AHIS2251

Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art: Theory and Practice

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

Convenor and tutor
Prof Javier Álvarez Mon
javier.alvarez-mon@mq.edu.au
Room 108, Level 1, 25B WW
By appointment

Convenor and tutor
A/Prof Linda Evans
linda.evans@mq.edu.au
Room 120, Level 1, 25B WW
By appointment

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
40cp from 1000 level units or above

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

General Assessment Information

To pass this unit, you must complete all the assessments and have received an overall mark of at least 50.

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 Word file. All assignments must include the following:

- Student name
- Student ID
- Assessment task or question
- Word length (not including bibliography or footnotes)

Written work will be returned via the Turnitin tool on the iLearn unit site, and will include feedback from the marker. Information about how to submit work online can be found on the iLearn unit.

The online quizzes and final test will be undertaken using the 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 convenors 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 the note on Results in the Policies and Procedures section below.

PENALTIES

- **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; and (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.
- Written assessment tasks **submitted without proper referencing** (e.g., no bibliography, omission of page numbers, etc), will be marked according to the Macquarie University Plagiarism Policy and the schedule of penalties.

EXTENSIONS AND DISRUPTION TO STUDIES

- Important: **The convenors are unable to approve extensions.** Extensions can only be granted by applying for Special Consideration through ask@mq.
- Extensions will only be approved in exceptional cases.
- If you must ask for an extension, please lodge a request for Special Consideration **before** the deadline, not on the due date.

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 must 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 the convenors via the 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 problems, please contact the convenors via the iLearn dialogue tool immediately.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Online Quiz	20%	No	Weeks 2-8, 10-12
Artistic Description and Analysis	40%	No	midnight Sunday, Week 9
Final Test	40%	No	midnight Sunday, Week 13

Online Quiz

Assessment Type [1]: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 49 hours
Due: **Weeks 2-8, 10-12**
Weighting: **20%**

Answer a series of questions on *the lectures* and 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]: 30 hours

Due: **midnight Sunday, Week 9**
Weighting: **40%**

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]: 35 hours
Due: **midnight Sunday, Week 13**
Weighting: **40%**

An online test of acquired theoretical and methodological knowledge and skills.

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

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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

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

This unit will be taught following a flipped classroom model, in which students first gain exposure to new material outside of class via reading and watching recorded lectures, and then the tutorial time is used to do the harder work of assimilating that knowledge.

This unit is comprised of 2 key elements:

1. 3 hours of **instruction** (1-2 hours of pre-recorded lectures and 1 hour tutorials delivered either on campus or online via Zoom);
2. and **individual** study and preparation.

- Students are expected to attend all tutorials, unless there are extenuating circumstances. A log will be taken to record attendance.
- **Pre-recorded lectures will be available on the iLearn site before the week they are due.** Students are expected to have watched the videos and completed the required lecture and tutorial readings before attending their scheduled tutorial.

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 TUTORIALS | Preparation

- *Step 1 | Lecture preparation*
    - Watch the pre-recorded lectures and complete the required lecture readings in preparation for the weekly online quiz
- *Step 2 | Tutorial preparation*
    - Complete the tutorial readings before attending class (available via iLearn)

DURING TUTORIALS | Knowledge Building

- *Step 3 | Engage with your peers*
    - Participate in group discussions and class activities

AFTER TUTORIALS | Consolidation

- *Step 4 | Consolidate your knowledge*
    - Complete the weekly online quiz based on the required readings and the lecture.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

There is no required textbook for this unit.

Recommended texts (those marked [*] 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* [*]

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

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

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.

ZOOM TUTORIALS

If you have registered for the online tutorial, we will meet via Zoom at the assigned time. A Zoom link will be provided on iLearn each week for this purpose. Click here for a summary of the basics of Zoom from the MQ L&T Blog.

It is your responsibility to pre-configure your computer to use this software prior to the first Zoom tutorial in Week 1.

Unit Schedule

A general outline of weekly topics is below. **Note that these are subject change.**

Week 1: Introduction to ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern art

Week 2: Art history: Definitions and methodologies

Week 3: The art history of the ancient Near East

Week 4: The art history of ancient Egypt

Week 5: Egyptian art: Materials, artists, and principles

Week 6: Egyptian art: Two-dimensional representations

****Mid-semester break****

Week 7: Egyptian art: Three-dimensional representations

Week 8: Ancient Near Eastern art: Glyptic arts

Week 9: No class - Assessment preparation

Week 10: Ancient Near Eastern art: Architecture

Week 11: Ancient Near Eastern art: Sculpture and painting

Week 12: Ancient Near Eastern art: The invention of visual and historical narrative in the ancient Near East

Week 13: No class - Assessment preparation

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (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). 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) 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

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

The assessment structure and lecture topics have been changed from the 2020 offering.