

**Classics/History 240, Section 3: Ancient Societies**  
**Great Cities of the Ancient World**  
**Spring 2011**

**Class Meeting:** T, Th: 12:30-1:45; Huff 1010

Instructor: Ben Costello

Office: 16 Wallace Hall

Office Hours: T / Th: 11:00-11:50 (or whenever the door is open)

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**Course Description and Goals:**

This course is intended to provide a detailed examination of selected major cities from a variety of cultures in both the Old and New Worlds. Focus will be on the excavation, features and finds, questions of interpretation, and the place of each site in understanding archaeological history. The ultimate goal is to introduce the latest archaeological and anthropological thought concerning these sites, and raise key questions about the societies that built and lived in them.

Students who take this course will:

- Become familiar with six major cities of the ancient world and the cultures that created them.
- Become familiar with different forms of socio-political organization.
- Be able to appreciate the complexities involved in understanding state-level societies through their material culture.
- Learn about the nature of archaeological evidence and how it is used to reconstruct the ancient world.

**Required Texts:**

Oates, J. 1986. *Babylon*. Thames & Hudson

Camp, J.M. 2004. *The Archaeology of Athens*. Yale University Press.

Coulston, J.C. and Dodge, H. 2000. *Ancient Rome: The Archaeology of the Eternal City*. Oxford University School of Archaeology Monographs.

Sabloff, J.A., et al. 2003. *Tikal: Dynasties, Foreigners, and Affairs of State: Advancing Maya Archaeology*. School of American Research Press.

Burger, R.L. and Salazar, L.C. 2008. *Machu Picchu: Unveiling the Mystery of the Incas*. Yale University Press.

Pauketat, T. 2009. *Cahokia: Ancient America's Great City on the Mississippi*. Penguin.

**Course Requirements and Policies:**

The following procedures will be implemented in order to maintain an optimal learning environment for all students.

- **Attendance:** The nature of the engaged college classroom requires attendance and active participation at all class lectures and events. Attendance is mandatory

and will be taken each session. While it is understandable that emergencies and illness may interfere with class attendance, due to the visual nature of the course, missed classes can seriously compromise student performance. Each student is permitted two unexcused absences without penalty, with each additional unexcused absence resulting in a 2% deduction.

- If a class is missed it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to arrange any make-up work.

Note regarding Student Athletics, Religious Holidays, and/or Academic Commitment (i.e. Conference): Absences related to these situations must be pre-approved by the instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to provide a complete list of any classes missed during the semester by the end of the second week of the classes. In some cases further documentation may be required. Please pay particular attention to conflicts with dates of exams.

- **Make Up Policy:** The only way to make up an exam is with an excused absence. For the absence to be excused, you must provide acceptable documentation from a qualified professional of a serious crisis. If such an event occurs, the instructor must be notified within 24 hours.
- **Extra Credit:** Opportunities for extra credit will take the form of attendance at Classics Department and Archaeological lectures during the course of the semester. Attendance will be taken at the lectures, and each student is responsible for signing in to receive credit. No extra credit assignments will be given other than that offered on exams and/or quizzes. Requests for individual extra credit assignments will not be considered.
- **Accessibility/Office Hours:** I encourage students to come to my office to discuss any questions, concerns, ideas, special considerations or other important issues. If you have class during my office hours, I will schedule appointments at other times with advance notice. Students are welcome to stop by and see me whenever my office door is open. If my office door is closed, please feel free to e-mail me and I will make every effort to respond within 24 hours.
- **Academic Honesty:** Students in this course are encouraged to do their homework together. All other classwork, especially quizzes and exams, must be the student's own work. Plagiarism, i.e., copying someone else's work without giving credit, is to be avoided. Such copying--from a book, another classmate's paper, or any other source is dishonest. At Monmouth College we view academic dishonesty as a threat to the integrity and intellectual mission of our institution. Any breach of the academic honesty policy – either intentionally or unintentionally - will be taken seriously and may result not only in failure in the course, but in suspension or expulsion from the college. It is each student's responsibility to read, understand and comply with the general academic honesty policy at Monmouth College, as defined in the Scots Guide (<http://department.monm.edu/stuserv/student-handbook/academic.htm>) and to the specific guidelines for each course, as elaborated on the professor's syllabus.

The following areas are examples of violations of the academic honesty policy:

1. Cheating on tests, labs, etc.
2. Plagiarism, i.e., using the words, ideas, writing, or work of another without giving appropriate credit – THIS INCLUDES WEBSITES.

3. Improper collaboration between students, i.e., not doing one's own work on outside assignments unspecified as group projects by the instructor. If two papers with identical or nearly identical work are submitted by different students, **both papers will receive a failing grade.**

4. Submitting work previously submitted in another course, without previous authorization by the instructor.

(This list is not intended to be exhaustive.)

- **Miscellaneous:**

- Please be sure to turn off all electronic devices before class begins. If you use a computer to take notes, please insure that the sound is turned off, or power up before class.
- Any student with a documented disability needing accommodations is requested to speak directly to Disability Services (mellinger@monm.edu or 309-457-2257) and to the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester. All discussions will remain confidential.
- Please do not bring children and/or pets to class.
- Please be punctual. Late arrivals disrupt the entire class.

**Course Assessment and Evaluation:**

Grades in this course will be determined by the following:

Midterm	: 25%
Last/Final Exam	: 25%
Quizzes	: 20%
Lecture Summary	: 10%
Attendance	: 10%
Participation	: 10%

Grading will be determined on the traditional straight scale (A=90.0-100.0%, B=80-89.9%, C=70.0-79.9%, etc.

\*All grades are non-negotiable.

- **Exams:** Two 50 minute exams. A midterm covering roughly the first half of the semester will be given during class and a final covering the second half during the final exam period. Each accounts for 25% of the student's final grade. Students are expected to take the final at the scheduled time without exception. Please keep this in mind when making travel arrangements.

**Last/Final Exam:** Friday, May 6 – 8:00 AM. All material presented in class (i.e. artifacts, buildings, maps, plans, etc.) is eligible to appear on the exam. The exams will consist of: image identifications/descriptions, matching, multiple choice, map identifications, and short essay questions. Image identifications will consist of the object/monument's name, date, culture and findspot/location and significance/ importance. The essay questions cover broader topics and in your answers you will be expected to incorporate information from both the lectures and readings.

- If you are permitted testing accommodation you must make arrangements with the instructor at least 24 hours **PRIOR** to the administration of the quiz/exam. If such arrangements are not made, the student is expected to take the quiz/exam in class as scheduled.
- **Quizzes:** At least six short multiple choice quizzes based on names, dates and other basic facts from both the lectures and readings will be given throughout the semester. Dates will be announced roughly one week in advance.
- **Lecture Summary:** Attendance at one Classics Department and Archaeological lecture during the course of the semester is required. In conjunction with this, each student should prepare a 300-600 word summary of the main points presented in each lecture, which will be turned in at the subsequent meeting. Both attendance at the lecture as well as submission of the written summary are required for full credit to be received.
- **Participation:** Students are expected to come to class each day having completed the assigned readings for that day and prepared to discuss all topic/s covered. Class participation is determined based on active involvement and engagement in the classroom during each class meeting.