AHIS2251

Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art: Theory and Practice

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

Department of Ancient History

Contents

Disclaimer

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Notice

As part of Phase 3 of our return to campus plan, most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to timetable viewer. To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor & Tutor
Dr Alexandra Woods
alex.woods@mq.edu.au
Contact via Post on iLearn discussion forum or email for private matters
Arts Precinct, Level 1, Office B169
By appointment only

Unit Convenor & Tutor
Professor Javier Álvarez Mon
javier.alvarez-mon@mq.edu.au
Contact via Post on iLearn discussion forum or email for private matters
Arts Precinct, Level 1, Office B108
By appointment only

Javier Alvarez-Mon
javier.alvarez-mon@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
AHIS1240 and AHIS1250

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit introduces the theory and practice of ancient art with particular reference to ancient Egypt and the Near East. Topics to be explored include understanding the notion of "art" as applied to the archaeological and cultural contexts of ancient non-western cultures, understanding contemporary methodological and ethical issues in the study of art history and developing basic skills necessary for artistic analysis and interpretation. Material studied will include monumental and domestic architecture, sculpture, ceramics, metalwork, glyptic, and literary arts.

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:

> **ULO1:** Outline the status and purpose of ancient art in the context of history, religion, politics and changes in social and cultural dynamics in the societies of ancient Egypt and the Near East;
>
> **ULO2:** Evaluate the main methods of analysing and interpreting ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern art from antiquity to present day
>
> **ULO3:** Outline the methodological and ethical issues associated with the study of ancient art
>
> **ULO4:** Describe, compare and analyse an ancient artefact and apply terminology, a method and methodological approach appropriate to art historical examination
>
> **ULO5:** Find, analyse and critique primary and secondary sources pertaining to the study of ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern visual culture, illustrating sound skills in research, and an ability to present the information in a written and oral format
>
> **ULO6:** Actively participate in group discussion; work with and respond to the views of Ancient History staff and other students in the unit in an oral form; show an ability to reflect on the learning experience

General Assessment Information

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

All written work must be submitted **through the iLearn website**. Please upload your assignment to the drop-box for the relevant week. Save your assignment as a pdf or a doc file (a pdf is best; please do not use docx). All assignments must include the following at the start:

- Student name;
- Student Number;
- Assessment Task Title or Question.

Any assignment submitted without these will not be marked.

All written work will be returned via the 'turnitin' tool on the iLearn unit site, and will contain feedback from the marker within them. Information about how to submit work online can be accessed through the iLearn unit.

The online quizzes will be undertaken using the iLearn quiz tool on the iLearn unit site.

MARKING RUBRICS

All written assessment tasks will be graded using a rubric, which can be found on the iLearn unit site.

RELEASE OF RESULTS

The convener will aim to return your assignments within 3 weeks of the due date. Results can be viewed via iLearn using the Gradebook tool.

EXAMINATIONS

There is no formal examination in this unit.

FINAL MARKS

Please note with respect to the marks you receive for work during the session: that the marks given are indicative only; final marks will be determined after moderation. See further the note on Results in the Policies and Procedures section below.

EXTENSIONS AND DISRUPTION TO STUDIES

- Extensions can only be granted in exceptional cases and may only be sought in consultation with the unit convenor and with support of documentary evidence. If you anticipate any difficulty in meeting assigned due dates then it is important that you contact the unit convenor and/or tutor as early as possible via the dialogue tool.

- Please avoid asking for extensions as missing deadlines complicates the work of markers and puts you behind. **If you have to ask for an extension, request it BEFORE the deadline and not on the due date.** Excuses such as 'Getting behind with your work' or 'I had other deadlines' do not count.

IMPORTANT PENALTIES TO BE APPLIED:

- **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;

  ◦ (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. A zero grade will be applied for that task.

  ◦ (c) no late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests

- Written assessment tasks submitted that are under or over the word length by more than 15% will be penalised with a 10% deduction. The marker will only read to the listed word limit, i.e. if the word limit is 1000 words they will stop reading at 1000 words (plus or minus up to 150 words).

- Written assessment tasks **submitted without proper referencing,** i.e. few or no page

numbers or no bibliography, **will be marked according to the Macquarie University Plagiarism Policy and the schedule of penalties,** including one of the following: reduced mark for the assessment task; required resubmission with reduced maximum mark; issuance of a caution or an automatic fail.

EXTENSION REQUEST PROCEDURE

The granting of extensions is subject to the University's Special Consideration Policy: https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration

Disruption to Studies

If you require an extension, you will be required to submit a 'Disruption to Studies' Notification. Please follow the procedure below:

1. Visit https://ask.mq.edu.au and use your OneID to log in.

2. Select your unit code from the drop down list and fill in your relevant details. Note: A notification needs to be submitted for each unit you believe is affected by the disruption.

