

Greece and the Near East - GRS 461

Spring 2010, Monday and Thursday 10 – 11:20 am – Clearihue B215.

Professor Brendan Burke

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Office hours: Monday 3:30-4:30, Wednesday 10-11, or by appointment

Course texts: A History of the Ancient Near East M. Van de Mieroop (2006)

The Orientalizing Revolution W. Burkert (1992)

Technology: Please consult the class website: <http://blackboard.uvic.ca>. It is also expected that students are familiar with the internet resources available through UVic, including JSTOR. See <http://gateway.uvic.ca/index.html> to start.

Course description: This course will focus on Greek relations with the cultures of the wider Near East, including the Phrygians, Lydians, and Hittites in Anatolia, the peoples of Mesopotamia, and the Egyptians. It will look at the role these groups had in forming Greek identity. We will also discuss the topics of multi-culturalism and diversity in the ancient world.

Students will be evaluated on **two in class presentations** (15% each), **one research paper** (40 %), and a **midterm** and **final exam** (15% each). Twice during the semester students will prepare a short handout and lead discussion based somewhat on the weekly course reading. Some reading material will be available in the GRS Reading Room. One or both of the presentations will be related to the final term paper. Specific issues and sites will be discussed, placing them in their temporal and cultural context. Students are responsible for (*i.e.*, will be examined on) some material not included in the texts but presented in class. For this reason, **attendance** at each class meeting is very important for success in the course.

Research paper: The term paper (approx. 10-15 pages, excluding bibliography) will focus on one or both of the assigned presentations. The paper is due at the beginning of class Thursday, April 1 (no foolin'). **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Grading: You must complete all requirements for the course in order to receive a passing grade. Percentage grades are assigned to the examinations and research paper. The following table shows the equivalencies used when converting numerical scores to letter grades. These grades correspond to the grading schema of the University of Victoria Calendar.

%	Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
95-100	A+	9	Exceptional, outstanding, excellent performance, normally achieved by a minority of the students. These grades indicate a student who is self-motivated, exceeds expectations, and has an insightful grasp of general concepts and specific detail.
90-94	A	8	
85-89	A-	7	
80-84	B+	6	Very good, good performance, normally achieved by most students. These grades indicate a good grasp of general concepts and specific detail or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
75-79	B	5	
70-74	B-	4	
65-69	C+	3	Satisfactory performance. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of general concepts and specific detail.
60-64	C	2	
55-59	D	1	Marginal performance. A student receives this grade when they demonstrate only a superficial grasp of general concepts and specific details.
< 54	F	0	Unsatisfactory performance.

Syllabus and Reading Assignments - please consult the folder with readings in the GRS Reading Room or contact me.

Week 1: January 4, 7

Monday – Introduction, Course overview

Read: “Review Article: *Ex Oriente* Books: Near Eastern Resources for Classicists,” Sarah P. Morris [AJA](#), Vol. 101, No. 1 (Jan., 1997), pp. 149-153; HANE (Van De Mierop) pp. 1-16

Thursday – *Black Athena and its Reception* - VHS

Week 2: January 11, 14

Monday –Neolithic and Early Bronze Age (Çatal Hüyük, Aşıklı Hüyük) in Anatolia; Uruk, Mesopotamia and its Neighbors.

Read: [HANE](#) 19-40; <http://catal.arch.cam.ac.uk/catal/index.html>;

Thursday –Early Dynastic Ur; metallurgy in Anatolia

Read: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/special/ur/arch1.html>; K. Aslihan Yener and Pamela B. Vandiver, “Tin Processing at Goltepe, an Early Bronze Age Site in Anatolia,” [AJA](#) 97.2 (1993) 207-238; and J. D. Muhly, “Early Bronze Age Tin and the Taurus,” [AJA](#) 97.2 (1993) 239-253.

Week 3: January 18, 21

Monday: Old Assyrian Trading Colonies: Acem Hüyük, Kültepe/Karum Kanesh; Mari; Middle Bronze Age Greece

Read: [HANE](#) “The Near East in the Early Second Millennium” Ch. 5.

