School of Archaeology & Ancient History

Module AR2035

The Mediterranean in the Ancient World: Archaeologies of Contact

Academic Year: 2009–2010  Semester: 2

Time and location:  Thursday – 14.00-15.00 PHY LTC
                     Friday – 12.00-13.00 BEN LT8

First meeting: 28th January, 2010

Module coordinator: Borja Legarra Herrero

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Office hours: Thursday: 10.00–13.30 (contact me by e-mail for arranging
             meetings at other times)

Your individual appointments: Seminar slots are in the main lecture schedule, on p. 2
(e.g. tutorials, seminars):

Document prepared by: Borja Legarra Herrero – 13/01/2010
AR 2035  The Mediterranean in the Ancient World

Weighting: 20 credits
Coordinator: Borja Legarra Herrero

Other tutors: Pim Allison, Simon James, Borja Legarra Herrero, David Mattingly, Andrew Merrills, Alessandro Quercia, Denis Sami, Dan Stewart, Ian Whitbread.

Module outline: This module covers the time span c.800/700 BC – c.AD 600. It examines the varied and important archaeologies of diverse powers and regions which emerged and interacted to significant effect across the first millennia BC and AD. It seeks to identify the ways in which the Mediterranean – its waters, landscapes, resources, climates, and peoples – fostered and stimulated the growth of such states. The course charts the archaeologies of the first Mediterranean superpowers from the Iron Age to Roman times, highlighting in particular the connectivity of cultures within and beyond the Mediterranean. Key aspects to be analysed are urbanism, the rural economy, religion, trade and contact. Throughout, the range and problems of the major sources are assessed, and key archaeological case studies presented.

Aims: 1. To build on topics introduced in AR1004 and 1005
2. To examine the range of archaeological sources for studying and understanding the ancient Mediterranean
3. To examine key themes within the time frame (including urbanism, material culture, economies, religion)
4. To enable students to develop independent learning skills
5. To allow students to discuss aspects of the ancient Mediterranean past through seminar contributions.

Intended Learning outcomes: On completion of the module students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate a broad knowledge of the archaeology and of the historical development of the Mediterranean world between 800/700 BC and Late Antiquity
2. Show in both written and oral work a grasp of the interplay between archaeological and other sources
3. Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the archaeological sources for this period
4. Outline the development of key aspects of ancient Mediterranean life (e.g. urbanism, religion, trade)
5. Identify the range and character of structural survival of elements of the ancient Mediterranean past.
Methods of teaching: Two one-hour lecture sessions per week sessions. All students will attend ONE seminar, linked to the essay topic they choose.

Method of assessment: (i) 1 essay x 2500 words (50%) – **deadline: 5pm, Monday 10 May 2010.**
(ii) 1 two-hour exam (50%) held in the Semester Two examination period.

**Teaching schedule**

| Thurs 28 Jan | Archaeologies of the Mediterranean | BLH |
| Fri 29 Jan   | Diaspora and connectivity: Greeks, Phoenicians and indigenous peoples. | AQ |
| Thu 4 Feb    | Early Italian expansion: Etruscans, Greeks and Romans. | BLH |
| Fri 5 Feb    | Roman Italy: colonization and urbanisation. | DS |
| Thu 11 Feb   | **Seminar 1: The impact of cultural contact** | BLH |
| Fri 12 Feb   | Greek rural landscapes | DS |
| Thu 18 Feb   | Greek sanctuaries and their material culture. | AQ |
| Fri 19 Feb   | Greek urban landscapes. | DS |
| Thu 25 Feb   | **Seminar 2: Archaeological survey and Mediterranean landscapes.** | BLH |
| Fri 26 Feb   | Mediterranean Gaul. | SJ |
| **1-5 Mar**  | **READING WEEK** |  |
| Thu 11 Mar   | Urban life beyond Rome (Athens, Carthage, Pompeii). | PA |
| Fri 12 Mar   | Pompeii: cultural and artistic horizons. | PA |
| Thurs 18 Mar | **Seminar 3: Houses and households in the Mediterranean.** | PA |
| Fri 19 Mar   | Trade and exchange in the archaic and classical Mediterranean. | IW |
| Thu 25 Mar   | Mediterranean economies under Rome.. | DM |
| Fri 26 Mar   | **Seminar 4: Trade: pots and the positivist fallacy** | IW |
| **EASTER VACATION** |  |  |
| Thu 6 May    | Roman Syria | SJ |
| Fri 7 May    | The end of the ancient Mediterranean? A fragmented world. | AM |
Assignments, deadlines and seminars

There are two elements of assessment for module AR2035: (i) 1 essay (counting 50% of the module assessment); (ii) 1 two-hour exam (50%).

The essay should be word-processed, properly formatted, illustrated with maps, plans, photos where useful (see section 7.8 to 7.12 in your Handbook). The maximum length is 2500 words. Remember, you are expected to provide specific evidence, case studies and examples to support your arguments, and to cite your sources fully.

The essay deadline is **5 pm, Monday 10 May 2010**. Hand in **TWO** copies with only **one** coversheet attached in the essay box in the foyer.