3. Click "Submit form".

4. Attach supporting documents by clicking 'Add a note/attachment', click 'browse' and navigating to the files you want to attach, then click 'submit note' to send your notification and supporting documents

5. Please keep copies of your original documents, as they may be requested in the future as part of the assessment process.

Please ensure that supporting documentation is included with your request. Notify your lecturer via your iLearn dialogue box if you are submitting a 'Disruption to Studies' Notification. Your request will be considered once all the documentation has been received. If you have issues, please contact your convenor via the dialogue tool immediately.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Online Quiz	15%	No	Weeks 2-8, 10-12
Artistic Description and Analysis	25%	No	Sunday Week 9 @ 10pm
Final Test	45%	No	Week 13 (Open Monday 9am - Sunday 11.59pm)
ePortfolio	15%	No	Sunday of Week 13 @ 10pm

Online Quiz

Assessment Type [1]: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 44 hours
Due: **Weeks 2-8, 10-12**
Weighting: **15%**

Answer a series of questions on the required weekly readings. Complete the quiz using the iLearn quiz tool.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Outline the status and purpose of ancient art in the context of history, religion, politics and changes in social and cultural dynamics in the societies of ancient Egypt and the Near East;
- Evaluate the main methods of analysing and interpreting ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern art from antiquity to present day
- Outline the methodological and ethical issues associated with the study of ancient art

Artistic Description and Analysis

Assessment Type [1]: Case study/analysis
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 25 hours
Due: **Sunday Week 9 @ 10pm**
Weighting: **25%**

Based on the supplied readings and primary sources, students will undertake an artistic description and analysis according to the relevant art historical conventions. Guidelines and word limit available in iLearn. Submit via Turnitin.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe, compare and analyse an ancient artefact and apply terminology, a method and methodological approach appropriate to art historical examination
- Find, analyse and critique primary and secondary sources pertaining to the study of ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern visual culture, illustrating sound skills in research, and an ability to present the information in a written and oral format

Final Test

Assessment Type [1]: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 30 hours
Due: **Week 13 (Open Monday 9am - Sunday 11.59pm)**
Weighting: **45%**

Answer questions on the weekly seminar and tutorial material. Complete the quiz using the

iLearn quiz tool.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Outline the status and purpose of ancient art in the context of history, religion, politics and changes in social and cultural dynamics in the societies of ancient Egypt and the Near East;
- Evaluate the main methods of analysing and interpreting ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern art from antiquity to present day
- Outline the methodological and ethical issues associated with the study of ancient art

ePortfolio

Assessment Type [1]: Reflective Writing
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 15 hours
Due: **Sunday of Week 13 @ 10pm**
Weighting: **15%**

The ePortfolio will be comprised of 2 elements: 1) Journal of Learning (after each class); 2) Self-Reflection on Student-Led Discussion. Guidelines and word limit available in iLearn. Submit via Turnitin.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Find, analyse and critique primary and secondary sources pertaining to the study of ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern visual culture, illustrating sound skills in research, and an ability to present the information in a written and oral format
- Actively participate in group discussion; work with and respond to the views of Ancient History staff and other students in the unit in an oral form; show an ability to reflect on the learning experience

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[1] If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

[2] Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

In this unit, we will introduce you to the theory and practice of ancient art with particular reference to ancient Egypt and the Near East. We will explore understandings of the notion of "art" as

applied to the archaeological and cultural contexts of ancient non-western cultures, examine contemporary methodological and ethical issues in the study of art history and develop basic skills necessary for artistic analysis and interpretation.

The unit will be broken up into a series of modules, which are as follows:

- **Module 1:** The study of Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art History: Theory and practice (Weeks 1, 2, 3, 4).

- **Module 2**: Case studies on ancient Egypt (Weeks 5, 6, 7).

- **Module 3:** Case Studies on the ancient Near East (Weeks 8, 10, 11, 12).

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

This unit will be taught following a flipped classroom model, which describes a reversal of traditional teaching where students gain first exposure to new material outside of class, usually via reading or recorded lectures, and then class time is used to do the harder work of assimilating that knowledge through strategies such as problem-solving, discussion or debates.

This unit will be taught via a blended delivery of content and instruction using a multi-media approach such as online resources, pre-recorded lectures, 3D digital artefacts in addition to accessing reliable websites as well as online databases and journals. Through this approach it is hoped that you will acquire detailed knowledge of the relevant subject matter, the skills to locate, utilise and critique source material and a strong understanding of the required artistic analysis and interpretation relevant to the discipline.

