INTRODUCTION TO NEAR EASTERN, EGYPTIAN,
AND CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY: CLA 204.00 World Cultures and Global Issues
Spring 2025 ONLINE 1/25/25 - 5/22/25
FULLY ASYNCHRONOUS ONLINE COURSE WITH NO SET MEETING TIMES
Prof. Marina Thomatos (arranged by appointment online).
e-mail: mthomato@hunter.cuny.edu
Course offered through Brightspace:
https://help.Brightspace.com/Learn/Administrator/Hosting/Release_Notes/Browser_Support

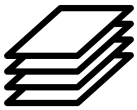
Classics Department: Hunter College, 695 Park Ave., New York, NY 10065, U.S.A

This course provides the student with background knowledge of the main developments that took place in the Near East, Egypt, Greece and Italy from the Paleolithic periods through to the beginnings of the Common Era. Major issues such as the beginning of farming, urbanism, the rise of Empires and the birth of democracy will be covered.

Grading Rubric:

Object Paper 1	15%
Object Paper 2	15%
Mid-term exam	15%
Final exam	15%
Quizzes	10%
Activities/Assignments	30%

Requirements:



Object Papers (30%): You will have to go to a museum near you that has ancient art (20,000 BC - 1,000 AD). The museums of preference is the Metropolitan Museum of Art (5th Avenue and 81st Street). You must choose one object from either the Ancient Near Eastern or Egyptian collection for your first paper and one object from the Greek or the Etruscan/Roman collection for the second paper. **YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CHOOSE PIECES IN THE TEXTBOOK AND IT CANNOT BE A LONG ENTRY ON THE MUSEUM'S WEBSITE** (long entry=no more than 400 words in the main description on the website- basically the well known/famous pieces). Papers will be **2000-3000 words** each and will consist of a catalog description of the object including information such as size and basic narrative description and research on the object. The final paper should include **proper footnotes/endnotes using Chicago style** and Works Cited/Bibliography page. Also, you need to include an **image of the object** you choose and a **picture of the receipt** from your visit (for New York students the Met admission is pay as you wish). I strongly suggest you do two trips to the museum over the semester, one for each paper to allow you to focus. You **may not use websites** as sources although you may use digital

resources such as articles through databases such as JSTOR and books. More instructions will be provided. Your papers are due on **March 7th** and **May 2nd. Please be sure to follow the detailed instructions found on Brightspace!**



Exams (40%): There are no make-up exams, unless you have a certified medical excuse. Study guides will be provided prior to the exams. The Midterm and Final are non-cumulative and may consist of short answer, slide identification, slide compare/contrast and/or short essay. The exams are timed and once you start you must complete it in one sitting.



Quizzes (10%): **Eight** quizzes consisting of multiple-choice questions to be completed on Brightspace. You will have 15 minutes to complete them. Once you start you must complete it in one sitting. Deadlines for quizzes are listed on the syllabus and they are due 11:59PM of the day listed. It is **your responsibility** to complete them by the deadlines. They will become inactive following these dates. You will not get extensions for these. The quizzes are based on specific pages from chapters of the textbook (indicated in parentheses) for each chapter of the book.



Activities/Assignments (30%): We will have **eight** (3.75% each) unique online activities/assignments that will be addressing the additional readings. These may consist of forum posts/discussions or short journal/essay entries. Please be sure to read instructions each week as they will vary from week to week.

Weekly reading assignments: I recommend you have your reading completed before watching the narrated powerpoints.
Required Textbook: Kleiner, Mamiya, and Tansey, Gardner's Art Through the Ages A Global History Vol 1. (13th edition-[NOTE: THIS EDITION ONLY] Shakespeare Book Store 978-0495-11549-6) Page numbers for weekly reading assignments follow date.
Additional readings from supplemental PDFs will be provided on Brightspace and will be directly linked to the weekly online activities..

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated at Hunter College.
Violations to academic integrity include:

- Plagiarism
- Cheating on an exam
- Submitting your own work toward requirements in more than one course without prior approval from the instructor
- Collaborating with other students for work expected to be completed individually
- Giving your work to another student to submit as his/her own
- Purchasing or using papers or work online or from a commercial firm and presenting it as your own work

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the Student Guide to Academic Integrity: Hunter College
http://catalog.hunter.cuny.edu/content.php?catoid=23&navoid=3046&hl=plagiarism+&returnto=search
Students engaging in plagiarism or "cheating" will have formal disciplinary charges brought against them which could result in a course failure, notation on their transcript, and suspension from Hunter.
As defined in the Hunter College Undergraduate Catalog, plagiarism is the borrowing of ideas, terms, statements or knowledge of others without clear and specific acknowledgment. Additionally, copying or obtaining another's answers to questions on examinations or assignments is also a form of academic dishonesty commonly known as "cheating."

Please note: Use of AI-based technologies such as ChatGPT or text-generating software – when an assignment does not explicitly call or allow for it – without proper attribution or authorization, is plagiarism.

