# AHIS272

## Ancient Egyptian Literature

S2 Day 2019

*Dept of Ancient History*

# Contents

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# General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Susanne Binder
susanne.binder@mq.edu.au
Contact via susanne.binder@mq.edu.au
AHH Level 2 north
by appointment

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
12cp at 100 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit introduces students to the corpus of literary texts from Ancient Egypt. Students read
and analyse a representative selection of primary sources in English translation. These texts
cover a variety of genres ranging from tales and teachings to biographies, dialogues and
satires, as well as poetry and songs. They date from the Old Kingdom (c. 2500 BCE) to the
Late New Kingdom (c. 1000 BCE).

## 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:

read a representative body of literary texts from ancient Egypt.

apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.

define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them
with works of modern world literature.

characterize key concepts of the ancient Egyptian world view, society and religion as
reflected in the literary writings.

appraise the literary texts from ancient Egypt as an example for the role literature plays

in a literate/illiterate society as a form of human expression in dealing with the big issues in life.

respond creatively to select passages from literary texts from ancient Egypt.

critically assess the current scholarly debate on aspects of modern literary theory and its application to ancient Egyptian literature.

# General Assessment Information

**On-time submission of assessment tasks**

The assessments tasks are compulsory in this unit. Each assessment task has a due date and students are expected to submit their work on time. Further details are specified on iLearn.

**Late Assessment Penalty**

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved through **ask.mq.edu.au** (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

# Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|---|---|---|---|
| Fact File | 10% | No | as per arrangement |
| Tutorial Paper | 20% | No | within Weeks 2-7 |
| Quiz online (2) | 20% | No | Week 6, Week 12 |
| Participation | 20% | No | Weeks 2-12 |
| Final Test (class test) | 30% | No | Week 13 |

## Fact File

Due: **as per arrangement**
Weighting: **10%**

Brief oral presentation (max. 10 minutes) in class of the "facts" about a specific ancient Egyptian literary text - accompanied by a powerpoint presentation. In preparation the student follows a specific catalogue of questions (see iLearn site).

On successful completion you will be able to:
- read a representative body of literary texts from ancient Egypt.

- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.
- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.

# Tutorial Paper

Due: **within Weeks 2-7**
Weighting: **20%**

One (1) paper, 800-1000 words. Choice of set topics.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.
- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.
- characterize key concepts of the ancient Egyptian world view, society and religion as reflected in the literary writings.
- critically assess the current scholarly debate on aspects of modern literary theory and its application to ancient Egyptian literature.

# Quiz online (2)

Due: **Week 6, Week 12**
Weighting: **20%**

Two (2) short, 30-minute quizzes (multiple choice, true-false, matching, multiple correct, short answer etc) on the contents and important facts about the primary sources (10% each).

On successful completion you will be able to:
- read a representative body of literary texts from ancient Egypt.
- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.

# Participation

Due: **Weeks 2-12**
Weighting: **20%**

Quality and regularity of participation based on thorough preparation, interaction in class and the specified forums online on the iLearn site. This includes presenting at the "Performance" in Week 12.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- read a representative body of literary texts from ancient Egypt.
- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.

- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.
- characterize key concepts of the ancient Egyptian world view, society and religion as reflected in the literary writings.
- appraise the literary texts from ancient Egypt as an example for the role literature plays in a literate/illiterate society as a form of human expression in dealing with the big issues in life.
- respond creatively to select passages from literary texts from ancient Egypt.
- critically assess the current scholarly debate on aspects of modern literary theory and its application to ancient Egyptian literature.

## Final Test (class test)

Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: **30%**

1-hour test during class time: students analyse and comment critically on two text passages from the corpus of ancient Egyptian literary texts.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- read a representative body of literary texts from ancient Egypt.
- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.
- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.
- characterize key concepts of the ancient Egyptian world view, society and religion as reflected in the literary writings.
- critically assess the current scholarly debate on aspects of modern literary theory and its application to ancient Egyptian literature.

# Delivery and Resources

## Technology used and required

**This unit has an online component on iLearn. Login** is via: https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/ **Is my unit in iLearn?** http://help.ilearn.mq.edu.au/unitsonline/ to check when your online unit will become available.

**Technology**

Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient. The preferred operating system is Windows 10. Students are required to access the online unit in iLearn by the end of Week 1 and follow any relevant instructions and links for downloads that may be required.

