



AHIS8211

The Athenian Empire 510-404 BC

Session 2, Online-flexible 2026

School of Humanities

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	5
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	5

Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor

Richard Bott

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Matthew Bailey

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

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

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit provides an in-depth study of Athens and its empire in the fifth century BCE, commencing with Cleisthenes' reforms. Athens' role in the Persian wars will be examined, and the evidence (documentary and literary) for the Delian League will be studied from the foundation of the League until its dissolution with the defeat of Athens in the Peloponnesian War.

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: Study, understand, and interpret primary source material in translation (literary, epigraphic and archaeological) relating to Athens and Greece from 510 - 404 BC

ULO2: Read and evaluate modern academic studies of Athens and the Athenian empire in English

ULO3: Present analytical and argumentative written work, with a focus on expressing and supporting your opinions, to a high standard, with relevant footnoting and accurate bibliography

General Assessment Information

Deadlines, Extensions and Late Penalties

Assessments are due in weeks 4, 8, and 13. You can apply for an extension to a deadline for an assessment - this is known at Macquarie University as Special Consideration - if you foresee an interruption to your studies at the time of submission of an assessment, you should make an application for an extension or Special Consideration.

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	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Major essay	50%	No	08/11/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
Poster	25%	No	20/09/2026		Yes	Open
Minor Essay	25%	No	23/08/2026	Individual	Yes	Open

Major essay

Assessment Type ¹: Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task ²: 50 hours

Due: **08/11/2026**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

A 2,500 word essay (including footnotes but excluding bibliography) on a topic to do with the political exploitation of rhetoric, analysis of speeches, and with connections to today.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Study, understand, and interpret primary source material in translation (literary, epigraphic and archaeological) relating to Athens and Greece from 510 - 404 BC

- Read and evaluate modern academic studies of Athens and the Athenian empire in English
- Present analytical and argumentative written work, with a focus on expressing and supporting your opinions, to a high standard, with relevant footnoting and accurate bibliography

Poster

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **20/09/2026**

Weighting: **25%**

Groupwork/Individual:

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

one slide of text and 2-3 illustrations arranged and put together by students as they wish as long as on only one slide on a topic to do with the Peloponnesian War.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Study, understand, and interpret primary source material in translation (literary, epigraphic and archaeological) relating to Athens and Greece from 510 - 404 BC
- Read and evaluate modern academic studies of Athens and the Athenian empire in English
- Present analytical and argumentative written work, with a focus on expressing and supporting your opinions, to a high standard, with relevant footnoting and accurate bibliography

Minor Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **23/08/2026**

Weighting: **25%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

A 1,000 word essay (including footnotes but excluding bibliography) on a topic to do with the rise of Athenian imperialism.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Study, understand, and interpret primary source material in translation (literary,

epigraphic and archaeological) relating to Athens and Greece from 510 - 404 BC

- Read and evaluate modern academic studies of Athens and the Athenian empire in English
 - Present analytical and argumentative written work, with a focus on expressing and supporting your opinions, to a high standard, with relevant footnoting and accurate bibliography
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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
- [Academic Success](#) 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.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

Lectures will be online each week. Students are also expected to participate in the online weekly forums, where they will have the opportunity to engage more critically with the readings and lectures.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policies.s.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.s.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 connect.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/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [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 the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

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 2026.02 of the [Handbook](#)