

ANCIENT EGYPT

ANTH/RELS 436-500

SYLLABUS

SPRING 2021

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-6:15 PM
Location: This class will be held synchronously on Zoom
Course Credits: 3

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Office hours: Wednesdays 3:00-5:00 PM, or by appointment
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This course is designed to introduce the student to the environment, the archaeology and the history of ancient Egypt from earliest times to the end of the New Kingdom period. The course has the following objectives: A) to acquaint students with the rich matrix of Egyptian history and material culture, B) to integrate these physical remains into an overall humanistic understanding of the Egyptian world and how it influences modernity, C) to supply the student with the tools to evaluate archaeological discoveries and, D) to familiarize the student with the interrelationship of various sources—texts, artifacts, iconography, etc.—for interpreting and understanding the past. This course has no prerequisites.

We will examine the physical environment that led to the creation of the Egyptian culture, the beginnings of Egyptology and will cover the period from earliest human settlement in Egypt to the end of the New Kingdom period. Classes will be devoted primarily to Keynote™ lectures. We will also see two video presentations. The final grade will be based on the total of grades from two mid-term tests worth 30 points each and a final examination, worth 35 points: the remaining 5 points will be based on a short (500 word/two pages double spaced) reflective essay, due the last day of class. Students must bring their own Scantron test forms and pencils to class on exam days. The second mid-term, and the final test, will include only material covered since the previous test.

Letter grades assigned will follow the standard TAMU scale: 100-90 = **A**, 89-80 = **B**, 79-70 = **C**, 69-60 = **D**, 59 and below = **F**.

ZOOM

Zoom Lectures/Class Meetings.—This course will be taught synchronously on Zoom.

These are the details of the recurring Zoom Meeting:

URL: <https://tamu.zoom.us/j/6346783729>

Meeting ID: 634 678 3729

Passcode: Student's Universal ID Number (UIN)

NB: Students must have their cameras turned on during class.

Office Hours.—Wednesdays 3:00-5:00 PM, or by appointment. These are the details of the recurring Office Hour Meetings. This meeting has a virtual waiting room:

URL: <https://tamu.zoom.us/j/6346783729>

Meeting ID: 634 678 3729

Passcode: Student's Universal ID Number (UIN)

TEXTBOOKS

We will be using the following textbooks:

- Clayton, P. A., 1994. *Chronicle of the Pharaohs: The Reign-by-Reign Record of the Rules and Dynasties of Ancient Egypt*. London, Thames and Hudson. [Required]. This book is out of print: used copies may be purchased through Abebooks.com.

- Kathryn A. Bard, 2008, *An Introduction to the Archaeology of Ancient Egypt*. Oxford, Blackwell Publishing. This volume is available as an ebook and chapter pdf download from Libcat. You will need to sign in with your net ID. Go to:

→ <https://libcat.tamu.edu/vwebv/holdingsInfo?searchId=418&recCount=50&recPointer=0&bibId=5671406>

→ Click on “Connect to the full text of this electronic book”

→ Download chapters 1-3 (pp. 1-65).

Copies of these books are also available on reserve on the first floor of the Evans Annex. Additional readings are available online on eCampus.

Please let me know if you encounter issues with these.

CLASS LECTURES ONLINE

Class lectures are available on-line as downloadable PDF files on eCampus. Students should download these files and print them out (multiple slides per printed page) as a convenient aid in taking notes. *These lecture files do not replace class attendance.*

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The university views class attendance and participation as an individual student responsibility. Students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments.

Please refer to Student Rule 7 (<https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07/>) in its entirety for information about excused absences, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

MAKEUP WORK POLICY

Students will be excused from attending class on the day of a graded activity or when attendance contributes to a student's grade for the reasons stated in Student Rule 7, or other reason deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Please refer to Student Rule 7 (<https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07/>) in its entirety for information about makeup work, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

Absences related to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 may necessitate a period of more than 30 days for make-up work, and the timeframe for make-up work should be agreed upon by the student and instructor" (Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.1).

