AROL 217

PHOENICIA AND THE PHOENICIANS

Syllabus

Instructor Information

Professor Helen Sader

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College Hall, room 436

Office hours: WF 11:00-12:00; T 11:00-12:00

Phone: 4183

Course Information

Course description: An investigation of the Archaeology of the Levantine coast between 1200 and 300 BC, with special emphasis on recently excavated Iron Age sites from Lebanon. This course examines the organization of the Phoenician city-states, the origin and development of the alphabet, and the archaeological evidence related to the Phoenician city.

Location: Post Hall 207

Meeting day(s): MWF at 10:00

Pre-requisites: none

Course Goals: To clarify the concept of Phoenicia and Phoenician, to present the historical sources related to the political, economic and intellectual history of the Phoenicians, to discuss the archaeological evidence in order to understand all aspects of the material culture: urban layout, public and domestic architecture, funerary traditions and religion, arts and crafts and trade expansion of the Phoenicians.

Policies: Class attendance is required and students are expected to be on time for the class. Make-up exams will be given only to students with a valid excuse. For definitions of cheating and plagiarism as well as the consequences for such, see the AUB “Student Code of Conduct” in the Student Handbook.

Grading Criteria: Your grade in this course will be calculated based on attendance and active class participation (10%), midterm examination (20%), class assignments (20%), and final examination (50%).

Textbook

Glenn Markoe, Phoenicians, British Museum Press, 2000
Content:

WEEK 1

Introduction

Geographical setting of Phoenicia

Chronological and historical setting

Phoenicia in the Late Bronze Age: a brief survey from Late Bronze to Iron Age: from invasion theories to socio-economic transformation.

Reading assignment: Liverani, M. 1987 “The collapse of the Near Eastern Regional system at the end of the Bronze Age: the case of Syria”. In M.Rowlands et alii eds, Center and Periphery in the Ancient World. Textbook chapter 1: 23-29

WEEK 2

Chapter I

The origin and meaning of the name Phoenicia

The local name of the Levantine coast and its problems.

Reading assignment: Textbook chapter 1, 14-23

WEEK 3

Chapter II

Sources for Phoenician history: the written record: Phoenician, Assyrian and biblical records

WEEK 4

Chapter III

The Phoenician kingdoms: their territory


WEEK 5

The Phoenician kingdoms: political and administrative structure

WEEK 6

Chapter IV
The Phoenician city

The Phoenician harbors


**WEEK 7**

Urban layout

Domestic architecture: Building techniques and house plans.


**WEDNESDAY MARCH 26: MIDTERM EXAM**

**WEEK 8**

Religious architecture: Sarepta, Bustan esh-Sheikh, Amrith and Umm el Amed

**Reading assignment:** Textbook chapter 5: 115-129

**WEEK 9**

Phoenician funerary architecture and practices


**WEEK 10**

**Chapter V**

Phoenician language and script

**Reading assignment:** Textbook Chapter 4

**WEEK 11**

**Chapter VI**

Phoenician Navigation, Trade and Expansion

**Reading assignment:** Textbook chapter 7
WEEK 12

Chapter VII
Phoenician Material Culture

**Reading assignment**: Textbook Chapter 6

WEEK 13

Phoenician Material Culture

**Reading assignment**: Textbook Chapter 6

Read Bible Ezechiel chapter 27 and 28

WEEK 14

Chapter VIII
Phoenician religion

**Assigned reading**: Textbook chapter 4