AHIS399

Capstone Unit: Egypt and the Near East

S2 Day 2018

Dept of Ancient History

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor
Linda Evans
linda.evans@mq.edu.au
Contact via email or telephone (9850-8802)
Hearing Hub, Level 2
by appointment

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
39cp at 100 level or above including (21cp in AHIS or AHST units including (6cps in AHIS or AHST units at 300 level))

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is offered in the form of a research project where students develop a topic of their own choice relevant to the ancient history of Egypt and the Near East. Students independently collect, assess, analyze and interpret relevant evidence in the light of current historical thinking. In addition to regular participation in a seminar, the unit culminates in a research paper by which students will demonstrate the skills they have acquired and their intellectual development over the course of their degree program.

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:

Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.

Development of sophisticated research skills.

Articulation of approaches to evaluating source material; in particular, to critically use ancient sources and evaluate modern interpretations of these sources to an advanced

level.

Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.

Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

General Assessment Information

Students must receive a minimum of 50% overall to complete AHIS399 satisfactorily.

Requirements

All the assessment tasks are compulsory components of this unit and must be submitted on time.

Guidelines for the assessment tasks, assessment criteria (rubrics), and standards for grading each of the tasks are available on the unit iLearn site. All written assignments (Ancient History Matters report, Work-in-Progress report, CV, and the Research Project) must be submitted electronically via Turnitin on the iLearn site. Students in AHIS399 must also post and contribute each week to the online Research Project Forum (assessed in Weeks 2-11).

Note: A compulsory staff-student interview will take place in Week 7 to assist students in preparing their Work-in-Progress Report.

Late Submissions - Guidelines

- **Tasks 10% or less**. No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task, except for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved.
- **Tasks above 10%**. No extensions will be granted. Students who submit late work without an extension will receive a penalty. This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved.

Late submission penalty: Written assignments

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 – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Important note on 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 further the note on Results in the Policies and Procedures section below.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Research Project Forum	5%	No	midnight Friday, Weeks 1-13
Ancient History Matters report	15%	No	midnight Friday, Week 4
Work-in-Progress Report	25%	No	midnight Friday, Week 8
Skills Assessment	5%	No	midnight Friday, Week 11
Research Project	50%	No	midnight Friday, Week 13

Research Project Forum

Due: **midnight Friday, Weeks 1-13**
Weighting: **5%**

To help you stay on track with your Research Project, you will participate in the **12 Steps** online forum between Weeks 1-12. A different part of the research process will be introduced each week and a related task described. You are asked to post your response to these simple tasks each week. Posts made in Weeks 2-11 (inclusive) will be assessed at 0.5% each (for a total of 5% for the 10 weeks). Posts made in Week 1 and Week 12 are not assessed. Failure to submit a post by the end of a given week (midnight Friday) will receive a mark of 0 (zero).

The 12 Steps Research Process consists of the following:

- Step 1: The 12 Steps: Welcome! (not assessed)
- Step 2: Background information (.05%)
- Step 3: Reading and note-taking (.05%)
- Step 4: Research topic (.05%)
- Step 5: Research question (.05%)
- Step 6: Primary evidence search (.05%)
- Step 7: Data organisation (.05%)
- Step 8: Project outline (rough draft) (.05%)
- Step 9: Procrastination (.05%)
- Step 10: Opening paragraph (.05%)
- Step 11: Concluding paragraph(s) (.05%)
- Step 12: Editing and polishing (not assessed)

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical

developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.

- Development of sophisticated research skills.
- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Ancient History Matters report

Due: **midnight Friday, Week 4**
Weighting: **15%**

You love Ancient History, but how is it relevant in the modern world? What do you say when someone asks you what use is a degree or a Major in Ancient History? This assignment will give you a chance to prepare a response for future employers. It consists of two parts, one in which you will reflect on the skills you have acquired as an Ancient History student and how these might be applied in the future, and a second part in which you will show how the past can shed light on modern problems.

Part 1: Ancient History skills (500 words)

Outline three skills that you have acquired or developed during your study of Ancient History. These can be quite specific (e.g., 3D scanning; artefact analysis; an ancient language, etc) or generic (presentation skills; time management, etc). In each case, describe the skill and how you acquired or developed it during your studies, and then reflect on how you might use this skill in your future employment (for what types of jobs might this skill be an advantage and why?).