"The instructor is under no obligation to provide an opportunity for the student to make up work missed because of an unexcused absence" (Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.2).

Students who request an excused absence are expected to uphold the Aggie Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. See Student Rule 24.)(<https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule24/>).

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

Texas A&M University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Resources in the Student Services Building or at (979) 845-1637 or visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability related needs with Disability Resources and their instructors as soon as possible.

TITLE IX AND STATEMENT ON LIMITS TO CONFIDENTIALITY

Texas A&M University is committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws prohibit gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

With the exception of some medical and mental health providers, all university employees (including full and part-time faculty, staff, paid graduate assistants, student workers, etc.) are Mandatory Reporters and must report to the Title IX Office if the employee experiences, observes, or becomes aware of an incident that meets the following conditions (see University Rule 08.01.01.M1):

- The incident is reasonably believed to be discrimination or harassment.
- The incident is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who, at the time of the incident, was (1) a student enrolled at the University or (2) an employee of the University.

Mandatory Reporters must file a report regardless of how the information comes to their attention—including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Although Mandatory Reporters must file a report, in most instances, a person who is subjected to the alleged conduct will be able to control how the report is handled, including whether or not to pursue a formal investigation. The University's goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and to ensure access to the resources you need.

Students wishing to discuss concerns in a confidential setting are encouraged to make an appointment with Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) (<https://caps.tamu.edu>).

Students can learn more about filing a report, accessing supportive resources, and navigating the Title IX investigation and resolution process on the University's Title IX webpage (<https://titleix.tamu.edu>).

STATEMENT ON MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student's academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in healthy self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the TAMU Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. 24-hour emergency help is also available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do.

Texas A&M University students are responsible for authenticating all work submitted to an instructor. If asked, students must be able to produce proof that the item submitted is indeed the work of that student. Students must keep appropriate records at all times. The inability to authenticate one's work, should the instructor request it, may be sufficient grounds to initiate an academic misconduct case" (Section 20.1.2.3, Student Rule 20).

For more information regarding academic integrity, please visit the Honor Council Rules and Procedures on the web: <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>).

STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY

Respect for cultural and human biological diversity are core concepts of Anthropology. Anthropological research provides perspectives and data that can be used to examine many current social issues that may be appropriate to discuss in this class. Students and faculty should expect to both defend and critique diverse points of view in a respectful manner. Please respect the different experiences, beliefs and values expressed by your fellow students and instructor, and refrain from derogatory comments about other individuals, cultures, groups, or viewpoints. There is no justification for discrimination or

hateful speech or behavior in any form. The Anthropology Department supports the Texas A&M University commitment to Diversity, and welcomes individuals regardless of age, background, citizenship, disability, education, ethnicity, family status, gender, gender identity, geographical location, language, military experience, political view, race, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and work experience (See <http://diversity.tamu.edu/>).

CAMPUS SAFETY MEASURES

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University has adopted policies and practices for the Spring 2021 academic term to limit virus transmission. Students must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses and course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.):

- Self-monitoring—Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. **Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely if that option is available, and should not participate in face-to-face instruction.**
- Face Coverings—[Face coverings](#) (cloth face covering, surgical mask, etc.) must be properly worn in all non-private spaces including classrooms, teaching laboratories, common spaces such as lobbies and hallways, public study spaces, libraries, academic resource and support offices, and outdoor spaces where 6 feet of physical distancing is difficult to reliably maintain. Description of face coverings and additional guidance are provided in the [Face Covering policy](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) available on the [Provost website](#).
- Physical Distancing—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in course and course-related activities.
- Classroom Ingress/Egress—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.
- To attend a face-to-face class, students must properly wear an approved face covering. If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the [Student Conduct office](#) for sanctions. Additionally, the faculty member may choose to teach that day's class remotely for all students, or dismiss the class in the case of a traditional face to face lecture.