- For central technical support go to: http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/

- For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/guides.htm

# Delivery

This unit is taught on campus and in external mode. Both types of delivery have access to the same iLearn site but with separate Discussion Forums for the external students. There are online activities for both campus students and external students.

**The unit is conducted as a lectorial in a 3-hour block**, which means that lecture and tutorial are integrated allowing for more student participation. The unit uses recordings on Echo 360 of the AHIS272 on-campus lectorials. These are made available after the lectorial. The unit can be accessed through http://ilearn.mq.edu.au

**Location of class**: check the relevant MQ web-page http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/timetables

# Required Resource

All students need to have the following book that we will work with throughout the semester. It is available in hard-copy and in electronic form.

- W.K. Simpson, R.K. Ritner, V.A. Tobin and E. Wente (2003) *The Literature of Ancient Egypt. An Anthology of Stories, Instructions, Stelae*, *Autobiographies and Poetry* (New Haven: Yale University Press) ISBN 9780300099201

For the other recommended resources, secondary literature, study aids and further instructions, see the AHIS272 Bibliography on the iLearn site.

**Attendance**

To successfully complete this unit students actively participate in all the learning activities and assessment tasks of this unit - external students in the forums on the iLearn site, and campus students both in class and on the accompanying iLearn site. Students need to log on to the iLearn site regularly for supportive materials, forums and assessment (Quizzes in Weeks 6 and 12). External students need to note that weekly contributions online are equivalent to participation in class. Silence is considered absence. -  Students absent due to illness or other valid reasons should notify the Unit Convenor or the Department Administrator (ancienthistory@mq.edu.au / phone: 02 9850 8833). For the rules on Extensions and Penalties, see General Assessment Information above.

**Participation**

Students are expected to participate actively in the lectorials and in the online component of the unit on iLearn.

**Punctuality**

Students are expected to arrive on campus on time for classes (arriving late is disruptive).

**Preparation**

Preparing for the weekly classes and online forums (for the externals) means completing the readings and reflecting on the focus questions. The on-time submission of assignments is an integral part of the unit. Both the class/forum discussions and your written work aim at building your competence in understanding and analyzing the unit material. Regular and thorough preparation enable you to participate actively in class and also enhance and strengthen your learning process. Ultimately this will lead to a positive learning experience.

**Workload**

Students are expected to invest 3 hours of work per credit point per week over a 15-week period to satisfactorily complete the unit. This means a total of 135 hours. This time includes the attendance at / listening to the (recording of the) lectures and the tutorials.

**Successful completion**

Students are expected to complete all the assignments by the due date (for details see section "Assessment Tasks"). To pass the unit successfully, the student will need to reach a minimum of 50% across the Assessment tasks.

# Unit Schedule

| Week 1 | **Introduction** - Ancient Egyptian Literature: texts, definitions, scripts, writing, literacy. Key concepts of literary analysis: author, audience/reader, purpose, " Sitz im Leben", genre, style, plot and character |
|---|---|
| Week 2 | **TALES**: King Kheops and the Magicians / The Shipwrecked Sailor |
| Week 3 | **TRAVEL NARRATIVES**: Sinuhe / Wenamun |
| Week 4 | **DIALOGUES**: The Eloquent Peasant / The Man and his Ba |
| Week 5 | **LATE EGYPTIAN STORIES** (1): the Quarrel of Apophis and Sekenenre / The Capture of Joppa / The Tale of the Doomed Prince |
| Week 6 | **LATE EGYPTIAN STORIES** (2): The Tale of Two Brothers / The Contendings of Horus and Seth |
| Week 7 | **BIOGRAPHIES**: examples to illustrate the development of the genre from Old Kingdom, First Intermediate Period, Middle Kingdom, early New Kingdom, later New Kingdom (Ramesside period). |
| Week 8 | **INSTRUCTIONS AND TEACHINGS**: The Admonitions of Ipuwer / The Teaching of Amenemhet I / The Prophecy of Neferty |
| Week 9 | **POETRY**: Love Songs / Harper's Songs |
| Week 10 | **SATIRE AND HUMOUR**: Satire of Trades / stories without words |
| Week 11 | **DEMOTIC LITERATURE**: the Setna-Khaemwas stories / Prince Pedikhons and Queen Serpot / The Lion in Search of Man |

| Week 12 | "Performance" |
|---------|---------------|
| Week 13 | Class Test: Text analysis and commentary |

# Learning and Teaching Activities

## Lectorials

Every week: prepare and engage with the ancient texts, discuss with fellow students in class.

## Presenting

Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.

## Writing

Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.