Part 2: Ancient History relevance (500 words)

The list below includes some of the most pressing problems facing the world today. Based on your studies in the past three years and/or your reading for your Capstone Research Project, choose 1 issue from the list and describe how ancient evidence (art, artefacts, and/or texts, etc) gives us insights into or a different perspective on a modern problem:

- Climate change / Destruction of nature
- Technological change
- Warfare
- Natural disasters
- Gender inequality
- Cultural conflict
- Theft of cultural property
- Cultural identity
- Individual identity
- Human rights
- Disease / Health
- Ageing

- Poverty

- Hunger / Famine

- Power /Oppression

- Animal welfare

- Religious conflict

- Refugees

- Terrorism

- Lack of education

- Safety / Wellbeing

You can be as creative as you wish with Part 2 – try to think outside the box! Perhaps the ancient evidence shows that nothing has changed? Or that the people of the past tackled a particular problem more effectively than us? Or maybe a similar problem existed but simply wasn't viewed as an issue?

Begin by describing your chosen problem briefly (what is it? why is it a problem?), before presenting your argument for how Ancient History (or specifically Egyptian, Ancient Near Eastern or other ancient evidence) makes a contribution to our understanding of this aspect of modern life.

Total length (Part 1 + Part 2): 1000 words (excluding footnotes and Bibliography)

Your Ancient History Matters report must be submitted via Turnitin at the end of Week 4.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.
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- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.
- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Work-in-Progress Report

Due: **midnight Friday, Week 8**
Weighting: **25%**

Your Work-in-Progress (WIP) assessment will consist of two parts: an interview and a written report:

Part 1: Work-in-Progress interview: Week 7 (10%)

In **Week 7**, you will attend an interview (c. 20 mins) during which you will describe and discuss your Research Project plan with a member of staff (details of the schedule will be provided on iLearn). Please bring draft notes for your WIP report (see below) so that these can be discussed during your interview.

Your interview is a compulsory part of the Work-in-Progress assessment. Non-completion of this component will result in a Fail for the assessment.

Part 2: Work-in-Progress written report (15%)

Your WIP written report (c. 1500 words) will consist of:

- a 150-word abstract summarising your Research Project question(s) and aims;
- a 1,000-word literature review evaluating the primary sources and/or theoretical issues upon which your Research Project rests;
- a 250-word outline of the methodology you are applying in your Research Project – how are you accessing and evaluating your primary evidence;
- a draft outline for the structure of your paper.

Please lay out your WIP report with the following labelled sections

- Abstract
- Literature review
- Methodology
- Outline

Use insights gained through your WIP interview to finalise your WIP report. Your WIP report must be submitted via Turnitin at the end of **Week 8**.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.
- Development of sophisticated research skills.
- Articulation of approaches to evaluating source material; in particular, to critically use ancient sources and evaluate modern interpretations of these sources to an advanced level.
- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.
- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Skills Assessment

Due: **midnight Friday, Week 11**
Weighting: **5%**

Following Tania Currie's workshop in Week 1, you are asked to prepare a CV according to the guidelines that she will provide. Take the time to compile, edit, and polish your CV over the course of the session. Please submit a copy of your CV at the end of Week 11. There is no word limit for this assessment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Development of sophisticated research skills.
- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Research Project

Due: **midnight Friday, Week 13**
Weighting: **50%**

Your Research Project is defined by the Department of Ancient History as "the history, art and archaeology of ancient Europe and the Mediterranean world, including Egypt and the Ancient Near East, from prehistoric to late antique times". You are welcome to submit a paper on any subject within that definition.

The topic and content of your paper must conform in all respects to the abstract submitted as part of your Work-in-Progress Report.

Your manuscript will be a minimum of 3,000 words and a maximum of 5,000 words in length (excluding footnotes and Bibliography).

Your Research Project must be submitted via Turnitin at the end of Week 13.

Important: If your chosen topic lends itself to the consideration of a broad range of evidence, the length of your paper must reflect this. In other words, shorter papers that fail to consider relevant information will be penalised for lack of depth.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.
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Delivery and Resources

This unit is available on iLearn. Login is via: **https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/**. **Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet.** Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.

- For technical support go to: http://mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/informatics/help
- For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to: http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/guides.htm

Delivery of AHIS399:

- Online (Weeks 1-13).
- Two (2) on-campus sessions:

1. **Week 1**: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 from 2.00 - 4.00 pm in 17 Wally's Walk, Room 209.
2. **Week 11**: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 from 2.00 - 4.00 pm in 17 Wally's Walk, Room 209.