This unit is comprised of 2 key elements:

1. 3 hours of **instruction** (1-2 hours of pre-recorded lectures (normally Face-to-Face) and 1 hour of student led discussion in tutorials online via Zoom (MQ's web conferencing tool);
2. and **individual** study and preparation.

- Students are expected to attend all tutorials, unless there are extenuating circumstances such as illness etc. A log will be taken to record attendance.
- For lecture times please consult the MQ Timetable website: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au. This website will display up-to-date information on your classes and classroom locations.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

iLearn will play a pivotal role throughout the session and it will be your central hub for information and instructions. Each week will be structured as follows:

BEFORE CLASS | Preparation

- *Step 1 | Preparation*
    - ◦ Watch the pre-recorded lectures via Echo360 and take notes in preparation for

> your Final Online Test;
>
> ◦ Complete the required readings that will be available to download;

- *Step 2 | Assessment*

  > ◦ Complete an online quiz based on the required readings and prepare for the
  > tutorial discussion via Zoom;

DURING CLASS | Knowledge Building

- *Step 3 | Engage with your peers*

  > ◦ Lead/participate in group discussion in your assigned teams and participate in
  > the weekly tutorial discussion/activities.

AFTER CLASS | Consolidation

- *Step 4 | Journal of Learning*

  > ◦ Write a short reflection on the weekly readings, lecture content or tutorial
  > discussion in your learning journal on iLearn.

Students must achieve an overall mark of 50% or above to complete this unit satisfactorily.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

There is no required textbook for this unit. A list of *Required and Extension Readings* will be provided on the unit's iLearn site each week with information on how to download the readings online.

Recommended texts - those marked with an * are strongly recommended.

Introduction to Art History (organized chronologically)

- 1550. G. Vasari, G., *Lives of the Artists, selected lives* [*]
- 1863 Baudelaire, Ch., *The Painter of Modern Life & other Essays*.
- 1873 Winckelman, J.J., *The History of Ancient Art Vol. I* [*]
- 1915 Wölfflin, H., *Principles of Art History*.
- 1956 Gombrich, E.H., *Art and Illusion*.
- 1969 Arnheim, R., *Visual Thinking* [*]
- 1972 Panofsky, E., *Studies in Iconology*.
- 1972 Schapiro, M., *Word and Image*.
- 1981 Haskell, F. & N. Penny., *Taste and the Antique*.
- 1982 Podro, M., *The Critical Historians of Art*.

- 1983   Shapiro, M., *Words and Pictures. On the Literal and the Symbolic in the Illustration of a Text* [*]
- 1987   Belting, H., *The End of the History of Art.* [*]
- 1990   Kemp, M., *The Science of Art: Optical Themes in Western Art from* Brunelleschi to Seurat*.*
- 1993   Gage, J., *Colour and Culture: Practice and Meaning from Antiquity to Abstraction.*
- 1996   Nelson, R.S & R. Shiff., *Critical Terms for Art History* [*]
- 1998   Gell, A., *Art and Agency: An Anthropological Theory* [*]
- 1998   Pollock, G. (1998), *Vision and difference: femininity, feminism and the histories of art*.
- 2001   Shiner, L., *The Invention of Art, a cultural history* [*]
- 2013   Stefanie Buchenau, S., *The Founding of Aesthetics in the German Enlightenment. The Art of Invention and the Invention of Art* [*]
- 2014   Steiner, D., *Greek and Roman Theories of Art* [*]

Ancient Egypt

- Baines, J.,*Visual and written culture in ancient Egypt (*Oxford, 2007).
- Frood, E., and McDonald, A., (eds.) *Decorum and Experience: Essays in ancient culture for John Baines* (Oxford, 2013).
- * Hartwig, M.K. (ed)., *A companion to ancient Egyptian art* Cambridge, 2015).Full text available from Blackwell Reference Online (access through MQ library catalogue)
- Lloyd, A. B. (ed.) *A Companion to Ancient Egypt*. 2 volumes (Chichester, 2010). Full text available from Blackwell Reference Online (access through MQ library catalogue)
- * Riggs, C., *Ancient Egyptian Art and Architecture: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford, 2014).
- * Robins, G., *The Art of Ancient Egypt* (London: the British museum press, 2nd edition, 2008).
- Schäfer, H., 1974. *Principles of Egyptian Art*. Oxford University Press.
- Shaw, I. (ed.), *The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt* (Oxford, 2003).

These texts are available for purchase at BookTopia or other online repositories.