All students will be required to attend **ALL** lectures and **ONE** at least of the four seminars. Numbers in seminars will be limited (approx. 12), and sign-up sheets can be found on Dr. Legarra Herrero’s door. Seminars will be related directly to the essay topics: you must write your essay on one of the questions related to and covered by the seminar you attend. Seminars will cover theoretical approaches to ancient Mediterranean archaeology, with specific questions ranging across the different periods and cultures discussed. Descriptions of the seminar themes, essay questions, specific bibliographies and some research materials will be uploaded to Blackboard.

The bibliography listed on the following pages is purely for starters and should not be used as the total sum of your research! Use your full course bibliography, the research material on Blackboard, and the Library catalogue to search out other books and papers. We encourage you to ask course tutors for further specific guidance on your reading and essay.

Reading List

**Some key journals to explore for seminar topics, essays and exam preparation:**

* Journal of Hellenic Studies
* Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology
* Journal of Mediterranean Studies Journal of Roman Archaeology
* Journal of Roman Studies
* Annual of the British School at Athens
* Papers of the British School at Rome
General Books on the Mediterranean


Diaspora: Greeks, Phoenicians and indigenous peoples

Attema, P. et al. (eds) 2002. New Developments in Italian Landscape Archaeology. BAR International Series 1091. Oxford: BAR. [last section most useful, but there is a lot of good stuff.] Aubet
Burgers, Gert-Jan and Crielaard, J.-P. 2007 Greek colonists and indigenous populations at L’Amastuola, Southern Italy, BABESCH 82: 77-114. AVAILABLE ON SHORT LOAN
Burgers, Gert-Jan 2004 Western Greeks in their regional setting: rethinking early Greek-indigenous encounters in Southern Italy, Ancient West and East 3: 252-82. AVAILABLE ON SHORT LOAN
Oxford: Oxford University School of Archaeology.
Malkin, I (1987) Religion and Colonization in Ancient Greece

Greek Sanctuaries

Mikalson, J.D. 2005. Ancient Greek Religion [chapter 1]
Greek Rural Landscapes


Debate in JMA (in date order)


Particular projects (a small selection!—Graham Shipley can provide further references)


Greek Urban Landscapes

Sources (on BlackBoard)

Vitruvius extracts (on BlackBoard).
Shipley, G. 2005. Little boxes on the hillside: Greek town planning, Hippodamos, and polis ideology. In M. H. Hansen (ed.), The Imaginary Polis (Acts of the Copenhagen Polis Centre, 7; Historisk-filosofiske Meddelelser, 91; Copenhagen: Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab), 335–403. 938 IMA

Early Italian Expansion: Etruscans, Greeks, Carthaginians and Rome


**The Roman Empire (or individual provinces)**


**Gallia Transalpina/Narbonensis**

Amy, R. 1979 *La Maison Carrée de Nîmes,* Éditions du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique.

Ebel, C. 1976 *Transalpine Gaul : the emergence of a Roman province,* Amsterdan, E.J. Brill.,


Varene, P. 1992 L’Enceinte gallo-romaine de Nîmes : les murs et les tours Centre national de la recherche scientifique

Roman Syria:

The City of Rome and Urbanisation in Italy and Beyond
Grant, M. 1971. Cities of Vesuvius: Pompeii and Herculaneum (Weidenfeld and Nicolson)

Pompeii: Cultural and Artistic Horizons


Trade and Exchange


**Communications, Technology and the Roman Economy**


**Roman Religion**


Greek and Roman Art


The Late Roman Empire


Christie, N. 2006. *From Constantine to Charlemagne: An Archaeology of Italy*, AD 300-800. *Ashgate: Aldershot*.


The End of the Ancient Mediterranean?: a fragmenting world.

Overview:
The puzzle of the ‘Fall’ of Rome has been a central issue in historical scholarship since at least the end of the Renaissance. The foundational work on the subject was Edward Gibbon’s monumental Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire (1776-1789), and to an extent, all works since have been in its shadow. Nevertheless, many important new perspectives have developed over the last century, both archaeological and historiographical. Crucial and provocative is:

Which suggested that the crucial change from antiquity to the medieval period was not the political collapse of the western Roman empire in the fifth century, but the creation of new trading networks in the North Sea and fertile crescent from the later seventh. His position has been substantially challenged and reworked since (not least because his use of the archaeological evidence was cursory), but his conclusions are broadly accepted.


For an overview of much of this scholarship, and some sensible conclusions about where scholarship should go next, see:


In addition, two recent studies have returned to the gradual eclipse of the Mediterranean world in two very different ways:

*Wickham, Chris. 2005. Framing the Early Middle Ages Oxford: OUP. esp. ch. 11. 940.1 WIC [A genuinely staggering work of scholarship (literally staggering when you try to lift it!), which re-assesses the literary and archaeological materials for almost all of the Mediterranean world (and
On the period as a whole:
Innes, Matthew. 2007. *Introduction to Early Medieval Western Europe, 300-900: The Sword, the Plough and the Book*. London: Routledge. 940.12 INN