Computer Requirements:
Access: If you do not have access to a computer off campus, there are many computer labs on campus you can use to participate in the course. In addition, many public libraries also have computers with internet access that you can use for free.
Tools: Wherever you will participate, be sure to take the Browser Test in the Orientation section to ensure that your browser is up-to-date on all of the operating systems to view and use Brightspace tools correctly.

Technical Assistance:
This is an online class using Brightspace Learn as our course management system. All students must be knowledgeable about Brightspace use; it is strongly suggested that you explore and become familiar with the site navigation, course tools, and the content and resources available for this course. Instructors are unable to provide technical assistance or respond to technical questions directly relating to the platform. If you have questions or concerns regarding Brightspace please call the Student Help Desk at (212) 650-3624 or email studenthelpdesk@hunter.cuny.edu.

The Help Desk's hours of operation are listed on http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/it/get-help.

Brightspace student resources and scheduled maintenance announcements are available at http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/it/Brightspace/Brightspace-information-page.

Hunter College Policy on Academic Integrity:

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

ADA Policy:

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: (212) 772- 4857 or (212) 650-3230.

Hunter College Policy on Sexual Misconduct:

In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College. a. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444). b. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose (jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry (colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123. CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct Link: https://www2.cuny.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/page-assets/about/administration/offices/legal-affairs/POLICY-ON-SEXUAL-MISCONDUCT-10.1.2015-with-links.pdf

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the term, it is expected that you will have learned to:
1. Gather, interpret and assess information from a variety of sources and points of view by gaining knowledge of major monuments and artifacts from a wide range of ancient societies, including those of Egypt, the Classical Mediterranean, and Western Asia, as studied in the chronological survey over the course of the semester.
2. Evaluate evidence and arguments critically or analytically in weekly quizzes and in examinations that require visual identification of significant ancient artifacts as well as

contextual knowledge of both the physical remains themselves and the culture or society that created them.

3. Produce well-reasoned written or oral arguments using evidence to support conclusions in a closely-directed, multi-phase term paper, a museum exercise of detailed description, analysis and research, applied to individual ancient artifacts on display and observed at first hand in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

4. Identify and apply the fundamental concepts and methods of modern archaeological analysis. Specifically, you will:

a) Be able to understand essential principles of archaeological theory, methods and practice (e.g., absolute vs. relative chronology, stratigraphy and principles of deposition, seriation and typological sequencing).

b) Be able to assess aspects of archaeological record-keeping, testing, and excavation in the history and development of fieldwork, based on particular examples studied in our chronological survey over the course of the semester. We will consider the accomplishments and contributions of individual archaeologists and projects, from the mid-18th century through the early 21st century.

5. Analyze the historical development, rise and fall of major civilizations of the ancient Mediterranean and the Ancient Near East – such as those of Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Bronze-Age Aegean, Classical Greece and Rome – as substantiated by the archaeological analysis of their physical remains. Specifically, in the course of our chronological survey, you will learn how to scrutinize important sites and case studies for evidence of such broad, historical events and trends as state formation, commerce and trade, invasions and warfare, and destruction by natural disaster.

6. Analyze and discuss the role played by gender, class, belief and occupation in the archaeological deposits left behind by ancient societies. Specifically, you will:

a) Understand how the use of certain high-status materials (metals, imported stone, semi-precious gems) reflect wealth and power.

b) Understand how characteristic tools, implements and weapons, in certain archaeological contexts such as burials) distinguish the gender and social status of the deceased.

c) Recognize social norms, cultural values, religious rituals, etc., as reflected in the modes of representation in ancient painting and sculpture, such as seated v. standing, clothed v. unclothed, etc.

Weekly Lectures

Orientation: Click on “Orientation” in the Brightspace course site and read through the various posts, conduct the Browser test, and listen to my orientation screencast which will walk you through the layout of our course in Brightspace. Upload a profile picture and complete the introduction forum. This should be completed by **Tuesday, January 28th @11:59 P.M.**

Weekly lessons launch on **Saturday** all activities and quizzes are due on **Friday** at 11:59PM. Every week you will be responsible for **reading the textbook** and any **additional readings** as well as **watching a series of narrated powerpoints**. The quizzes will be based on textbook readings, the activities on the additional readings and the exams on the textbook readings and narrated powerpoints so it is recommended you complete all the requirements each week.

WEEK 1: Jan 25

Introduction and geography
History of archaeology; techniques, methodology, chronology (1-13)
Additional:

- Devereux, Daniel. "Artifacts, natural objects, and works of art." *Analysis* 37.3 (1977): 134-136.
- Sir Flinders Petrie: Father of Modern Archaeology
- Heinrich Schleimann



Activity 1 DUE JAN 31 @11:59PM

WEEK 2: Feb 1

Paleolithic and Mesolithic Cave Dwellers (15-23)
Neolithic Near East (24-27;29)
Additional:

- Shane, Orrin C., and Mine Küçük. "The world's first city." *Archaeology* 51.2 (1998): 43-47.
- Lobell, Jarrett A., and Eric A. Powell. “The Story of the Horse.” *Archaeology* 68, no. 4 (2015): 28–33.