Students enrolled in "internal" mode: the two on-campus sessions are compulsory.

Students enrolled in "external" mode: the two on-campus sessions are optional, but you may attend them if you wish (recommended if you are in the Sydney metropolitan area). The meetings will be recorded and made available on the unit iLearn site.

In preparation for the **Work-in-Progress Report** (due in Week 8), students will discuss their research project during an **interview with a member of staff**, which will be conducted on campus in Week 7 (as per schedule - details available on iLearn). This applies to both internal students and external students in the Sydney metropolitan area. For external students outside of Sydney, special arrangements will be made.

Required and recommended sources

- Required texts: There are no required texts for this unit.
- Recommended texts: Ancient History unit guides, bibliographies and lecture/tutorial notes of all the previous units you have undertaken.

Unit Schedule

Week 1	• **On-campus session** • Online: Step 1: The 12 Steps: Welcome!
Week 2	• Online: Step 2: Background information
Week 3	• Online: Step 3: Reading and note-taking

Week 4	• Online: Step 4: Research topic
	• **Assessment: Ancient History Matters report due**
Week 5	• Online: Step 5: Research question
Week 6	• Online: Step 6: Primary evidence search
Week 7	• Online: Step 7: Data organisation
	• **Assessment: Work-in-Progress interviews**
Week 8	• Online: Step 8: Project outline (rough draft)
	• **Assessment: Work-in-Progress report due**
Week 9	• Online: Step 9: Procrastination
Week 10	• Online: Step 10: Opening paragraph
Week 11	• Step 11: Concluding paragraph(s)
	• **On-campus session**
	• **Assessment: CV due**
Week 12	• Step 12: Editing and polishing
Week 13	• **Assessment: Research Project due**

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.m q.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-centr al). 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 *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (htt

ps://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, 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.

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 improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

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

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.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Development of sophisticated research skills.

- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.

- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Assessment tasks

- Ancient History Matters report

- Work-in-Progress Report

- Research Project

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.

- Development of sophisticated research skills.

- Articulation of approaches to evaluating source material; in particular, to critically use ancient sources and evaluate modern interpretations of these sources to an advanced level.

- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.

- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Assessment tasks

- Research Project Forum
- Work-in-Progress Report
- Research Project

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.
- Articulation of approaches to evaluating source material; in particular, to critically use ancient sources and evaluate modern interpretations of these sources to an advanced level.
- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.
- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.
- Development of sophisticated research skills.
- Articulation of approaches to evaluating source material; in particular, to critically use ancient sources and evaluate modern interpretations of these sources to an advanced

level.

- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.

Assessment tasks

- Research Project Forum
- Ancient History Matters report
- Work-in-Progress Report
- Skills Assessment
- Research Project

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.
- Development of sophisticated research skills.
- Articulation of approaches to evaluating source material; in particular, to critically use ancient sources and evaluate modern interpretations of these sources to an advanced level.
- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.
- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Assessment tasks

- Research Project Forum
- Ancient History Matters report
- Work-in-Progress Report
- Research Project

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in

order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Development of sophisticated research skills.
- Articulation of approaches to evaluating source material; in particular, to critically use ancient sources and evaluate modern interpretations of these sources to an advanced level.
- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.

Assessment tasks

- Work-in-Progress Report
- Research Project

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Consolidation of knowledge in relation to historical processes and fundamental historical developments in Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East.
- Development of sophisticated research skills.
- Articulation of approaches to evaluating source material; in particular, to critically use ancient sources and evaluate modern interpretations of these sources to an advanced level.
- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.
- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Assessment tasks

- Research Project Forum
- Ancient History Matters report
- Work-in-Progress Report
- Skills Assessment

- Research Project

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Formulation of arguments and articulation of ideas to an advanced level.
- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Assessment tasks

- Ancient History Matters report
- Skills Assessment
- Research Project

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Appreciation of the larger issues that engage historians of Egypt and/or the Ancient Near East and of the learning experiencees encountered in the Ancient History Major.

Assessment task

- Ancient History Matters report

Changes from Previous Offering

The assessment requirements for AHIS399 have changed since S2, 2017. Two new assessments have been introduced (Ancient History Matters report and Skills Assessment: CV), while a weekly Seminar Forum has been omitted. The 12 step online forum is now assessed. The Work-in-Progress interview and report, and Research Project assessments are unchanged from previous offerings.