ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN CIVILIZATIONS

THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

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DEGREE OFFERED: BA

This interdisciplinary major in the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome, Judaism, early Christianity, and early Islam, as well as their antecedents, explores these traditions both for their intrinsic interest and for the contributions each has made to contemporary Western society. This combined focus on ancient cultural history in its broadest sense and on perspectives offered by cultural criticism enables students to examine the beginnings of the civilization in which they now participate.

Courses for this major address common questions about the transmission and transformation of cultures in the ancient Mediterranean world. Students examine sources, such as texts, artifacts, and institutions that illuminate the process. They study how shifting cultural centers and frontiers in this world are delineated, and they explore the general integration and disintegration of specific ancient cultures. This major also offers opportunities for archaeological fieldwork and study abroad.

Rice is a sponsor of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, the American School of Oriental Research, and the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome. Students majoring in Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations are encouraged to study in these programs as well as in the College Year in Athens program.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN CIVILIZATIONS

Students must take one course from three of the five following categories: 1) Graeco-Roman Civilization, 2) Islamic Civilization, 3) Jewish Civilization, 4) Christian Civilization, and 5) Archaeological Methods & Theory. In addition, students must take one course that addresses the creation, transmission, and reception of traditions in the Mediterranean world. Courses that meet this requirement are designated as “Themes Across Time.”

Students must also fulfill a comparative requirement by taking either one course that, in and of itself, treats two different cultural traditions (designated “Comparative”) or two separate courses on similar themes but from different cultures (e.g. Women in Greece & Rome, Women in the Islamic World). Although not required, courses in ancient languages are recommended. A minimum of five courses must be taken at the 300 level or above.
For general university requirements, see the Graduation Requirements in this publication. Majors in Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations must complete at least thirty (30) semester hours (10 courses). Students must take a core course (AMC 200, CLAS 207, or CLAS 208) near the beginning of their studies, and may select from the following courses to fulfill their requirements for the major.

Please note that not all courses listed below will be offered during the academic year. For a current list of AMC courses that will be offered in fall 2004 and spring 2005, please visit the AMC web site at http://amc.rice.edu.

**Core Courses**

AMC 200 Origins of Western Civilizations: Athens, Rome, and Jerusalem  
CLAS 207 Greek Civilization: From Homer to Alexander the Great  
CLAS 208 Roman Civilization

**Greco-Roman Civilization**

AMC 200 Origins of Western Civilizations: Athens, Rome, and Jerusalem  
ANTH 325 Self, Sex, and Society in Ancient Greece  
ANTH 363 Early Civilizations  
CLAS 101 Freshman Seminar: Socrates: The Man and His Philosophy  
CLAS 207 Greek Civilization: From Homer to Alexander the Great  
CLAS 208 Roman Civilization  
CLAS 209 Greek and Roman Drama  
CLAS 220 The Novel in Classical Antiquity  
CLAS 222 Perspectives on Greek Tragedy  
CLAS 225 Women in Greece and Rome  
CLAS 311 Text as Property  
CLAS 312 Greek Art and Architecture  
CLAS 315 Roman Art and Architecture  
CLAS 316 Democracy and Political Theory in Ancient Greece  
CLAS 318 The Invention of Paganism in the Roman Empire  
CLAS 335 Classical Mythology  
CLAS 336 The Origin of the Languages  
CLAS 337 Epic and Novel  
CLAS 351 Epic and Saga  
GREE 101 Introduction to Ancient Greek I  
GREE 102 Introduction to Ancient Greek II  
GREE 201 Intermediate Greek I: Prose  
GREE 202 Intermediate Greek II  
GREE 301 Advanced Greek I  
HART 204 Art as Civilization  
HART 218 Special Topics: Ancient Greek Sites  
HART 219 Independent Study: Ancient Art  
HART 228 Special Topics: Christian, Byzantine, and Islamic Art  
HART 229 Independent Study: Christian, Byzantine, and Islamic Art  
HART 310 The First Civilizations  
HART 311 Theme of Fertility  
HART 312 Greek Art and Architecture  
HART 313 Discovery of the Mind  
HART 315 Roman Art and Architecture  
HART 320 Age of Augustus  
HART 417 Buried Cities: The Art and Architecture of Akrotiri, Pompeii, and Herculaneum  
HART 428 Special Topics: Early Christian, Byzantine, and Islamic Art  
HART 429 Independent Study: Early Christian, Byzantine, and Islamic Art  
HIST 113 God, Time and History  
HIST 151 Freshman Seminar: The Hero and His Companion from Gilgamesh to Sam Spade  
HIST 200 Origins of Western Civilizations: Athens, Rome, and Jerusalem  
HIST 207 Greek Civilization: From Homer to Alexander the Great  
HIST 262 Rome: City and Empire  
HIST 289 Greek and Latin Readings  
HIST 307 Imperial Rome from Caesar to Diocletian  
HIST 308 The World of Late Antiquity  
HIST 460 Advanced Seminar in Ancient History  
LATI 101 Elementary Latin I  
LATI 102 Elementary Latin II  
LATI 201 Intermediate Latin I: Prose  
LATI 202 Intermediate Latin II  
LATI 301 Advanced Latin I: Literature of Exile in the Roman Tradition
LATI 302 Advanced Latin: Roman Epic
LATI 303 Advanced Latin: Plautus and Terence
LATI 310 Advanced Latin: Virgil
LATI 311 Latin Pastoral Poetry
LATI 312 Advanced Latin: Ovid
LATI 313 Cicero and Catullus: Literature and Society in the Roman Republic

Islamic Civilization
HIST 281 Pre-Modern Middle East History: The Middle East from the Prophet Muhammad to Muhammad Ali
RELI 141 Introduction to Islam
RELI 221 The Life of the Prophet Muhammad
RELI 350 Scriptures in Monotheistic Faiths
RELI 354 Asian Apocalyptic Movements
RELI 441 Popular Religion in the Middle East

Jewish Civilization
RELI 209 Introduction to Judaism
RELI 210 Ethics in Judaism
RELI 350 Scriptures in Monotheistic Faiths

Christian Civilization
RELI 122 The Bible and Its Interpreters
RELI 125 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew I
RELI 126 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew II
RELI 127 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew Hebrew III
RELI 128 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew Hebrew IV
RELI 200 The Bible in Western Tradition
RELI 223 Qu’ran and Commentary
RELI 282 Introduction to Christianity
RELI 309 Gospel and Tradition
RELI 350 Scriptures in Monotheistic Faiths
RELI 354 Asian Apocalyptic Movements
RELI 383 The Dead Sea Scrolls
RELI 410 Apocalypse Then and Now

Archaeological Methods and Theory
ANTH 203 Human Antiquity: An Introduction to Physical Anthropology and Prehistory
ANTH 205 Introduction to Archaeology
ANTH 345 The Politics of the Past: Archaeology in Social Context
ANTH 362 Archaeological Field Techniques
ANTH 363 Early Civilizations
ANTH 425 Advanced Topics in Archaeology
ANTH 460 Advanced Archaeological Theory

Themes Across Time
AMC 200 Origins of Western Civilizations
ANTH 365 Early Civilizations
HART 310 The First Civilizations

Comparative
CLAS 225 Women in Greece and Rome

Other Courses
HART 101 Introduction to the History of Western Art: Prehistoric to Gothic
PHIL 201 History of Philosophy I
PHIL 301 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
PHIL 307 Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 327 History of Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 501 Seminar in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy

See AMC in the Courses of Instruction section.