



# AHIS2210

## From Alexander the Great to Augustus: The Hellenistic Age

Session 1, Fully online/virtual 2021

*Department of History and Archaeology*

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#### **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 activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face 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

Ray Laurence

[ray.laurence@mq.edu.au](mailto:ray.laurence@mq.edu.au)

Paul McKechnie

[paul.mckechnie@mq.edu.au](mailto:paul.mckechnie@mq.edu.au)

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

40cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

Alexander the Great's extraordinary conquests (towards the end of the fourth century BCE) opened up vast areas of the ancient Near-East to Greek influences. This unit deals with the political and cultural history of the eastern Mediterranean area, beginning with Alexander's invasion of the Persian Empire, dealing in some detail with his personality and policies. It follows the fortunes of his successors in the third and second centuries BCE, treating the Hellenisation of native peoples and reactions to cultural change, down to and including the early first century CE, under the Roman Empire. Consideration will also be given to the place of Alexander the Great as a historical figure in the modern world.

## 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:** illustrate a broad knowledge of historical developments in the Hellenistic Age and a broad understanding of the approach of historians to the study of the period.

**ULO2:** examine and critically evaluate historical evidence with initiative and judgement and illustrate competency through devising and sustaining arguments and solving problems with reference to the Hellenistic Age.

**ULO3:** appreciate the larger issues that engage historians of the Hellenistic Age and to understand connections between the ancient world and the modern, as well as the on-going significance of this period of the past within the modern world

## General Assessment Information

1) Submit the written work via turnitin. The link to do so is on the iLearn site. Your essays must NOT exceed the maximum word limit of 1000 words; they should be typed, double-spaced, size 12 font, throughout. On a separate page at the end provide a bibliography listing all works consulted (the bibliography is NOT included in the word limit). The essay topics are given in the iLearn site where there are further details about them.

2) LATE 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.

3) IMPORTANT NOTE ON FINAL MARKS: Grading decisions for each assessment task will be moderated against the set criteria and standards before task results are released.

4) Do not plagiarise: plagiarism will not be tolerated; see 'MQ Academic Honesty': [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic\\_honesty/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#">Essay 1: Alexander the Great and the Macedonian Empire</a>	30%	No	Week 7
<a href="#">Essay 2: The Hellenistic Age</a>	30%	No	Week 12
<a href="#">Take-home examination</a>	40%	No	During Exam Period: final date to be determined

### Essay 1: Alexander the Great and the Macedonian Empire

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Essay

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 14 hours

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **30%**

The essay of 1000 words (maximum) will focus on historical interpretation of an aspect of the reign of Alexander the Great and/or its historical consequences for the Hellenistic Age.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- illustrate a broad knowledge of historical developments in the Hellenistic Age and a broad understanding of the approach of historians to the study of the period.
- examine and critically evaluate historical evidence with initiative and judgement and illustrate competency through devising and sustaining arguments and solving problems with reference to the Hellenistic Age.

## Essay 2: The Hellenistic Age

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Essay

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 13 hours

Due: **Week 12**

Weighting: **30%**

This second essay will focus on an aspect of the Hellenistic Age

On successful completion you will be able to:

- illustrate a broad knowledge of historical developments in the Hellenistic Age and a broad understanding of the approach of historians to the study of the period.
- examine and critically evaluate historical evidence with initiative and judgement and illustrate competency through devising and sustaining arguments and solving problems with reference to the Hellenistic Age.
- appreciate the larger issues that engage historians of the Hellenistic Age and to understand connections between the ancient world and the modern, as well as the on-going significance of this period of the past within the modern world

## Take-home examination

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 27 hours

Due: **During Exam Period: final date to be determined**

Weighting: **40%**

Students will demonstrate in the examination their broad knowledge of the Hellenistic Age and of the approaches to the History of this period by modern authors. A mandatory question will focus on source analysis. There will also be an opportunity for students to demonstrate their understanding of the importance of this historical period for the modern world.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- illustrate a broad knowledge of historical developments in the Hellenistic Age and a broad understanding of the approach of historians to the study of the period.
- examine and critically evaluate historical evidence with initiative and judgement and illustrate competency through devising and sustaining arguments and solving problems with reference to the Hellenistic Age.
- appreciate the larger issues that engage historians of the Hellenistic Age and to understand connections between the ancient world and the modern, as well as the on-going significance of this period of the past within the modern world

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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

**Schedule:** All weekly lectures will be recorded. There will be face-to-face tutorials in most weeks for internal students and any external student able to attend them: see iLearn Syllabus for details. In addition, a 'definitive' tutorial will be recorded and posted after the tutorial in question.

**Method:** AHIS2210 is delivered in blended mode as a Macquarie University unit of study.

**Webpage:** Online units can be accessed at: <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au/>

**Technology used and skills required:** PC and Internet access are required. Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement.

Please contact IT staff for any further, more specific, requirements, to do with technology.

### Required and recommended resources

Required books:

Ian Worthington (ed.), *Alexander the Great: A Reader*, 2nd edition (Routledge: 2011): available at reduced cost if you order on this site:

<https://www.routledge.com/Alexander-the-Great-A-Reader/Worthington/p/book/9780415667432>

Prescribed text(s):

eReserve readings (see 'Unit Readings' in iLearn Syllabus for information)

## Unit Schedule

Week 1: Macedonia and Greece before Philip II; Macedonian Society; Sources

Week 2: Philip II of Macedonia – A 'Great' King?

Week 3: Alexander's Invasion of Persia (1)

Week 4: Alexander's Invasion of Persia (2)

Week 5: Alexander, Central Asia, and Modern-era Warfare

Week 6: Alexander, India and Final Years: Leadership Skills and 'Greatness'

Week 7: The Wars of the Successors and the Hellenistic Kingdoms to 281

Week 8: Macedonia, Thrace, Galatia, Bithynia

Week 9: Pergamum, Rhodes

Week 10: Egypt, Cyprus, Cyrene

Week 11: The Seleucid Kingdom and its Successor States

Week 12: Rome's Macedonian Wars

Week 13: The Wash-up of the Hellenistic Age

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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](mailto: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](mailto: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/](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

This is a new unit formed by the marriage of two previous ones on Philip & Alexander the Great and on the Hellenistic Era. The new unit covers the period from c. 360s-27 BCE.

All lectures are therefore new as are the assignments and many of the tutorials.

The weighting of the assignments has changed,

## Changes since First Published

Date	Description
20/05/2021	chnage requested by dept to note on final marks