Ancient Near Eastern Art (organized chronologically)

- 1976   Barnett, *North Palace of Ashurbanipal, Nineveh* [*]
- 2000   Collins, B.J. *A History of the Animal World in the Ancient Near East* [*]
- 2000   Wallenfels, R. & J. M. Sasson, *The Ancient Near East, An Encyclopedia for Students* [*]

- 2007   Feldman et al (eds), *Ancient Near Eastern Art in Context, Studies in Honour of I. Winter* [*]
- 2007   Schmandt-Besserat, D. *When Writing Met Art. From Symbol to Story* [*]
- 2014   Feldman, M.A. *Communities of style, portable luxury arts, identity, and collective memory in the Iron Age Levant* [*]
- 2019   Gunter, A.C. (ed.), *A Companion to Ancient Near Eastern Art* [*]

UNIT WEBPAGE AND TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

This unit will use iLearn: https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/

IMPORTANT: All students are required to bring a device to class (mobile phones are not sufficient). If you do not have access to a device, please contact the convenor.

PC and Internet access are required. Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement. Please consult teaching staff for any further, more specific requirements.

ONLINE STUDENT LED DISCUSSIONS | ZOOM MEETINGS

All students enrolled in the unit are required to meet each week with your online tutor to discuss the set readings for the week. The tutorial discussions will be conducted through Zoom, which is Macquarie's web conferencing tool which provides video and voice communication, text chat, interactive whiteboard, screen sharing and annotation. Zoom is very simple to use and offers a wide variety of opportunities for learning and teaching such as real-time online tutorials, virtual consultations with students or including an external guest speaker in a lecture etc. Click here for a summary of the basics of Zoom from the MQ L&T Blog.

It is your responsibility to make sure you pre-configure your computer to use this software prior to the first meeting in Week 1.

Pre-Configuration:

- To access Zoom and set up and meeting, go to https://macquarie.zoom.us/ and enter your OneID and password.
- Please make sure your Mac or PC is equipped with a microphone and speakers, so that you can use the audio functionality built into the web conferencing software.
- Please note that it is extremely important that you get your system set up prior to the start of the event. Information on installing the necessary software and configuring your PC or Mac is available at https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697-Getting-Started

Please note that this link is only for Set up. Once you have completed the setup, close down the link and use the link provided on iLearn to access the room for the first meeting, which will be an informal get to know everyone session and we will also assign the

tutorial discussion topics to each of you for the session.

Unit Schedule

Week	Module	Pre-recorded Lecture	ZOOM Tutorial	Assessment
1 27 July 2020	*The study of Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art History: Theory and practice*	Introduction to Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art	Meet and Greet	• Unit guide Online Quiz (non-assessable)
2 3 August 2020		Art History: Definitions and Methodologies	*Research Methods 1* Tools of Artistic Analysis: a practical approach	• Online quiz – Week 2
3 10 August 2020		The Art History of the Ancient Near East: Past, Present and Future	*Research Methods 2* Who's art and who's history? The Dialectic between Artefact and Context	• Online quiz – Week 3
4 17 August 2020		The Art of Art History in Egyptology: Deconstructing Disciplinary Traditions	*Research Methods 3* The State of the Study of Egyptian Art	• Online quiz – Week 4
5 24 August 2020	*Case Studies on ancient Egypt*	*Case Study 1* Decoding Egyptian Art: Principles and Decorum	**Student led discussion**	• Online quiz – Week **5**
6 31 August 2020		*Case Study 2* Visual Narrative in Elite Two Dimensional Mortuary Representation	**Student led discussion**	• Online quiz – Week 6
7 7 September 2020		*Case Study 3* Three Dimensional Sculpture in New Kingdom Egypt: Function, Agency and Materiality	**Student led discussion**	• Online quiz – Week 7
MID-SESSION BREAK				
8 28 September 2020	*Case Studies on the ancient Near East*	*Case Study 4* Glyptic Arts: A Window to the Imagination	**Student led discussion**	• Online quiz – Week 8

9 5 October 2020		NO CLASS		• **ARTISTIC DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS** (Sunday @ 10pm)
10 12 October 2020		*Case Study 5* Architecture: Cities ("urban planning"), Ziggurats, Temples, Palaces and Houses	**Student led discussion**	• Online quiz – Week 10
11 19 October 2020		*Case Study 6* Telling a Story: the Invention of Visual and Historical Narrative in the Ancient Near East	**Student led discussion**	• Online quiz – Week 11
12 26 October 2020		*Case Study 7* Statuary, three Dimensional Sculpture and Paintings	**Student led discussion**	• Online quiz – Week 12
13 2 November 2020	NO CLASS			• **FINAL ONLINE TEST** (Opens 9am Monday – closes 11.59pm Sunday) • **ePORTFOLIO** (Sunday @ 10pm)

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.)

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 (https://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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

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.

Changes from Previous Offering

New Unit offered for the first time in Session 2 2020.