

Archaeological Research Tutorial: Archaeology of the Ancient Near East and the Phoenician-Punic World (A005437)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Dralans, Sophie

LW02

staff member

Vandenabeele, Peter

LW02

lecturer-in-charge

Boschloos, Vanessa

LW02

co-lecturer

Bretschneider, Joachim

LW02

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

[Master of Science in Teaching in Arts and Humanities \(main subject Archaeology\)](#)

crdts

5

offering

A

[Master of Arts in Archaeology](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

-Archaeology of Mesopotamia, the Levant, Cyprus, Anatolia and Iran, the Phoenician-Punic world, material culture.

Position of the course

This advanced course is an optional course within the Master's programme in archaeology and is linked to the chosen topic and/or period for the Master's thesis.

Contents

Critical discussion of a series of capita selecta of the archaeology of the Ancient Near East and the Phoenician-Punic world.

Data on a particular theme are studied from an archaeological/iconographic point of view in combination with information known from philological sources. A particular theme will form the common thread throughout the series of lessons. For the archaeology part of the Near East for example: the cult of the dead (cemeteries, tomb architecture, grave finds, grave reliefs, texts (e.g. about Kispum)) or warfare (using Assyrian palace reliefs, descriptions of Assyrian campaigns, iconographic and textual sources etc.). For the part on the archaeology of the Phoenician-Punic world the same theme as for the Near East or another theme can be studied (e.g. funerary archaeology, illicit trafficking and provenance research).

The concrete contents will be announced annually through Ufora at the latest on the first day of the academic year.

The required portfolio can include: participation in workshops, attending (online) lectures, (virtual) visits to museums, exhibitions or archaeological sites concerning archaeology of the Ancient Near East and the Phoenician-Punic world.

The working language of this course is Dutch, but some (online) lessons can be given in English.

Initial competences

This course builds on certain final competences of the Bachelor's programme in Archaeology, more specifically on the course 'Archaeology of the Near East' (Ba1).

It is strongly recommended to have followed the course 'Archaeology of the Ancient Near East' and 'Archaeology of the Phoenician-Punic world', and the corresponding material study courses (Ba2/3).

At least passive knowledge of English, French and German in order to be able to consult professional literature.

Final competences

- 1 Explore the complexity of a specific area in your own archaeological research and practice
- 2 Critically analyse new and complex archaeological ideas from the perspective of historical frameworks, social concepts and geographical realities.
- 3 Have the attitude to apply the best investigative methods in professional archaeological activities or study.
- 4 Treat international archaeological scientific literature in an original and well-founded critical manner.
- 5 Independently identify dynamics, processes or recurrences in complex historical and archaeological situations.
- 6 Make value-conscious and nuanced judgements concerning historical issues and theories.
- 7 Have an attitude of integrity that testifies of scientific (archaeological) curiosity, critical reflection and an attitude towards lifelong learning.
- 8 Write your own archaeological research in a high-quality report.-
- 9 Present and justify own archaeological research to experts, colleagues and non-experts.-
- 10 Communicate, cooperate and act appropriately in an inquiring, inspiring, advisory or authoritative way- Klik om te editeren ---

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Extra information on the teaching methods

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Guided self-study: preparing the lessons with the help of reading material.

Excursion: students take part in occasional site visits (museums, archaeological sites) spread over one or more days, archaeological sites) spread over one or more days.

Group work: Preparation of a presentation in small groups.

Lectures: limited number of presentations by lecturers and/or guest lecturers (up to 50% online).

Microteaching: student presentations around the chosen year themes.

Online discussion group: students are encouraged to discuss specific topics from the class via UFORA.

Project: students research a theme from different disciplines.

Workshop: exercises during the meetings.

Independent work: writing a paper.

The exact number of hours per work format can vary annually, depending on the theme of the lessons.

For the sake of COVID19 , modified work forms can be rolled out if necessary.

This course unit assumes responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI). Unpublished data should never be entered into GAI tools. The applicable guidelines from Academic Skills are respected throughout the course.

Study material

Type: Reader

Name: Archaeology of the Ancient Near East and the Phoenician-Punic world

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No

References

Jack Sasson (ed), *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, reeks Vol. I-IV (is made available via UFORA).
M. E. Aubet, *The Phoenicians and the West. Politics, colonies and trade*, revised edition, (Cambridge University Press, 2001).
C. López-Ruiz/B.R. Doak (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the Phoenician and Punic Mediterranean*, New York, 2019.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support via UFORA
(forums), e-mail, MS TEAMS, in person: by electronic appointment

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment, Participation, Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment, Participation, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Subject of the paper is communicated at the beginning of the semester
Portfolio compiled by the students
Oral examination on the topics treated
Constructive active participation during the different educational activities is evaluated by the lecturers.

Calculation of the examination mark

Workpiece (40%)
Portfolio (30%)
Oral examination (30%)

Facilities for Working Students

Possibility of exemption from attendance with replacement assignment in consultation with the lecturer
- Possibility to take the exam at another time during the academic year
- Possibility of feedback after appointment
Lectures will not be recorded but sufficient online learning material will be provided