



# AHIS3241

## Dialogue of Cultures in the Ancient World

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2023

*Department of History and Archaeology*

### Contents

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<a href="#"><u>General Information</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>Learning Outcomes</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>General Assessment Information</u></a>	3
<a href="#"><u>Assessment Tasks</u></a>	3
<a href="#"><u>Delivery and Resources</u></a>	5
<a href="#"><u>Policies and Procedures</u></a>	6

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Lecturer, tutor

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp at 1000 level or above or (20cp in AHIS or AHST units at 2000 level)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit offers an advanced study of cultural dialogue between ancient societies, by examining the material and literary records of the ancient Near Eastern and Mediterranean worlds, including Egypt. Western cultural stereotypes and prejudices are investigated, as well as notions of cultural identity, assimilation, rejection, and superiority. Problems to be addressed may concern, among many, cultural borrowing, funerary traditions, gift-giving, tribute, plundering, arts and coinage, trade, and dress.

## 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 notions of cultural identity, acculturation, assimilation, rejection, and superiority amongst peoples and cultures of the ancient world.

**ULO2:** Understand and critically evaluate methodological approaches to the study of cultural dialogue in antiquity.

**ULO3:** Acquire skills necessary for the analysis and interpretation of social and political identity in the ancient world.

**ULO4:** Conduct independent research, synthesize acquired knowledge, and effectively plan, organize and prioritize work.

**ULO5:** Communicate effectively with teaching staff and peers.

## General Assessment Information

Late Assessment Submission Penalty Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of, 0 (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue. This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#">Short Essay (Literature Review)</a>	20%	No	Week 8, Monday 11:55, 24 April
<a href="#">Online Quiz</a>	30%	No	Weeks 2-7/9-12 Opens on Monday closes on Sundays
<a href="#">Long Research Essay</a>	50%	No	Week 13, Sunday 11:59 4 June

### Short Essay (Literature Review)

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

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 15 hours

Due: **Week 8, Monday 11:55, 24 April**

Weighting: **20%**

Essay requiring independent research; Length: 1,000 words;

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply notions of cultural identity, acculturation, assimilation, rejection, and superiority amongst peoples and cultures of the ancient world.
- Understand and critically evaluate methodological approaches to the study of cultural

dialogue in antiquity.

- Acquire skills necessary for the analysis and interpretation of social and political identity in the ancient world.
- Conduct independent research, synthesize acquired knowledge, and effectively plan, organize and prioritize work.

## Online Quiz

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 25 hours

Due: **Weeks 2-7/9-12 Opens on Monday closes on Sundays**

Weighting: **30%**

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:

- Apply notions of cultural identity, acculturation, assimilation, rejection, and superiority amongst peoples and cultures of the ancient world.
- Understand and critically evaluate methodological approaches to the study of cultural dialogue in antiquity.
- Acquire skills necessary for the analysis and interpretation of social and political identity in the ancient world.
- Conduct independent research, synthesize acquired knowledge, and effectively plan, organize and prioritize work.
- Communicate effectively with teaching staff and peers.

## Long Research Essay

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

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 70 hours

Due: **Week 13, Sunday 11:59 4 June**

Weighting: **50%**

Essay requiring independent research; Length: 3,500 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply notions of cultural identity, acculturation, assimilation, rejection, and superiority amongst peoples and cultures of the ancient world.
  - Understand and critically evaluate methodological approaches to the study of cultural dialogue in antiquity.
  - Acquire skills necessary for the analysis and interpretation of social and political identity in the ancient world.
  - Conduct independent research, synthesize acquired knowledge, and effectively plan, organize and prioritize work.
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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

This unit offers an advanced study of cultural dialogues between ancient civilizations by examining the material and literary records of the ancient Near East and neighboring regions, including Egypt. Western cultural stereotypes and prejudices are investigated, as well as notions of cultural identity, ethnicity, assimilation, rejection, and superiority. Amongst the themes to be addressed are: cultural borrowings, gender, funerary traditions, gift-giving, tribute, plundering, arts, trade, and dress

**Learning Outcomes** 1. To understand through practical examples notions of cultural identity, acculturation, assimilation, rejection, and superiority amongst peoples and cultures of the ancient Near East and Egypt. 2. To understand and critically evaluate methodological approaches to the study of cultural dialogue in antiquity. 3. To acquire skills necessary for the analysis and interpretation of social and political identity in the ancient world. 4. To develop the skills to conduct independent research, synthesize acquired knowledge, and effectively plan, organize and prioritize work. 5. To communicate effectively with teaching staff and peers.

### Theoretical Backgrounds to be Examined in this Unit

- Black and White: Dialogue of Civilizations or Clash of Civilizations (Whose Civilization?)
- Us and Them: What is Cultural Identity?
- To Be or Not to Be, the mechanics of Culture: Assimilation, Rejection and Superiority
- The Lure of Luxury and Comfort: Cultural Borrowings and Identity
- Similarity and Difference: Ethnicity in Antiquity

- • Not for Everyone: To Be of not to Be Divine
- • Neither One nor the Other: Gender in Antiquity
- • Grain or Sheep: Pastoralists and Farmers
- • Single Constant: Migrations, Marriages and Multiculturalism
- • Material Wealth and Consumption: Birth of Capitalism?
- • "Ethnogenesis" and Acculturation
- • Selective Memories: Manufacturing Identities
- • Yin and Yang: Dialogue rather than Clash?
- • Observing from the Moon: Big History and the End of Differences?

## 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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](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](https://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto: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 Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

## 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/](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.