

Schedule

For each meeting, please come into class having read and thought about the readings assigned for that class.

Readings listed with the book icon (📖) are from the assigned textbook, Mathisen, *Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations*, 3rd Edition. All other readings are linked below.

Everything listed under each meeting—the textbook readings, *Gilgamesh*, and *Clouds*—is fair game for the quizzes we'll have at the start of some meetings.

January 2025							February 2025							March 2025							April 2025							May 2025														
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa								
			1	2	3	4			2	3	4	5	6	7	8			2	3	4	5	6	7	8			6	7	8	9	10	11	12			4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17								
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24								
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	18	19	20	21	22	23	24												
26	27	28	29	30	31								30	31							25	26	27	28	29	30	31															

Beginnings

- 1 Introduction and Themes
Tuesday, January 28
 - 📖 “Laying the Groundwork” (pp. 3-5)
 - 📖 “The Palaeolithic Age (2,000,000–10,000 BCE)” (pp. 5-13)
- 2 The Origins of Civilization
Thursday, January 30
 - 📖 “The Neolithic World (8000–5500 BCE)” (pp. 13-24)
 - 📖 “The Chalcolithic Period (5500–2000 BCE)” (pp. 24-33)

The Bronze Age

- 3 Mesopotamia
Tuesday, February 4
 - 📖 “The Origins of Mesopotamian Civilization (6000–3000 BCE)” (pp. 37-45)
 - 📖 “The Rise of Sumerian Civilization” (pp. 45-52)
 - ★ *Gilgamesh*, Introduction
 - ★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 1: The Coming of Enkidu
- 4 Sumer
Thursday, February 6
 - 📖 “Historical Sumer (3000–2300 BCE)” (pp. 52-60)
 - ★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 2: The Taming of Enkidu
- 5 Semitic Mesopotamia
Tuesday, February 11
 - 📖 “The Semitic Peoples and the First Near Eastern Empires (2300–1200 BCE)” (pp. 60-75)
 - ★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 5: The Combat with Humbaba

- 6 God-Kings of Egypt
Thursday, February 13
 - 📖 “Before The Pharaohs (5000–3000 BCE)” (pp. 77-84)
 - 📖 “The Early Dynastic Period (3000–2700 BCE)” (pp. 84-92)
 - ★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 6: Ishtar and the Bull of Heaven
- 7 Egyptian Empires
Thursday, February 20
 - 📖 “The Old Kingdom (2700–2200 BCE)” (pp. 92-97)
 - 📖 “The Middle Kingdom (2050–1786 BCE)” (pp. 97-103)
 - 📖 “The New Kingdom (1534–1070 BCE)” (pp. 103-109)
 - ★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 7: The Death of Enkidu
- 8 The Bronze Age Aegean
Tuesday, February 25
 - 📖 “Early Civilizations of the Levant” (pp. 111-113)
 - 📖 “Aegean Civilizations (3000–1100 BCE)” (pp. 113-125)
 - ★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 11: Immortality Denied

The Iron Age

- 9 Dawn of the Iron Age
Thursday, February 27
 - 📖 “The Iron Age In The Eastern Mediterranean (1200–800 BCE)” (pp. 125-131)
 - 📖 “The Hebrews (2000–900 BCE)” (pp. 131-140)
- 10 How Not to Run an Empire: The Assyrians
Tuesday, March 4
 - 📖 “The Assyrian Empire (850–605 BCE)” (pp. 142-155)
 - 📖 “The Successors of the Assyrians” (pp. 155-159)

- 11 The Success of the Persian Empire
Tuesday, March 11
- 📖 "The Persian Empire (550–331 BCE)" (pp. 159-163)
 - 📖 "Darius and the Operation of the Persian Empire" (pp. 163-171)

Essay #1 is due Monday, March 10.

- 12 Ancient Asia: China, India, and the Steppes
Thursday, March 13
- 📖 "The Eurasian Steppes" (pp. 296-301)
 - 📖 "Eastern Asia" (pp. 301-310)

- 13 Midterm Exam
Tuesday, March 18

The exam will take place in our normal meeting room during our regular class period.

The Greek Idea

- 14 The Greek Dark Age
Thursday, March 20
- 📖 "The Greek Dark Ages (1100–776 BCE)" (pp. 175-180)
 - 📖 "The Construction of Greek Identity" (pp. 180-187)

- 15 Archaic Hellas
Tuesday, March 25
- 📖 "The Archaic Age (776–500 BCE)" (pp. 187-202)
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 1

- 16 Sparta and Athens
Thursday, March 27
- 📖 "The Spartan Way" (pp. 205-211)
 - 📖 "The Rise of Athens" (pp. 211-218)
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 2

- 17 The Persian Menace
Tuesday, April 1
- 📖 "The Greeks and Persia (547–465 BCE)" (pp. 218-226)
 - 📖 "The Golden Age of Athens (465–431 BCE)" (pp. 226-231)
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 3

- 18 Wars Between the Greeks
Thursday, April 3
- 📖 "The Peloponnesian War (431–387 BCE)" (pp. 231-246)
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 4

The last day to withdraw from Spring 2025 courses is April 1.

- 19 The Rise of Macedon
Tuesday, April 8
- 📖 "After the Peloponnesian War (387–336 BCE)" (pp. 249-257)
 - 📖 "The Age of Alexander (336–323 BCE)" (pp. 257-265)
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 5

- 20 The Legacy of Alexander
Thursday, April 10
- 📖 "The Hellenistic Kingdoms (323–120 BCE)" (pp. 265-279)
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 6

The Might of Rome

- 21 Early Rome
Tuesday, April 22
- 📖 "Carthage" (pp. 319-326)
 - 📖 "Cultural Encounters of the Early Romans" (pp. 339-341)
 - 📖 "Rome of the Kings (753–509 BCE)" (pp. 341-349)

- 22 The Roman Republic
Thursday, April 24
- 📖 "The Early Roman Republic (509–246 BCE)" (pp. 349-356)

- 23 The Acquisition of Empire
Tuesday, April 29
- 📖 "Warfare and Expansion (390–133 BCE)" (pp. 356-371)
- Essay #2 is due Monday, April 28.*

- 24 The Republican Crisis
Thursday, May 1
- 📖 "From One Crisis to the Next (150–88 BCE)" (pp. 379-390)

- 25 Collapse of the Republic
Tuesday, May 6
- 📖 "An Age of Generals (88–60 BCE)" (pp. 390-399)

- 26 Crossing the Rubicon
Thursday, May 8
- 📖 "The Triumvirates (60–31 BCE)" (pp. 399-409)
 - 📖 "The Establishment of the Principate (31–21 BCE)" (pp. 409-414)

- 27 Augustus, Princeps, Imperator
Tuesday, May 13
- 📖 "The Age of Augustus (27 BCE–14 CE)" (pp. 415-430)
- Essay #3 is due on Monday, May 12.*

- 28 The Roman Principate
Thursday, May 15
- 📖 "The Julio-Claudian And Flavian Dynasties (27 BCE–96 CE)" (pp. 430-440)
 - 📖 "The Antonine Dynasty (96–192)" (pp. 440-451)

- 29 Final Exam
Tuesday, May 20

The Final Exam will be held from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.