



AHIS150

The Archaeology of Ancient Israel and the Near East

S1 Day 2015

Dept of Ancient History

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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W6A 538

by appointment

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit provides an introduction to the history and archaeology of Ancient Israel and the Near East through the archaeological record. It explores the fascinating history of the region including the earliest human settlement, the beginning of agriculture, the rise of Bronze Age states, the emergence of Israelite kingdoms, the Philistines, and down to the Roman Period. It teaches about regional relationships with the Egyptians, Hittites, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians and Greeks; how empires rose and fell; and the emergence of Judaism and Christianity. The focus is on how excavation of ancient sites and analysis of artefacts can help inform our knowledge of the past. The unit gives a broad platform of knowledge for more specialised study, with opportunities for future participation in excavations in Israel.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.

Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.

Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.

Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

General Assessment Information

Submission of Assignments: All assignments are to be submitted via the iLearn site by their respective due dates and times (which are all listed according to local Sydney time). Access to the internet and the ability to download and/or view unit materials are essential. Any technical issue encountered with accessing unit materials and/or with submitting assignments should be directed to the IT department via ask.mq.edu.au. After lodging a complaint/request with them you must also notify me via email concerning the issue as soon as possible after it is discovered. Contacting me after an assessment's due date to say that you could not submit it on time will not result in an extension for that assessment unless IT provides me with a time-stamped notice.

Assignments will be assessed on their level of completion, coherence, grammar, and comprehension. A fuller set of guidelines for the article summary, encyclopedia article, and final exam will be provided at a later time.

Assessment tasks / assignments are compulsory and must be submitted on time. Extensions for assignments can only be granted for medical reasons or on compassionate grounds. Without documentation (medical or counselling certificates) or prior staff approval, a penalty of 2% a day, including weekends, will be applied. If required, applications for extensions should be made to me before the assignment's due date. No assignments will be accepted after assignments have been corrected and feedback has been provided.

Assignment tasks handed in early will not be marked and returned before the due date.

For Special Consideration Policy see under Policies and Procedures.

Note on Assessment - *To complete the unit satisfactorily you will need to achieve an overall mark worth 50% or above.*

It is highly recommended that you come to all lectures and tutorials. Further, you should complete the readings for any given week before that week's lecture.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Quiz 1	10%	8/3/15
Quiz 2	10%	22/3/15
Quiz 3	10%	4/4/15

Name	Weighting	Due
Article Summary	15%	3/5/15
Quiz 4	10%	17/5/15
Quiz 5	10%	31/5/15
Encyclopedia Article	15%	7/6/15
Final Exam	20%	End of the Semester

Quiz 1

Due: **8/3/15**

Weighting: **10%**

This short, ten-question quiz will assess your knowledge of the course materials covered in the lectures and readings assigned for weeks 1-2. It must be submitted by Sunday 8 March at noon local Sydney time.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.

Quiz 2

Due: **22/3/15**

Weighting: **10%**

This short, ten-question quiz will assess your knowledge of the course materials covered in the lectures and readings assigned for weeks 3-4. It must be submitted by Sunday 22, Mar at noon local Sydney time.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.

Quiz 3

Due: **4/4/15**

Weighting: **10%**

This short, ten-question quiz will assess your knowledge of the course materials covered in the lectures and readings assigned for weeks 5-6. It must be submitted by **Saturday** 4, Apr at noon local Sydney time.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.

Article Summary

Due: **3/5/15**

Weighting: **15%**

Choose one article from any of the extra bibliographies provided each week on the course website to summarize and assess. You can choose any article listed with an asterisk (*) in the bibliographies, and you may choose an article from any week. For example, if you are interested in the Iron Age, you may read an asterisked article at any time during the course of the session; you do not have to wait until we get to that period in the class to read the article in which you are interested.

Your summary will be two full pages (A4 size) in length (1 inch margins, 12 pt Times New Roman (or comparable) font) and must include the following: 1) mention of the author's thesis and key points; and, 2) your assessment of the author's thesis and use of the archaeological and/or historical evidence. Your assessment can incorporate additional articles/research that you believe support or disprove the author's interpretation.

The purpose of this assignment is to allow you the opportunity to interact with modern archaeological scholarship and to delve into a topic of personal interest in more detail.

You may submit your assignment at any time up until noon local Sydney time on 3/5/15.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Quiz 4

Due: **17/5/15**

Weighting: **10%**

This short, ten-question quiz will assess your knowledge of the course materials covered in the lectures and readings assigned for weeks 9-10. It must be submitted by Sunday 17, May at noon local Sydney time.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.

Quiz 5

Due: **31/5/15**

Weighting: **10%**

This short, ten-question quiz will assess your knowledge of the course materials covered in the lectures and readings assigned for weeks 11-12. It must be submitted by Sunday 31, May at noon local Sydney time.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.

Encyclopedia Article

Due: **7/6/15**

Weighting: **15%**

Write a 1000-word encyclopedia article on any site, assemblage, or archaeological feature covered in this course. Your encyclopedia article should include all the essential information about your topic that a person would want to know if they were to read your article (e.g., date, location, size, material properties, interpretation, strata, history, excavators, etc.). *Your topic must be approved by the professor.