## Building memory

Training memory and recall of key facts and elements, contents and themes of ancient Egyptian literature.

# Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (http

s://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/student-conduct

## Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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 or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

# IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources 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 outcome

- respond creatively to select passages from literary texts from ancient Egypt.

### Assessment task

- Participation

### Learning and teaching activity

- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.

## 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

- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.
- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.
- respond creatively to select passages from literary texts from ancient Egypt.
- critically assess the current scholarly debate on aspects of modern literary theory and its application to ancient Egyptian literature.

### Assessment tasks

- Fact File
- Tutorial Paper
- Participation

- Final Test (class test)

## Learning and teaching activities

- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.
- Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.

# 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

- read a representative body of literary texts from ancient Egypt.
- characterize key concepts of the ancient Egyptian world view, society and religion as reflected in the literary writings.

## Assessment tasks

- Tutorial Paper
- Quiz online (2)
- Participation
- Final Test (class test)

## Learning and teaching activities

- Every week: prepare and engage with the ancient texts, discuss with fellow students in class.
- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.
- Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.
- Training memory and recall of key facts and elements, contents and themes of ancient Egyptian literature.

# 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

- read a representative body of literary texts from ancient Egypt.

- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.

- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.

- characterize key concepts of the ancient Egyptian world view, society and religion as reflected in the literary writings.

## Assessment tasks

- Fact File

- Tutorial Paper

- Quiz online (2)

- Participation

- Final Test (class test)

## Learning and teaching activities

- Every week: prepare and engage with the ancient texts, discuss with fellow students in class.

- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.

- Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.

- Training memory and recall of key facts and elements, contents and themes of ancient Egyptian literature.

# 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

- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.
- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.
- characterize key concepts of the ancient Egyptian world view, society and religion as reflected in the literary writings.
- appraise the literary texts from ancient Egypt as an example for the role literature plays in a literate/illiterate society as a form of human expression in dealing with the big issues in life.
- critically assess the current scholarly debate on aspects of modern literary theory and its application to ancient Egyptian literature.

## Assessment tasks

- Tutorial Paper
- Final Test (class test)

## Learning and teaching activities

- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.
- Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.

# 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

- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.
- characterize key concepts of the ancient Egyptian world view, society and religion as reflected in the literary writings.
- appraise the literary texts from ancient Egypt as an example for the role literature plays in a literate/illiterate society as a form of human expression in dealing with the big issues in life.

- critically assess the current scholarly debate on aspects of modern literary theory and its application to ancient Egyptian literature.

## Assessment tasks

- Tutorial Paper
- Final Test (class test)

## Learning and teaching activities

- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.
- Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.

# 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

- apply categories of text analysis to the ancient writings.
- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.

## Assessment tasks

- Fact File
- Tutorial Paper
- Participation
- Final Test (class test)

## Learning and teaching activities

- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.
- Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.
- Training memory and recall of key facts and elements, contents and themes of ancient Egyptian literature.

# 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

- define distinguishing features of ancient literary texts and compare and contrast them with works of modern world literature.
- appraise the literary texts from ancient Egypt as an example for the role literature plays in a literate/illiterate society as a form of human expression in dealing with the big issues in life.

## Assessment task

- Participation

## Learning and teaching activity

- Every week: prepare and engage with the ancient texts, discuss with fellow students in class.
- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.
- Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.
- Training memory and recall of key facts and elements, contents and themes of ancient Egyptian literature.

# 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 outcomes

- appraise the literary texts from ancient Egypt as an example for the role literature plays in a literate/illiterate society as a form of human expression in dealing with the big issues

in life.

- critically assess the current scholarly debate on aspects of modern literary theory and its application to ancient Egyptian literature.

## Assessment task

- Participation

## Learning and teaching activity

- Every week: prepare and engage with the ancient texts, discuss with fellow students in class.
- Students participate in presenting information content to the class (Fact File) very week: preparing and engaging with the ancient texts and discussing with the fellow students online; focusing on key themes and analytical approaches.
- Reading, reflecting, researching and writing the tutorial paper and research essay.
- Training memory and recall of key facts and elements, contents and themes of ancient Egyptian literature.

# Extensions

Assessment tasks are compulsory and must be submitted on time. As a general rule, extensions will not be granted without a valid and documented reason (e.g. medical certificate. This means **Extensions** can only be granted in exceptional cases. Students can apply for Special Consideration through ask.mq.edu.au. For the policy on **Special Consideration**, see under Policies and Procedures.

**Late Assessment Penalty**

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

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