

ANTHROPOLOGY 2237/HISTORY 2299

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office hours Thurs. 1:00-2:30 Graveley Hall South Rm. 157

OR call or email for an appt.

The Ancient Near East

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:15, Rend 315

Spring 2011

ANTH 2237 fulfills Goal 10A. It may be repeated for up to 6 credits with different topics.

This course examines the development of ancient Near Eastern civilization up to 323 BC, including the origins of cities and writing, and factors that contributed to the rise and fall of ancient Near Eastern states and empires including environment, food and craft production, social institutions, inequality, trade, and warfare. At the same time we will take a fresh perspective on the ancient Near East by including important complementary developments in the Caucasus Mountains to the northeast, including metallurgy, wheeled vehicles, horseback riding, and mobile pastoralism. Since this is an Anthropology course that is cross listed with History, we will also stress a critical approach to archaeological and historical evidence that will benefit Anthropology and History Majors alike, while the introduction to Near Eastern civilization that this course provides will appeal to General Education students as well.

Course requirements: Earning your grade for this semester requires that you attend lectures, take good notes, study regularly, complete the assigned readings and assignments, and take quizzes and exams as scheduled. You are required to complete the assigned readings before each lecture, and to take 10 semi weekly quizzes that will test your knowledge of the assigned readings and the materials covered in lectures. You must also write one short paper (5 pages) on a selected topic to the specifications and format required for the assignment, which will be provided to you in class and on Moodle. Finally, you must take the Mid Term and Final Exams. Both exams must be taken as scheduled in order to pass the class.

Course texts (required and recommended texts are available for purchase at the University Bookstore in the Pond SUB):

Required texts: 1) *A History of the Ancient Near East, ca. 3000-323 BC*, 2nd edition, by Marc Van de Mieroop

2) *The Ancient Near East: Historical Sources in Translation*, by Mark Chavalas

Recommended text: *Ancient Turkey*, by Antonio Sagona and Paul Zimansky

Course grading: There are 400 points possible for the course. Your quiz, paper, and exam point totals will be made available to you throughout the semester on Moodle. The total points possible for each grade category are as follows:

Participation	15 points
10 quizzes (10 points each)	100 points
Paper	35 points
Mid Term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	<u>150 points</u>
COURSE TOTAL	400 points

NOTE: Participation points will be allocated as follows: 15 points—instructor sees that student attends class regularly and actively participates in class discussions; 10 points—student misses several classes and contributes irregularly to class discussions; 5 points—student is chronically absent and contributes little or nothing to class discussions.

Calculation of the final grade: **A** 93% /372 points or higher; **A-** 92.9 – 90% /371-360 points; **B+** 89.9 – 87% /359-348 points; **B** 86.9 – 83% /347-332 points; **B-** 82.9 – 80% /331-320 points; **C+** 79.9 – 77% /319-308 points; **C** 76.9 – 73% /307-292 points; **C-** 72.9 – 70% /291-280 points; **D+** 69.9 – 67% /279-268 points; **D** 66.9 – 63% /267-252 points; **D-** 62.9 – 60% /251-240 points; **F** below 60% /below 240 points.

SCHEDULE

WEEK	LECTURE TOPIC/ TEST/ ASSIGNMENT	READING ASSIGNMENT
1 (Jan 10-14)	I. Introduction II. Early Developments	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 1, pp. 1-17 Childe article (Moodle) Flannery article (Moodle) Recommended: Sansone article (Moodle) Sagona & Zimansky Ch. 1-3, pp. 1-81
2 (Jan 17-21)	I. The Origins of Cities Map Quiz 1 (10 points) IN CLASS ON THURSDAY	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 2, pp. 17-40 Sherratt article (Moodle) Oates article (Moodle)

2 (Jan 17-21) **cont.**

Recommended:

Sagona & Zimansky Ch. 4,
pp. 82-143

3 (Jan 24-28)

I. Anatolia and the Caucasus

Required:

Sagona & Zimansky Ch. 5, pp.
144- 224 (Moodle)
Kohl Ch. 3, pp. 54-135
(Moodle)

Quiz 2 (10 points) **ON
MOODLE**

Recommended:

Kohl Ch. 2, pp. 23-53
(Moodle)

4 (Jan 31-Feb 4)

I. Early Dynastic Mesopotamia

Required:

Van de Mieroop Ch. 3, pp. 41-
62
Chavalas Ch. 1, pp. 4-16

II. Sumerian ED Royal
Inscription

Quiz 3 (10 points) **ON
MOODLE**

Recommended:

TBA if any

5 (Feb 7-11)

I. Political Centralization in the
Late 3rd Millennium BC

Required:

Van de Mieroop Ch. 4, pp. 63-
84

II. Late 3rd Millennium BC Texts

Chavalas Ch. 2-3, pp. 17-87

Quiz 4 (10 points) **ON
MOODLE**

Recommended:

TBA if any

6 (Feb 14-18)

I. The Near East in the Early 2nd
Millennium BC

Required:

Van de Mieroop Ch. 5, pp. 85-
105

II. Old Babylonian Inscriptions

Chavalas Ch. 4, pp. 88-106

Quiz 5 (10 points) **ON
MOODLE**

Recommended:

TBA if any

7 (Feb 21-25)	I. The Growth of Territorial States in the Early 2 nd Millennium BC	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 6, pp. 106-128 Chavalas Ch. 5, pp. 107-133
	II. Old Babylonian Documents Quiz 6 (10 points) ON MOODLE	Recommended: TBA if any
8 (Feb 28-Mar 4)	Mid-Term Review is on Tues MID-TERM EXAM Thursday, March 3, 11:00-12:15, Rend 313	No assignment
9 (Mar 7-14)	I. The Club of Great Powers II. El-Amarna Correspondence	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 7, pp. 129-148 Chavalas Ch. 7, pp. 182-214
		Recommended: TBA if any
10 (Mar 14-18)	I. Western States of the Late 2 nd Millennium BC II. Late Bronze Age Inscriptions	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 8, pp. 149-170 Chavalas Ch. 6, pp. 134-181
	Quiz 7 (10 points) ON MOODLE	Recommended: TBA if any
11 (Mar 21-25)	SPRING BREAK No Class	No assignment
12 (Mar 28- Apr 1)	I. Kassites, Assyrians and Elamites II. Hittite Texts I	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 9, pp. 171-189 Chavalas Ch. 8, pp. 215-252
		Recommended: TBA if any

13 (Apr 4-8)	I. Collapse of the Regional System and Its Aftermath	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 10-11, pp. 190-228
	II. Hittite Texts II	Chavalas Ch. 9, pp. 253-279
	Quiz 8 (10 points) ON MOODLE	Recommended: TBA if any
14 (Apr 11-15)	I. The Assyrian Empire	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 12-13, pp. 229-269
	II. Neo-Assyrian Texts	Chavalas Ch 10-11, pp. 280-381
	Quiz 9 (10 points) ON MOODLE	Recommended: TBA if any
15 (Apr 18-22)	I. Medes, Babylonians, and the Persian Empire	Required: Van de Mieroop Ch. 14-15, pp. 270-301
	II. Neo-Babylonian & Achaemenid Texts	Chavalas Ch. 12-13, pp. 382-430
	Quiz 10 (10 points) ON MOODLE	Recommended: TBA if any
16 (Apr 24-29)	DEAD WEEK Final Review is on Tues No Class on Thurs	
17 (May 2-6)	FINAL EXAM Thursday, May 5, 10:00-12:00 noon, Rend 313	