AHIS8213

Egypt: Alexander to Augustus

Session 1, Online-flexible 2022

Department of History and Archaeology

Contents

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General Information

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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to MAncHist or GradCertAncHist or MA in (Ancient History or Coptic Studies)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
Theocritus wrote: '... there's no country so fruitful as the low-country of Egypt when Nile comes gushing up to soak the soil and break it, nor no country, neither, possessed of so many cities of men learned in labour ... and in them the lord and master of all is proud Ptolemy.' In this unit this powerful empire is studied. Its kings, fifteen of them, all had the name of Ptolemy. In their capital city of Alexandria, founded by and named after Alexander the Great, the kings of the Ptolemy family built the Museum and Library which made their empire the beating heart of the Greek intellectual world. Theirs was the longest-lasting of the successor kingdoms which took over the lands conquered by Alexander, lasting until Octavian (later known as Caesar Augustus) defeated Cleopatra VII and Mark Antony in a sea-battle at Actium in 31 BC.

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: Apply and assimilate information in a context appropriate to postgraduate study.

ULO2: Demonstrate understanding orally and in writing, by deduction and argumentation.

ULO3: Develop and apply techniques of understanding ancient sources of differing kinds.

ULO4: Relate understanding of the ancient world to broad conceptual frameworks and modern contexts.

ULO5: Show in writing critical understanding of factual questions and judgements of likelihood and value.

ULO6: Create texts which reason persuasively from a historical question to a provisional answer, citing relevant evidence.

General Assessment Information

How to submit your work

Written work must be submitted through Turnitin in the iLearn website for the unit.

Extensions

Please submit your work on time.

If you want an extension you must apply for special consideration (https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/specialconsideration). Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – 10 marks out of 100 credit will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted seven days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Results

Marks given are indicative only: final marks will be determined after moderation. Grading decisions for each assessment task will be moderated against the set criteria and standards before task results are released. 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.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Minor essay	20%	No	13/03/2022 2359
Major essay	40%	No	15/05/2022 2359
Short-answer summaries	40%	No	05/06/2022 2359

Minor essay

Assessment Type [1]: Essay
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 15 hours
Due: **13/03/2022 2359**
Weighting: **20%**

Students will write an essay (word-limit 1000 words including footnotes but not including bibliography list) on one of the titles given in iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply and assimilate information in a context appropriate to postgraduate study.
- Demonstrate understanding orally and in writing, by deduction and argumentation.
- Develop and apply techniques of understanding ancient sources of differing kinds.
- Create texts which reason persuasively from a historical question to a provisional answer, citing relevant evidence.

Major essay

Assessment Type [1]: Essay
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 30 hours
Due: **15/05/2022 2359**
Weighting: **40%**

Students will write an essay (word-limit 2000 words including footnotes but not including bibliography list) on one of the titles given in iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply and assimilate information in a context appropriate to postgraduate study.
- Demonstrate understanding orally and in writing, by deduction and argumentation.
- Develop and apply techniques of understanding ancient sources of differing kinds.
- Create texts which reason persuasively from a historical question to a provisional answer, citing relevant evidence.

Short-answer summaries

Assessment Type [1]: Summary
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 4 hours
Due: **05/06/2022 2359**
Weighting: **40%**

A choice of short-answer summaries will be set. Four summaries must be given. The word-length for the short-answer summaries document as a whole is 2,500 words, so that each summary should be approximately 625 words long. Some leeway is allowed on length, but there will be no

extra marks for long answers. These summaries are not another essay. Footnoting should not be used, and bibliographies should not be given. What is required is a set of well thought out but relatively brief answers to analytical questions drawn from across the ideas and events dealt with in the unit. The idea is that it should be possible to write the full set of summaries in three hours, although there is no way of checking that a student does not spend four or five hours writing: note again that there will be no credit for extra length. The questions for the short-answer summaries will be made available in the iLearn unit during Weeks 13 and 14. Answers must be submitted at the end of Week 14.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply and assimilate information in a context appropriate to postgraduate study.
- Demonstrate understanding orally and in writing, by deduction and argumentation.
- Develop and apply techniques of understanding ancient sources of differing kinds.
- Relate understanding of the ancient world to broad conceptual frameworks and modern contexts.
- Show in writing critical understanding of factual questions and judgements of likelihood and value.
- Create texts which reason persuasively from a historical question to a provisional answer, citing relevant evidence.

