



AHIS2211

Minos and Mycenae: The Aegean Bronze Age

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2024

Department of History and Archaeology

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor, Lecturer, Tutor

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25 Wally's Walk, B158

By appointment

Lecturer, Tutor

Kenneth Sheedy

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

40cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores the era of the palace-based states in the Aegean during the Bronze Age (c.3000 BC – c.1100 BC). These are the dramatic years of Greek prehistory which the poet Hesiod famously described as the 'Age of Heroes', whose legends were recounted in Homer's *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. This unit critically examines the rich archaeological evidence, beginning with the emergence of complex societies in the Cyclades and Crete and the creation of the Minoan palace civilization with its most prestigious site of Knossos. Then follows a critical study of the rise of competing states on the Greek mainland including Mycenae, Tiryns, and Pylos. The Linear B script will also be explored for the information it provides concerning the Late Bronze Age Mycenaean society.

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: Recognise key artefacts and sites representing the Minoan and Mycenaean societies of the Greek Bronze Age.

ULO2: Explain the chronology and geography of the eastern Mediterranean Bronze Age world.

ULO3: Understand the cultural, social, and political evolution of the Greek Bronze Age in its broader Mediterranean context.

ULO4: Outline the history of Greek Bronze Age archaeology, identifying key approaches used by archaeologists in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.

ULO5: Actively participate in discussions about the society, economy and religion of the Greek Bronze Age.

ULO6: Locate, analyse and synthesize a range of primary and secondary source materials related to the study of the Greek Bronze Age, including material evidence, ancient texts, and modern scholarship.

General Assessment Information

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Rubrics and other guidance for the Assessments will be posted on our iLearn site and discussed in class. To complete the unit successfully you need a minimum mark of 50% overall, and all assessment tasks must be attempted.

Marks awarded are as follows: F / FA: 0-49% P: 50-64% CR: 65-74% D: 75-84% HD: 85-100%

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.**

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

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
On-line quizzes	30%	No	Weekly
Artefact Presentation	35%	No	Tuesday, 17 September, 23:59
Research Essay	35%	No	Tuesday, 5 November, 23:59

On-line quizzes

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 7 hours

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **30%**

The quizzes will be focused on material taken from the lecture and readings.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise key artefacts and sites representing the Minoan and Mycenaean societies of the Greek Bronze Age.
- Understand the cultural, social, and political evolution of the Greek Bronze Age in its broader Mediterranean context.
- Outline the history of Greek Bronze Age archaeology, identifying key approaches used by archaeologists in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.

Artefact Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Media presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Tuesday, 17 September, 23:59**

Weighting: **35%**

Students will analyse and research an artefact of their choice from the Minoan or Mycenaean world. Students will discuss their work in a media presentation.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise key artefacts and sites representing the Minoan and Mycenaean societies of the Greek Bronze Age.
- Understand the cultural, social, and political evolution of the Greek Bronze Age in its broader Mediterranean context.
- Actively participate in discussions about the society, economy and religion of the Greek Bronze Age.
- Locate, analyse and synthesize a range of primary and secondary source materials related to the study of the Greek Bronze Age, including material evidence, ancient texts, and modern scholarship.

Research Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **Tuesday, 5 November, 23:59**

Weighting: **35%**

Students will research a given topic dealing with key themes in the archaeology of the Greek Bronze Age.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise key artefacts and sites representing the Minoan and Mycenaean societies of the Greek Bronze Age.
- Explain the chronology and geography of the eastern Mediterranean Bronze Age world.
- Understand the cultural, social, and political evolution of the Greek Bronze Age in its broader Mediterranean context.
- Outline the history of Greek Bronze Age archaeology, identifying key approaches used by archaeologists in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.
- Actively participate in discussions about the society, economy and religion of the Greek Bronze Age.
- Locate, analyse and synthesize a range of primary and secondary source materials related to the study of the Greek Bronze Age, including material evidence, ancient texts, and modern scholarship.

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

DELIVERY

Lectures: Lectures will be delivered live! We love to see as many of you there as possible - there will be interaction during the lecture!

The lectures will also be recorded for the Online/flexible students, so you will be able to access them on the Echo360 platform via our iLearn site.

Tutorial Work for Online/flexible Students: Online Forums

Every week that an internal student tutorial is held, there will be a corresponding online forum that will focus on the same questions as those that are discussed in the internal tutorials. Responses will be expected by the evening of the Sunday following that week's lecture.

Required texts (available online through the Library):

[Berg, I. 2019. The Cycladic and Aegean Islands in Prehistory](#), Taylor & Francis, London.

[Cline, E. H. \(ed.\). 2010. The Oxford Handbook of the Bronze Age Aegean \(ca. 3000-1000 B C\)](#). Oxford University Press, Oxford, New York.

[Shelmerdine, C. \(ed.\). 2008. The Cambridge Companion to the Aegean Bronze Age](#). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, New York.

Supplemental readings:

We will also assign or recommend supplemental readings whenever we find an article or chapter that particularly supports what we are doing in the lecture and tutorial.

NB: All readings for class should be completed before the lecture, and must be completed before taking the quizzes and attending the tutorials.

UNIT WEBPAGE AND TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED This unit will use the iLearn system (<https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/>) to communicate with the students, so you will need access to a computer and a good internet connection. Basic computer and word-processing skills are also required.

Unit Schedule

Please see iLearn page for our schedule of lectures and tutorials.

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 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 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/.

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.

Unit information based on version 2024.02 of the [Handbook](#)