The purpose of this assignment is to teach you how to condense a growing body of knowledge on many sites/assemblages/features into a concise and coherent summary that provides interested parties all of the essential information about a given topic. The word count is not flexible.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Final Exam

Due: **End of the Semester**

Weighting: **20%**

Your final exam will be comprehensive. It will include the following types of questions: multiple choice, matching, true and false, and short answer. Once you start the exam, you will have one hour to complete it. The exam must be completed in one sitting, but can be done at any time between Noon on 9/6/15 and noon on 15/6/15. You WILL NOT be able to access the exam after 12pm on 15/6/15. If you start your exam after 11am on 15/6/15 you will only have until noon to complete it (i.e., you will have less than one hour for your exam).

You are welcome to use any resource you have from the class, but you will have only one hour. When the hour is up, you will be locked out of the exam and it will be submitted. Any unanswered questions will be marked as incorrect and the appropriate number of points will be deducted from your grade. Once you submit your exam you cannot change any answers. Also, any written answers (e.g., short answer) must be clearly and coherently written. If I can't understand what you are saying, points will be deducted from your grade.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Delivery and Resources

This class is offered internally and externally this session. Internal students will meet in-class for lectures and tutorials while external students will access course material via the iLearn website. Every student, whether internal or external, will need internet access that allows the downloading

of large video files and additional resources in order to pass this course. Additionally, access to a library and/or article database such as Jstor will be necessary to complete multiple of the assignments. If individual access to such databases is not possible, access is possible via the Macquarie Library website, although a proxy server may be necessary (for more see the "IT Help" link under the "Policies and Procedures" tab).

All lectures, assignments, and readings will be posted on the course's iLearn site for external students. Additional resources, including weblinks and additional directions will also appear there.

Lectures have all been recorded and divided into modules. Each module focuses on one historical period and is broken down further into segments that deal with specific issues/topics within any given historical period. Specific topics for discussion that will be addressed in-class during tutorial time will be posted online for external students. Tutorial topics will be made clear via the iLearn website each week.

Required Textbook:

Richard, Suzanne. 2003 *Near Eastern Archaeology: A Reader*. Eisenbrauns: Winona Lake, IN. ISBN: 1575060833

Recommended Texts:

Ben-Tor, Amnon (ed). 1992 *The Archaeology of Ancient Israel*. Yale University Press, New Haven, CT. ISBN 0300059191

Mazar, Amihai. 1990 *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible, 10,000-586 B.C.E.* Doubleday, New York. ISBN: 0385425902

Stern, Ephraim. 2001 *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible, Volume II: The Assyrian, Babylonian, and Persian Periods (732-332 B.C.E.)*. Doubleday, New York. ISBN: 0385424507

Unit Schedule

Week	Lectures and Tutorials	Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1	Introduction, Historical Geography	Unit Guide; Holladay (33-47); Beitzel (pp.3-9)	
Week 2	Neolithic, Chalcolithic	Rollefson (pp.244-253); Dever (383-390); Levy (263-273)	Quiz 1
Week 3	Early Bronze Age	Richard (286-302)	
Week 4	Middle Bronze Age	Ilan (331-342)	Quiz 2
Week 5	Late Bronze Age	Alpert Nakhai (343-348)	
Week 6	Iron Age I	Leonard (349-356); Ackerman (391-397); Block-Smith and Nakhai 1999	Quiz 3
Break Week 1	Break		

Break Week 2	Break		
Week 7	Iron Age IIA	Yunker (375-382); Garfinkel (2011)	
Week 8	Iron Age IIB	Matthews (157-163);	Article Summary
Week 9	Iron Age IIC	Keimer 2013	
Week 10	Neo-Babylonian and Persian Periods	Carter (398-412); Betlyon 2006	Quiz 4
Week 11	Hellenistic and Hasmonean Periods	Berlin (418-423); Berlin (423-433)	
Week 12	Herod and Rome	Cohen 2011; Schiffman 1998:385-395	Quiz 5
Week 13	The 1 st Jewish Revolt	Cohen 2011; Schiffman 1998:385-395	Encyclopedia Article
Final	Online during 1st week of Finals		Final

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Assessment tasks

- Article Summary
- Encyclopedia Article
- Final Exam

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.

- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Article Summary
- Quiz 4
- Quiz 5
- Encyclopedia Article
- Final Exam

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.

Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Article Summary
- Quiz 4
- Quiz 5

- Encyclopedia Article
- Final Exam

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Article Summary
- Quiz 4
- Quiz 5
- Encyclopedia Article
- Final Exam

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Article Summary
- Quiz 4
- Quiz 5
- Encyclopedia Article
- Final Exam

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3

- Article Summary
- Quiz 4
- Quiz 5
- Encyclopedia Article
- Final Exam

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Know the archaeological periodization of the ancient Near East and aspects of the cultures studied in this unit.
- Identify methodological developments in the archaeology of the Near East.
- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Article Summary
- Quiz 4
- Quiz 5
- Encyclopedia Article
- Final Exam

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social

justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.
- Synthesize acquired knowledge and understanding to produce a critical analytical article review and essay answers on the final exam.

Assessment tasks

- Article Summary
- Encyclopedia Article

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Analyse source material, including the archaeological record, ancient sources, and modern scholarship, the critiquing of texts and application of knowledge.

Assessment tasks

- Article Summary
- Encyclopedia Article