottoman institutions and state administration (Part III)

Week 8: 17th century

Week 9: 18th century

Week 10: 19th century (up to 1876)

Week 11: 1876-1923

Week 12: Ottoman culture

Week 13: Revision – general discussion

Recommended literature

Karen BARKEY, Empire of Difference: The Ottomans in Comparative Perspective,
 Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008

- Caroline FINKEL, Osman's Dream: The Story of the Ottoman Empire, 1300-1923, London: John Murray, 2005
- Douglas A. HOWARD, A History of the Ottoman Empire, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017
- Halil iNALCIK, *The Ottoman Empire: The Classical Age, 1300-1600*, trans. Norman Itzkowitz & Colin Imber, London, 1973
- Halil iNALCIK with Donald QUATAERT (eds), An Economic and Social History of the Ottoman Empire, 1300-1914, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994
- Donald QUATAERT, *The Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000
- Erik J. ZÜRCHER, *Turkey: A Modern History*, London: I.B. Tauris, 2004
- Suraiya FAROQHI, Approaching Ottoman History: An Introduction to the Sources, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999

TOYA 348: Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and his era (Seminar) | Associate Professor Antonis Anastasopoulos

Course description

This seminar focuses on Mustafa Kemal Atatürk (1881-1938), officer of the Ottoman army, then leader of the Turkish War of Independence and, finally, founder and first president of the Republic of Turkey. Students will be asked to critically examine various aspects of Atatürk's life, but also the way in which he has been portrayed and interpreted in literature. Students will also be required to approach Atatürk against the background of his era. Towards the end of the semester, a film about Atatürk will be screened and students will be required to discuss it. Student evaluation will be based on a combination of written and oral assignments.

Course structure

Week 1: Student selection – introduction to the course

Week 2: Historical context – biography of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk – allocation of essays

Weeks 3-10: Oral presentation of student essays

Week 11: Commenting on passages of "Nutuk" or other statements by Atatürk

Week 12: Film screening on Kemal Atatürk and discussion

Week 13: Revision – general discussion

Recommended literature

- M. şükrü HANiOĞLU, Atatürk: An Intellectual Biography, Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2011
- Alexandre JEVAKHOFF, Kemal Atatürk: les chemins de l'Occident, [Paris]:
 Tallandier, 1989
- Andrew MANGO, Atatürk: The Biography of the Founder of Modern Turkey, Woodstock, N.Y.: Overlook Press, 2002
- Vamik D. VOLKAN & Norman ITZKOWITZ, The Immortal Atatürk: A
 Psychobiography, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 198
- Erik J. ZÜRCHER, *Turkey: A Modern History*, London: I.B. Tauris, 2004
- Kemal ATATÜRK, Nutuk, Ankara: Kültür Bakanlığı, 1995

ΠΑΡΑ 201: The Minoan and Mycenaean Religion (Lecture course) | Assistant Professor Mercourios Georgiadis

Religion as a subject in prehistory is both interesting and complicated, especially for its earlier phases. In this lecture the first cases of cult activities in the Aegean and the way they were crystallised in the formation of the Minoan religion from the later 3rd millennium BC will be presented. The first distinct sanctuaries, the rituals, the symbols, the iconography and the beliefs will be analysed in order to appreciate the way the Minoan religion was created that affected the entire Aegean. There are several Minoan elements within the Mycenaean religious tradition as much as differences. The diverse manners in which Mycenaean palaces were developed as well as the available documents offer us a broader outlook on how religion was transformed during the last centuries of the Late Bronze Age.

ΠΑΡΑ 178: The Aegean and mainland Greece during the Early Bronze Age (Lecture course) | Assistant Professor Artemis Karnava

This lecture course will focus on the societies of the 3rd millennium BC. (3200-2200 BC) in mainland Greece and in the area that is studied in literature as «the Aegean», i.e. today's Greek islands in the Aegean including Crete. In terms of relevant archaeological dating, the period is named the Early Bronze Age (EBA).

Courses will begin with the description of the geographical and ecological context, and the earliest urbanization process ever to be traced in Greece will be discussed. Fundamental economic and social parameters of the time will be determined, such as the establishment of metallurgy and the circulation of obsidian. Closely related to these issues is the concept of 'insularity', while navigation and trade enter the equation. The

era is governed by the so-called 'international spirit', which emerges through exchanges, imports and the cultural capital they create in the societies of the region that stretches from Mesopotamia to the Aegean.

Additional course topics will be the pottery of the period, the organisation of space through settlements, urban planning and fortifications, the cemeteries outside the settlements, and the figurines. The lectures will conclude with an examination of the symbolic and economic implications of seals and clay sealings.

ΠΑΡΑ 304: Old palatial Crete (Seminar) | Assistant Professor Artemis Karnava

The seminar will focus on Crete of the Old palatial period (1900-1700 BC) and its material culture. This is a period in the history of the island that is fundamental for the understanding of the Minoan "phenomenon", because it is then that the characteristics of the so-called Minoan culture appear and begin to consolidate. The constant point of reference in all periods of the Minoan world is, of course, the monumental buildings known as "palaces", a creation of the Minoan world that was also inherited in the Mycenaean world.

Throughout this relatively short period of time, not only do "palaces" appear, but a set of cultural characteristics is attested, marking a new era: the invention and adoption of writing for bureaucratic purposes, the production of luxury objects, contacts with areas outside Crete, including Egypt and Mesopotamia. All of the testify to the creation of the first state formations of the 2nd millennium BC. in Greece.

Essays will be written in the following subject circles:

- Architecture-topography
 - o Residential architecture: "palace", the beginning
 - o Residential architecture: "palace", features-interpretations
 - o Funerary architecture: the tombs
- Pottery
 - o Typology and decoration
 - o Use and social functions of ceramic vessels
- Religion and ritual

- o The Minoan peak sanctuaries
- o Sanctuaries of the Old palatial era in Crete
- o Figurines and worship
- Burial customs
 - o Offerings and rituals
- Writing and administration
 - o The scripts of old-palatial Crete: Cretan Hieroglyphs
 - o The scripts of old-ancient palatial Crete: Linear A
- Minor arts
 - o Seals and sealing practices
 - o Ivory
 - o Faience
- Metallurgy
 - o Weapons and tools
 - o Jewelry and seals
- Iconography
 - o The seals and their images
 - o Vessels
- Old palatial Crete and the outside world
- Trade and economy
 - o Textile industry
 - o Animal husbandry