

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 on the Schedule page.

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.

Beginnings

1 Introduction and Themes

Tuesday, August 26

📖 pp. 3-5, "Laying the Groundwork"

📖 pp. 5-13, "The Palaeolithic Age (2,000,000-10,000 BCE)"

2 The Origins of Civilization

Thursday, August 28

📖 pp. 13-24, "The Neolithic World (8000-5500 BCE)"

📖 pp. 24-33, "The Chalcolithic Period (5500-2000 BCE)"

The Bronze Age

3 Mesopotamia

Tuesday, September 2

📖 pp. 37-45, "The Origins of Mesopotamian Civilization (6000-3000 BCE)"

📖 pp. 45-52, "The Rise of Sumerian Civilization"

★ *Gilgamesh*, Introduction

★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 1: The Coming of Enkidu

4 Sumer

Thursday, September 4

📖 pp. 52-60, "Historical Sumer (3000-2300 BCE)"

★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 2: The Taming of Enkidu

5 Semitic Mesopotamia

Tuesday, September 9

📖 pp. 60-75, "The Semitic Peoples and the First Near Eastern Empires (2300-1200 BCE)"

★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 5: The Combat with Humbaba

6 God-Kings of Egypt

Thursday, September 11

📖 pp. 77-84, "Before The Pharaohs (5000-3000 BCE)"

📖 pp. 84-92, "The Early Dynastic Period (3000-2700 BCE)"

★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 6: Ishtar and the Bull of Heaven

7 Egyptian Empires

Tuesday, September 16

📖 pp. 92-97, "The Old Kingdom (2700-2200 BCE)"

📖 pp. 97-103, "The Middle Kingdom (2050-1786 BCE)"

📖 pp. 103-109, "The New Kingdom (1534-1070 BCE)"

★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 7: The Death of Enkidu

8 The Bronze Age Aegean

Thursday, September 18

📖 pp. 111-113, "Early Civilizations of the Levant (2500-1500 BCE)"

📖 pp. 113-125, "Aegean Civilizations (3000-1100 BCE)"

★ *Gilgamesh*, Tablet 11: Immortality Denied

The Iron Age

9 Dawn of the Iron Age

Thursday, September 25

📖 pp. 125-131, "The Iron Age In The Eastern Mediterranean (1200-800 BCE)"

📖 pp. 131-140, "The Hebrews (2000-900 BCE)"

10 How Not to Run an Empire: The Assyrians

Tuesday, September 30

📖 pp. 142-155, "The Assyrian Empire (850-605 BCE)"

📖 pp. 155-159, "The Successors of the Assyrians (605-550 BCE)"

⚠️ Essay #1 is due Monday, Sep. 29.

- 11 **The Success of the Persian Empire**
Tuesday, October 7
- pp. 159-163, "The Persian Empire (550-331 BCE)"
 - pp. 163-171, "Darius and the Operation of the Persian Empire"

- 12 **Ancient Asia: China, India, and the Steppes**
Thursday, October 9
- pp. 296-301, "The Eurasian Steppes"
 - pp. 301-310, "Eastern Asia"

- 13 **Midterm Exam**
Thursday, October 16

The Greek Idea

- 14 **The Greek Dark Age**
Tuesday, October 21
- pp. 175-180, "The Greek Dark Ages (1100-776 BCE)"
 - pp. 180-187, "The Construction of Greek Identity"
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 1

- 15 **Archaic Hellas**
Thursday, October 23
- pp. 187-202, "The Archaic Age (776-500 BCE)"
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 2

- 16 **Sparta and Athens**
Tuesday, October 28
- pp. 205-211, "The Spartan Way"
 - pp. 211-218, "The Rise of Athens"
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 3

- 17 **The Persian Menace**
Thursday, October 30
- pp. 218-226, "The Greeks and Persia (547-465 BCE)"
 - pp. 226-231, "The Golden Age of Athens (465-431 BCE)"
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 4

- 18 **Wars Between the Greeks**
Tuesday, November 4
- pp. 231-246, "The Peloponnesian War (431-387 BCE)"
 - Clouds*, Section 5

- 19 **The Rise of Macedon**
Thursday, November 6
- pp. 249-257, "After the Peloponnesian War (387-336 BCE)"
 - pp. 257-265, "The Age of Alexander (336-323 BCE)"
 - ★ *Clouds*, Section 6

- 20 **The Legacy of Alexander**
Tuesday, November 11
- pp. 265-279, "The Hellenistic Kingdoms (323-120 BCE)"

The Might of Rome

- 21 **Early Rome**
Thursday, November 13
- pp. 319-326, "Carthage"
 - pp. 339-341, "Cultural Encounters of the Early Romans"
 - pp. 341-349, "Rome of the Kings (753-509 BCE)"

- 22 **The Roman Republic**
Tuesday, November 18
- pp. 349-356, "The Early Roman Republic (509-246 BCE)"

⚠ **Essay #2 is due Monday, Nov. 17.**

- 23 **The Acquisition of Empire**
Thursday, November 20
- pp. 356-371, "Warfare and Expansion (390-133 BCE)"

- 24 **The Republican Crisis**
Tuesday, November 25
- pp. 379-390, "From One Crisis to the Next (150-88 BCE)"

- 25 **Collapse of the Republic**
Tuesday, December 2
- pp. 390-399, "An Age of Generals (88-60 BCE)"

- 26 **Crossing the Rubicon**
Thursday, December 4
- pp. 399-409, "The Triumvirates (60-31 BCE)"
 - pp. 409-414, "The Establishment of the Principate (31-21 BCE)"

- 27 **Augustus, Princeps, Imperator**
Tuesday, December 9
- pp. 415-430, "The Age of Augustus (27 BCE-14 CE)"

⚠ **Essay #3 is due on Monday, Dec. 8.**

- 28 **The Roman Principate**
Thursday, December 11
- pp. 430-440, "The Julio-Claudian And Flavian Dynasties (27 BCE-96 CE)"
 - pp. 440-451, "The Antonine Dynasty (96-192)"

- 29 **Final Exam**
Tuesday, December 16