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AROL 223

The Archaeology (and History) of the Hellenistic World Fall Semester 2009/2010

1. Course learning Outcomes

This course is intended as an introduction to the fascinating era we call the Hellenistic, which covers the period from Alexander the Great to Cleopatra of Egypt. Students will be presented with various forms of material evidence, dating from the fourth century BC up to the end of the first century BC, and which can be found from modern Spain to as far as northern Pakistan and beyond. Using various written sources, students are also expected to develop an understanding of the historical framework for this period, following the break up of the Empire of Alexander and the progression of the subsequent kingdoms. Students are expected to apply the knowledge acquired from the lectures to solve problems and synthesize material: identifying and commenting on the significance of artifacts; and making connections between different classes of material and textual evidence.

2. Some suggested readings

General

Erskine, A. (ed.) 2003. *A Companion to the Hellenistic World*. Oxford.

Green, P. 1990. *Alexander to Actium*. Los Angeles, Ca.

Shipley, G. 2000. *The Greek World after Alexander, 323-30 B.C.* (Routledge,

Walbank, F.W. 1992. *The Hellenistic World*. London.

Cambridge Ancient History (= CAH) Volume VII. Second Edition.

Other reading material

Bilde, P. *et al.* (eds) 1993. *Centre and Periphery in the Hellenistic World*. Aarhus.

Fowler, B.H. 1989. *The Hellenistic Aesthetic*. Madison, Wisc.

Grainger, J. 1990. *The Cities of Seleukid Syria*. Oxford.

Grainger, J. 1991. *Hellenistic Phoenicia*. Oxford.

Grant, M. 1982. *From Alexander to Cleopatra*. London.

Kuhrt, A. and Sherwin-White, S. (eds) 1987. *Hellenism in the East*. London.

Pedley, J. G. 1998. *Greek Art and Archaeology*. London.

Sherwin-White, S. and Kuhrt, A. (eds) 1993. *From Samarkhand to Sardis. A New Approach to the Seleukid Empire*. Berkeley, Ca.

3. Grading Criteria

Assessment comprises a mid-term and a final exam. The course will invite students to look for connections between artifacts and texts, and to deal with ancient cultural and intellectual issues. Students are encouraged to think for themselves and apply knowledge learned to a unique problem. The final exam covers all the material in the course.

The weighting is: mid-term exam 40%; attendance 10%; final exam 50%.

4. Schedule

Week	Date	Topic of the Class
Week 1	05-Oct	Introduction: aims of the course Hellenistic Archaeology: definitions and sources
Week 2	12-Oct	Philip of Macedon. Two Macedonian sites: Pella and Vergina.
Week 3	19-Oct	The Persian Empire: Persepolis. The Campaigns of Alexander the Great.
Week 4	26-Oct	Wars of the successors Urbanization of the Hellenistic World. The Alexandrian foundations and the successors.
Week 5	02-Nov	Alexandria and Ptolemaic Egypt.
Week 6	09-Nov	Ancient Alexandria (Video) Hellenistic Sculpture: the transitional phase
Week 7	16-Nov	Hellenistic sculpture: transitional & baroque Painting and Mosaics
Week 8	23-Nov	Mid-Term Examination Pottery
Week 9	30-Nov	Pergamum and the Attalids The West: Italy, Sicily, Rome and Carthage The Hellenistic Levant
Week 10	07-Dec	The Hellenistic Economy: Main Session The Hellenistic Economy: Trade & Economy
Week 11	14-Dec	Hellenistic Religious changes
Week 12	21-Dec	Hellenistic Architecture: Temples I Rural Scene – Landscape Hellenistic Architecture: Temples II and The Galatians Paper
Week 13	04-Jan	The final destruction of Macedonia. Antiochus IV. Antiochus V, Demetrius I and Alexander Balas.
Week 14	11-Jan	Visit to AUB Museum Late Hellenistic Art and Sculpture Hellenistic Science and Medicine
Week 15	18-Jan	The Greeks in Bactria and India The end of Hellenism Revision session

5. Course Policy

Students are expected to be on time for class. Latecomers will be counted as absent. Regular class attendance is required and repeated absence may lead to the expulsion of the student from the course. Make-up exams will only be given to students with a valid excuse. Any signs of plagiarism or the breaking of the Student Code of Conduct will have consequences. All AUB academic regulations will be followed, as in the Appendix of the Student Handbook 2008-2009.