PERSONAL ILLNESS AND QUARANTINE

Students required to quarantine must participate in courses and course-related activities remotely, if that option is available, and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities.

Students experiencing personal injury or illness that is too severe for the student to attend class qualify for an excused absence (See Student Rule 7, Section 7.2.2.) To receive an excused absence, students must comply with the documentation and notification guidelines outlined in Student Rule 7.

SCHEDULE SPRING 2021

Week 1

- (1) Tuesday, January 19th ➤ Introduction I
- (2) Thursday, January 21st ➤ Introduction II

Week 2

- (3) Tuesday, January 26th ➤ Video Presentation: Napoleon's Obsession: Quest for Egypt
- (4) Thursday, January 28th ➤ The Environmental Background I

Week 3

- (5) Tuesday, February 2nd ➤ The Environmental Background II
- (6) Thursday, February 4th ➤ The Environmental Background III

Week 4

- (7) Tuesday, February 9th ➤ Prehistoric Egypt Predynastic Egypt
- (8) Thursday, February 11th ➤ Review & Discussion

Week 5

- (9) Tuesday, February 16th ➤ Mid-term examination #1 (30 points)
- (10) Thursday, February 18th ➤ Predynastic Egypt

Week 6

- (11) Tuesday, February 23rd ➤ Understanding Hieroglyphs
- (12) Thursday, February 25th ➤ The Old Kingdom (Ist-Vth Dynasties)

Week 7

- Tuesday, March 2nd —TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY (No Class)
- (13) Thursday, March 4th ➤ How to Build a Pyramid

Week 8

- (14) Tuesday, March 9th ➤ Sneferu
- (15) Thursday, March 11th ➤ Khufu to the Ist Intermediate Period

Week 9

- (16) Tuesday, March 16th ➤ The Middle Kingdom (XIIth Dynasty)
- (17) Thursday, March 18th ➤ Video Presentation: Mummy Tech

Week 10

- (18) Tuesday, March 23rd ➤ The Second Intermediate Period (XIIIth-XVIIth Dynasties) & Introduction to the New Kingdom: The Early XVIIIth Dynasty
- (19) Thursday, March 25th ➤ Review & Discussion

Week 11

(20) Tuesday, March 30th ➤ Mid-term examination #2 (30 points)

(21) Thursday, April 1st ➤ Hatshepsut

Week 12

(22) Tuesday, April 6th ➤ Thutmose III

(23) Thursday, April 8th ➤ Amenhotep II-Akhenaten

Week 13

(24) Tuesday, April 13th ➤ Tutankhamun

(25) Thursday, April 15th ➤ Video Presentation: Voyage to Antiquity

Week 14

(26) Tuesday, April 20th ➤ Tutankhamun (cont'd) and the end of the XVIIIth Dynasty

(27) Thursday, April 22st ➤ The XIXth Dynasty

Week 15

(28) Tuesday, April 27th ➤ The XIXth Dynasty: Ramses II (aka Ramses the Great)

(29) Thursday, April 29th ➤ Summary, Review & Discussion (Essay due: 5 points)

Final examination (35 points): Thursday, May 6th, 2:00-4:30 PM

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For more about Egypt, see...

- American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) (<http://www.arce.org>)
(North Texas Chapter: P.O. Box 38642, Dallas, TX 57238)
- Egypt Exploration Society (EES) (<http://www.ees.ac.uk>)
- *KMT: A Modern Journal of Ancient Egypt* (<http://www.kmtjournal.com>)
- Oriental Institute, University of Chicago (<http://oi.uchicago.edu>)
Pdf files of many publications on Egyptology available for free download at
(<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/egypt.html>)
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Egyptian Collection
(<http://www.metmuseum.org/collections/search-the-collections?ft=Egyptian>)
- Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology
(<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/petrie>)
- The British Museum, Online Collection
(http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/search.aspx)

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