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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

Required Reading

Günther Hölbl, *A History of the Ptolemaic Empire* (London and New York, 2001)

J.G. Manning, *The Last Pharaohs: Egypt under the Ptolemies 305-30 BC* (Princeton, 2010)

Recommended Reading

Please read widely from the bibliographies given in Leganto. Please don't draw a strong distinction between 'required' and 'recommended' reading. In general, don't aim to do the minimum in this unit.

Unit webpage and technology used and required

Online units can be accessed at: http://ilearn.mq.edu.au/

PC and Internet access are required.

Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are required.

With computer problems, teaching staff cannot help you.

Go to Macquarie University IT support:

Phone 02 98504357, or email onehelp@mq.edu.au.

University policy on grading

University Grading Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

The grade a student receives will signify their overall performance in meeting the learning outcomes of a unit of study. Grades will not be awarded by reference to the achievement of other students nor allocated to fit a predetermined distribution. In determining a grade, due weight will be given to the learning outcomes and level of a unit (ie 1000, 2000, 3000, 8000 etc).

Graded units will use the following grades:

HD High Distinction 85-100

D Distinction 75-84

Cr Credit 65-74

P Pass 50-64

F Fail 0-49

Extensions

Please hand your work in on time.

On special consideration and on work submitted late, see under General Assessment Information.

Unit Schedule

Unit lecture topic schedule

Week no.	Theme for the week	Lecture no.	Lecture topic
1	Egypt and the Mediterranean world	1	Egypt 405-332 BC.
		2	Alexander the Great and Egypt.
2	New kingdoms in the post-Alexander generation	3	General Ptolemy takes over in Egypt. The 'funeral games' of Alexander.
		4	King Ptolemy I builds an empire. Manetho.
3	'In Athens you can go half way; in Alexandria you can go all the way.'	5	Ptolemy II and Arsinoe II: the sibling monarchs.
		6	Ptolemy II Philadelphus, the library of Alexandria, and Greek culture. Posidippus.
4	City and country in Egypt	7	Alexandria, the greatest city in the world. Apollonius of Rhodes.
		8	Ptolemy II and the *Revenue Papyrus*
5	Egypt, the Holy Land, and Syria	9	Ptolemy II and the Bible
		10	Ptolemy III: a bid for world domination. The Alexandrian court. Callimachus.
6	The princesses and courtesans of Egypt and Syria	11	Women in court and city, 323-223 BC.
		12	Egypt and Africa: the kingdom of Meroe.
7	Greek, Jews and Egyptians fight side by side for Egypt and King Ptolemy	13	Alexandrian science. Eratosthenes. Herophilus.
		14	Ptolemies IV and V. A Seleucid takeover bid.
8	The sacred canopy and the temple gateways	15	Religions of the Ptolemaic kingdom.
		16	Egyptian temples in the Ptolemaic era.
9	Threats to Ptolemaic power	17	The revolt of the Thebaid.
		18	Ptolemy VI. The takeover bid turns hostile again.

10	Waste paper city	19	Ptolemies VI and VIII, Cleopatras II and III: when families go bad.
		20	Oxyrhynchus and papyrology.
11	A view from below	21	Kerkeosiris and village life.
		22	The Egyptian economy and the Amnesty Decree (118 BC).
12	Egypt: Rome's worst client state?	23	Ptolemies IX to XI: when bad families get worse. Machinery. Hero.
		24	Ptolemy XII Auletes: Egypt and the turmoil of the Roman republic.
13	'Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale/ Her infinite variety'	25	Cleopatra VII and Julius Caesar.
		26	Antony and Cleopatra. The Empire of the East. Cleopatra's death. Augustus takes over.

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
- Assessment Procedure
- Complaints Resolution 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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE
- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
- Complete the 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

Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:

- IT Support
- Accessibility and disability support with study
- Mental health support
- Safety support to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault

- Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via AskMQ, or contact Service Connect.

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.