

FW22 AP/HIST 3154 3.0A Egypt from Alexander to Cleopatra (Fall term)

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Expanded Course Description (expanded from course calendar description):

The occupation of Egypt by Alexander the Great and the establishment of the Ptolemaic monarchy resulted in a significant influx of settlers from all around the Greek world. In this course, we examine the complex social, cultural, and political negotiations that resulted from this ancient episode of colonialism. How did the Ptolemaic monarchs, who had established their dynasty by force, attempt to obtain political legitimacy in the eyes of both Greeks and Egyptians? Were relations between Greeks and Egyptians characterised mainly by fruitful interaction, or by hostility and suspicion? Was there a synthesis of Egyptian and Hellenic culture, or did the two remain radically separate? In this course, we seek to explore these questions, especially by exploiting the abundant papyrological evidence from the Ptolemaic period.

Required Course Text/Readings:

1. Bagnall, R. S. and Derow, P. (eds.). 2004. *Historical Sources in Translation: The Hellenistic Period*. 2nd ed. Blackwell: Oxford, Carleton, and Malden, Mass.
2. Chauveau, M. 2000. *Egypt in the Age of Cleopatra: History and Society under the Ptolemies*. Cornell University Press: Ithaca, NY

Weighting of Course: *Tentative*

Tutorial Attendance and Participation	- 20 %
Weekly Quizzes (Weeks 2–11)	- 15%
In-Class Source Analysis	- 15 %
Major Essay	- 30 %
Final Examination	- 20%

Organization of the Course:

The course organization will be guided by the ‘flipped classroom’ philosophy. The course lecture materials will be made available via videos hosted on Youtube, and students will view them in advance of classes and complete quizzes on the lecture contents. Class time will then be devoted to discussing the themes of the course, with particular attention to relevant ancient artefacts and documents.

Course Learning Objectives:

This course will give students in the ancient field an opportunity to broaden their knowledge to an area of the classical world not covered in introductory courses. It will also enable them to develop their skills in dealing with epigraphical and papyrological sources. For students with particular interests in

imperialism and colonialism in other periods of history, the course will offer an opportunity to study in detail a very early example of a settler society.

Additional Information/Notes:

Attendance of in-person classes on campus is required, and students will struggle to pass the course unless they attend all or almost all in-person classes.