Thursday– Aegean and Near Eastern contact - metallurgy, murex, frescoes

Read: H. Klengel “Near Eastern Trade and the Emergence of Interaction with Crete in the Third Millennium B.C.” [SMEA](#) 24 (1984) 7-19; E. Barber, “Aegean Ornaments and Designs in Egypt,” [Aegaeum](#) 18; B. Burke, “Purple and Aegean Textile Trade in the Early Second Millennium BC,” [Meletemata Aegaeum](#) 20 (1999) 75-82; L. Watrous, “Egypt and Crete in the Early Middle Bronze Age: A Case of Trade and Cultural Diffusion,” [Aegaeum](#) 18; E. Cline, “Rich Beyond the Dreams of Avaris: Tell el-Dab'a and the Aegean World -- A Guide for the Perplexed,” [BSA](#) 93 (1998) 199-219; W.-D. and B. Niemeier, “Minoan Frescoes in the Eastern Mediterranean” [Aegaeum](#) 18; M. Finkelberg, “Anatolian Languages and Indo-European Migrations to Greece,” [Classical World](#) 91 (1997) 3-20.

Week 4: January 25, 28





Monday - Aegeans in the Near East continued

Read: [HANE](#) 99-112; V. Watrous “The Role of the Near East in the Rise of the Cretan Palaces,” [Function of the Minoan Palace](#) (1987) 65-70; R. Merrillees, “Egypt and the Aegean,” [Aegaeum](#) 18; P. Rehak, “Aegean Natives in the Theban Tomb Paintings: The Keftiu Revisited,” [Aegaeum](#) 18; E. Barber, rev. of Duhoux, [AJA](#) 109.2 (2005) 295-97.


Thursday - Hittites: Bogazköy, Yazilikaya, Eflatun Pinar
Read: HANE Chapter 6; J.D. Hawkins, "A Thousand Gods of the Hattusa: Home to the Thousand Gods of the Hatti," in Capital Cities: Urban Planning and Spiritual Dimensions (1998) J. Goodnick Westenholz, ed., 65-81.

Week 5: February 1, 4

Monday – The Ahhiyawa question - Troy/Wilusa, Arzawa, Miletos
Read: E. Cline, "A Possible Hittite Embargo Against the Mycenaeans," Historia 40/1 (1991) 1-9; E. Cline, "Assuwa and the Achaeans: The 'Mycenaean' Sword at Hattusas and its Possible Implications," BSA 91 (1996) 137-151; T. Bryce, "Anatolian Scribes in Mycenaean Greece," Historia 48.3 (1999) 257-264; J. Latacz, *Troy and Homer*. M. Mellink (ed.), *Troy and the Trojan War: BMC Symposium*

Thursday - Amarna, Ugarit, Mycenaeans and the Near East, Ulu Burun
Read: M. Feldman, "Luxurious Forms: Redefining a Mediterranean 'International Style,' 1400-1200 BC," Art Bulletin 84 (2002) 6-29; E. Cline, "Hittite Objects in the Bronze Age Aegean," Anatolian Studies 41 (1991) 133-143; M. Finkelberg, "Bronze Age Writing: Contacts between East and West," : Aegaeum 18; S. Morris, "Potnia Aswiya: Anatolian Contributions to Greek Religion," : Aegaeum 20; G. Bass, "Sailing Between the Aegean and the Orient in the Second Millennium BC," : and A. Bernard Knapp, "Mediterranean Bronze Age Trade: Distance, Power and Place" : Aegaeum 18.

Week 6: February 8

Monday – Mitanni, Kassites, Elamites
Read: E. Porada, "The Cylinder Seals Found at Thebes in Boeotia," in Archiv für Orientforschung 28 (1982) 1-70; J. Aruz, "The Aegean and the Orient: The Evidence of Stamp and Cylinder Seals," : Aegaeum 18..

Thursday – Midterm

Week 7: February 15, 18 READING BREAK

Week 8: February 22, 25

Monday – Neo-Hittites, Urartu and Armenia
Read: C. Burney and D. Lang, "Ch. 5: From the Rise of Urartu to the Birth of Armenia," The Peoples of the Hills: Ancient Ararat and Caucasus (2001); J. D. Hawkins, "Kuzi-Teşub and the 'Great Kings' of Karkamis," Anatolian Studies 28 (1988) 99-108.

Thursday – Gordion and Midas

Read: DeVries, K., P. Kuniholm, K. Sams, and M. Voigt, "New Dates for Iron Age Gordion," Antiquity 77 (2003) 296 <http://antiquity.ac.uk/projgall/devries/devries.html>;
Burke, B. "Gordion of Midas and the Homeric Age," *EPOS: Reconsidering Greek Epic and Aegean Bronze Age Archaeology*, edited by R. Laffineur (Liège) *Aegaeum* vol. 27, 2007, pp. 151-158; "Anatolian Origins of the Gordian Knot Legend," *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 42, 2001 [2002], pp. 255-61.