Activity 2 DUE Feb 7 @11:59PM

WEEK 3: Feb 8

Sumerians (30-38)
Akkadians, Neo-Sumerians, Ammorites, Elamites (39-44)

Additional:

- George, D., and M. Gibson. "The Looting of the Iraq Museum Complex." *Catastrophe* (2008): 19-27.
- Pollock, Susan. "Of priestesses, princes and poor relations: the dead in the Royal Cemetery of Ur." *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 1.2 (1991): 171-189.
- Taylor, Michael. "The Ziggurat Endures." *Archaeology* 64.2 (2011): 47-52.
- “THE WORLD’S OLDEST WRITING.” *Archaeology* 69, no. 3 (2016): 26–33.



Activity 3 DUE Feb 14 @11:59PM



QUIZ 1 pgs. 24-38 DUE Feb 14 @11:59PM

WEEK 4: Feb 15

Assyrians (45-47)
Neo-Babylonian and Persian (47-50)
Additional:

- Lawler, Andrew. “The Truth Behind the Tablets.” *Archaeology* 65, no. 1 (2012): 38–42.

WEEK 5: Feb 22

Egypt: Predynastic and Protodynastic (52-59)
Additional:

- Lawler, Andrew. “City of the Dead.” *Archaeology*, vol. 59, no. 3, 2006, pp. 20–27.



QUIZ 2 pgs. 39-50 DUE Feb 28 @11:59PM

WEEK 6: Mar 1

Old Kingdom (59-64)
Middle Kingdom (64-67)
Additional:

- Arnold, Dieter. "Old Kingdom statues in their architectural setting." *Egyptian Art in the Age of the Pyramids* (1999): 41-49.
- Brier, Bob. "How to build a pyramid." *Archaeology* 60.3 (2007): 22-27.
- Hawass, Zahi, and Mark Lehner. “BUILDERS OF THE PYRAMIDS.” *Archaeology* 50, no. 1 (1997): 30–38.



QUIZ 3 pgs. 52-64 DUE Mar 7 @11:59PM



PAPER 1 DUE Mar 7 @11:59PM

WEEK 7: Mar 8

New Kingdom: Tuthmossids (67-75)
New Kingdom: Amarna Age- 20th dynasty (75-79)
Additional:

- Video: *Secrets of Egypt's Lost Queen* (2007). Documentary.
- Ryan, Donald P. "Exploring the valley of the king's." *Archaeology* 47.1 (1994): 52-59.
- “The Discovery of Tutankhamun’s Tomb” *History Magazine*, February/March 2008: 25-30.
- Allais, Lucia. "Integrities: The Salvage of Abu Simbel." *Grey Room* 50 (2013): 6-45.

 **Activity 4 DUE Mar 14 @11:59PM**

 **Activity 5 DUE Mar 14 @11:59PM**

 **QUIZ 4 pgs. 67-79 DUE Mar 14 @11:59PM**

WEEK 8: Mar 15

 **MIDTERM EXAM** (Chapters 1, 2, 3) **DUE Mar 21 @11:59PM**

WEEK 9: Mar 22
WEEK 10 Mar 29
Aegean Bronze Age Civilizations: Cycladic (81-83)
Minoan (84-90)
Mycenaean (90-97)
Additional:

- McCoy, Floyd W., and Grant Haiken. “ANATOMY of an ERUPTION.” *Archaeology*, vol. 43, no. 3, 1990, pp. 42–49.
- Harrington, Spencer P.M. “Saving Knossos.” *Archaeology*, vol. 52, no. 1, 1999, pp. 30–40.

 **QUIZ 5 pgs. 81-97 DUE @11:59PM Apr 4**

WEEK 11: APR 5

Geometric (Greek Iron Age) (98-105)

🌴**SPRING BREAK 4/12-20** 🌴

WEEK 12: APR 21
Greek Vase Painting- (114-116, 134-136)
Additional:

- Video: Network: *The trade in Illicit antiquities*

 **Activity 6- DUE@11:59PM Apr 25**

WEEK 13: APR 26
Sculpture- (105-108 1/2, 121-125)
Architecture (109-113, 117-120)
Additional:

- "The Getty Kouros Colloquium: Athens, 25-27 May 1992." (1996).

 **QUIZ 6 pgs. 102-118 DUE @11:59PM DUE May 2**

 **PAPER 2 DUE May 2 @11:59PM**

WEEK 14: MAY 3

High, Late Classical/ Hellenistic (125-134, 137-145, 145-156)

Additional:

- Cuno, James. "Culture War: The Case Against Repatriating Museum Artifacts." *Foreign Aff.* 93 (2014): 119.

 **Activity 7 - DUE May 9 @11:59PM**

 **QUIZ 7 pgs. 118-137 DUE May 9 @11:59PM**

WEEK 15: MAY 10

Etruscans (222-235)

 **Activity 8 - DUE @11:59PM DUE May 16**

QUIZ 8 pgs. 222-235 DUE @11:59PM DUE May 16

FINAL EXAMINATION: OPEN DATES MAY 10- **DUE WEDNESDAY MAY 21@11:59PM**