

ANAR 144  
***Pharaohs, Mummies, and Pyramids:  
An Introduction to Egyptology***

Summer Session 1, 2022  
Monday & Wednesday, 8:00 AM-10:50 PM  
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**Introduction**

This lecture course is an introduction to ancient Egypt, with a historical focus on the individuals that shaped western civilization. Special attention will be given to the religion, art, architecture, and science of the first great nation on earth. Although we will discuss Egypt before the age of the pharaohs and after conquests by the Assyrians, Persians, and Greeks, we will concentrate on the apogee of Egyptian civilization, from approximately 3000 to 332 B.C.

**Course Requirements**

Your grade will be based on performance on a midterm exam (40% of letter grade) and a final exam (60% of letter grade). The midterm will be handed out electronically after class on Tuesday, 12 July, and due that evening by 6 P.M. It should take you approximately 80 minutes to write and will cover Chapters 1-7 of the textbook (i.e., up to and including the Second Intermediate Period). You should write your exam in Word format and when complete, send it by email to the T.A. Please keep in mind: *any exams received after 6 PM will not be accepted*. If you have questions during the exam, you should email them to me or the T.A. and we will answer them

The final will be given “live” on Saturday, 30 July, 8-11 AM. It will have two parts. The first part will be a slide quiz where you are shown 20 images from throughout the course and asked to identify them and their significance. The second part of the final will be a written exam that covers Chapters 8-10. Again, when it is complete you should email it to the T.A. Make sure to do so *before* the end of the scheduled exam—do not hand it in five minutes late.

Some notes on the exams: the slide quiz portion of the final will be cumulative, while the written portion of the final will cover only the second half of the course. I will post Zoom recordings of the lectures, and you can use them to study for the midterm and final. Nonetheless, your exams are both “closed book,” meaning you may not use any resource while writing them. This includes your notes, the Zoom recordings, your textbook, or any online resource. Please see the Study Guide attached to this syllabus for further details and strategies on preparing for the exams.

In addition to these exams, please understand that this is a “remote” class, and not specifically “asynchronous” class, although you may take it that way if you chose. This is a small class, so it will be noticeable if you are absent. It is important to ask questions, and last year that experience really helped students adjust to remote learning and get much more out of the experience. You should try to use the recorded lectures only for study and for emergencies when you are unable to make it to class online.

## Textbooks

Bard, Kathryn

2015 *An Introduction to the Archaeology of Ancient Egypt*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Blackwell Publishing, Malden, Mass.

This is available for rent on Amazon for \$13.16 but costs a bit more if you want to own a copy. It may seem a bit full of minutiae and quite dry, but I assure you it is complete and up-to-date, and much more exciting than all other textbooks on ancient Egypt that I know.

Oakes, Lorna, and Lucia Gahlin

2006 *Ancient Egypt: An Illustrated Reference to the Myths, Religions, Pyramids, etc.* Hermes House, London.

This is a fantastic and fun book available in many different guises! Don't worry about the addition or the exact title (because it changes). Just try to get the largest format and page count one you can find. Mine is 591 pp. and weighs about 15 lbs, all full of incredible color images. In this Third Summer of COVID, this is about as close as any of us will get to travel to Egypt. The book if sold at the production cost would be well over \$100. However, you can get it on Amazon used for as little as 59 cents! And there are plenty of copies available for under \$6. Believe me when I say you will enjoy this book and treasure it as a souvenir of our virtual trip to Egypt to this summer. *It also is the best way to study for the slide quiz portion of the final.* You may find that this and my lectures are all you need to do well on the exams.

## Lectures and Readings

### Week 1: June 28 & 30

*Tuesday*—What was so great about Egypt? How do we study ancient Egypt? Who were the ancient Egyptians? The structure and focus of the course

*Thursday*—Geography and the environment of Egypt, Napoleon & his savants, the translation of hieroglyphs, how hieroglyphs work, Egyptian gods, Egyptian myths, Egyptian beliefs, the Paleolithic period

*Readings*—Bard Chapters 1-3

### Week 2: July 5 & 7

*Tuesday*—The Neolithic period, Predynastic Egypt, the unification of Egypt

*Thursday*—The Age of the Pyramids and of the Sun Kings

*Readings*—Bard Chapters 4-6 (start)

### Week 3: July 12 & 14

*Tuesday*—The Age of the Pyramids and of the Sun Kings *Readings*—Chapter 6

*Thursday*—The collapse of the Old Kingdom and birth of the Middle Kingdom

*Readings*—Bard Chapter 6 (finish) & 7

\*\*\* Midterm exam given out after class on Tuesday, due at 6 PM\*\*\*

**Week 4: July 19 & 21**

*Tuesday*—The New Kingdom: the female pharaoh and the expansion of Egypt

*Thursday*—The New Kingdom: the heretic and the boy king

*Readings*— Bard Chapter 8

**Week 5: July 26 & 28**

*Tuesday*—The New Kingdom: temples and *Shemot*

*Thursday*—Libyans, Nubians, Assyrians, Persians, & Alexander the Great

*Readings*—Chapter 9