Week 9: March 1, 4

Monday - Phrygian religion and language - Midas City

Read: J. Mallory, "The Phrygians," In Search of the Indo-Europeans (1982) 30-34.

Thursday – Kerkenes Dağ - Medes and Persians

Read: G. Summers - <http://www.metu.edu.tr/home/wwwkerk/>

Week 10: March 8, 11

Monday – Lydia, Lydian, and Croesus

Read: G. Hanfmann, "On Lydian Sardis" in From Athens to Gordion (1980) K. DeVries, ed. 99-132; M. Mellink, "The Native Kingdoms of Anatolia," in CAH III.2.34a, II: The Lydian Kingdom, 643-655.

Thursday –Phoenicians

J. Shaw, "Phoenicians in Southern Crete," AJA 93 (1989) 165-183; J.D. Muhly, "Homer and the Phoenicians," Berytus 19 (1970) 19-64; O. Negbi, "Early Phoenician presence in the Mediterranean islands: a reappraisal," AJA 96 (1992) 599-615; W. Röllig, "Asia Minor as a Bridge Between East and West. The Role of the Phoenicians and Aramaeans in the Transfer of Culture," in Greece Between East and West (1992) G. Köpcke and I. Tokumaru, eds. ms. 1-11; I. Winter, "Homer's Phoenicians: History, Ethnography, or Literary Trope? [A Perspective on Early Orientalism]," In *The Ages of Homer: A Tribute to Emily Townsend Vermeule* (1995) J. B. Carter and S. P. Morris, eds., 247-271.

Week 11: March 15, 18

Monday - Greek Colonization: East and West

Read: The Archaeology of Greek Colonisation (Oxford, 2nd ed. 2004) G. Tsetschladze and F. De Angelis, eds.

Thursday Homer and the Near East

Read: E. Cook, "Near Eastern Sources for the Palace of Alkinoos," AJA 108.1 (2004) 43-79 - <http://www.ajaonline.org/archive/108.1/pdfs/AJA1081.pdf#cook>; C. Watkins, "Homer and Hittite Revisited III," in Recent Developments in Hittite Archaeology and History (2002) A. Yener and H. Hoffner, eds. 167-176; J. Latacz, Troy and Homer (2004); S. Morris "Homer and the Near East," in A New Companion to Homer (1997) I. Morris and B. Powell, eds. 599-623.

Week 12: March 22, 25

Monday - Persians in Greek Art and Literature

Read: S. Goldhill, "Battle Narrative and Politics in Aeschylus' *Persae*," GB 50-61; F. Lissarague, "The Athenian Image of the Foreigner" GB 101-124; P. Briant, "History and Ideology: The Greeks and 'Persian' Decadence," GB 193-210.

Thursday - Hellenistic Kingdoms: Pergamenes, Seleukids, Commagene dynasty

Read: <http://www.nemrud.nl/en/>; A. Stewart, "Pergamo ara marmorea magna: On the Date, Reconstruction, and Functions of the Great Altar of Pergamon," in From Pergamon

to Sperlonga (2000) N. de Grummond and B. Ridgway, eds., 32-57; R. Browning, "Greeks and Others: From Antiquity to the Renaissance," GB 257-277.

Week 13: March 29, April 1

Monday – The Near East in the Age of Alexander

Read: F. Millar, "The Problem of Hellenistic Syria," and M. Colledge, "Greek and non-Greek Interaction in the Art and Architecture of the Hellenistic East," in Hellenism in the East (1987) A. Kuhrt and S. Sherwin-White, eds., 110-162.

Thursday – (papers due in class)

Galatians and other 'barbarians' Read: K. Strobel, "State Formation by the Galatians of Asia Minor. Politico-Historical and Cultural Processes in Hellenistic Central Anatolia," Anatolica (2002) 1-48; G. Darbyshire, S. Mitchell, and L. Vardar, "The Galatian Settlement in Asia Minor," Anatolian Studies 20 (2000) 75-97; S. Mitchell, Anatolia. Land, Men and Gods in Asia Minor. The Celts and the Impact of Roman Rule (Oxford, 1993); M. Voigt, "Celts at Gordion: The Late Hellenistic Settlement," Expedition 45.1 (2003) 14-19.

Week 14: April 5, 8

REVIEW

In class FINAL EXAM – Thursday, April 8, 2010