



UCL - INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

**ARCL 3051
THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF MESOPOTAMIA,**

2013/2014

Year 2/3 Option
0.5 unit

Co-ordinator: Dr Mark Altaweel
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Room 103. Tel: 020 7679 74607 (Internal: 24607)



Uncovered Sharrat Niphi temple at Nimrud in modern day Iraq.

AIMS

To provide an introduction to the archaeology of Mesopotamia (principally ancient Iraq but also eastern Syrian and parts of SE Turkey), from late prehistory to the end of Iron Age, with a focus on the fourth-first millennia BC.

To consider major issues of human society in Mesopotamia, including the development of early complex societies, urbanism, and early empires.

To consider in thematic and synthetic ways issues such as settlement, household, economy, cult, ideology, and social structure.

To consider the nature and interpretation of archaeological and textual sources in approaching the past of Mesopotamia.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course a student should:

- Have a broad overview of the archaeology of Mesopotamia.
- Appreciate the significance of the archaeology of Mesopotamia within the broad context of the development of human society.
- Appreciate the importance of critical approaches to archaeological and textual sources within the context of Mesopotamia and Southwest Asia.
- Utilise Mesopotamian case studies, particularly its early literate societies, to have a better understanding of broader current archaeological theory.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course students should be able to demonstrate: Understanding and critical awareness of arrange of primary and secondary sources.

- Written and oral skills in analysis and presentation.
- Appreciation of and ability to apply methods and theories of archaeological and historical analysis.

COURSE INFORMATION

This handbook contains the basic information about the content and administration of the course. See also <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/handbook/common/> for general information common to all courses. Additional subject-specific reading lists and individual session handouts will be given out at appropriate points in the course. If students have queries about the objectives, structure, content, assessment or organisation of the course, they should consult the course coordinator.

TEACHING METHODS

The course is taught over Term I through two-hour lectures, which include a major element of discussion. In addition there will be two sessions focused on object handling or we will undertake a visit to the galleries of the ancient Near East at the British Museum.

PREREQUISITES

While there are no formal prerequisites for this course, students are advised that previous attendance at ARCL1009 and/or ARCL2033 and/or ARCL2034 is likely to facilitate comprehension of the material presented in this course.

WORKLOAD

There will be 16 hours of lectures, including discussion, plus 4 hours of museum/object handling sessions, a total of 20 contact hours. Students will be expected to undertake around 80 hours of reading for the course, plus 40 hours preparing for and producing the assessed work. This adds up to a total workload of 140 hours for the course.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

- a) one written essay (2,375-2,625 words, 50% of course-mark);
- b) one written book/article review and critique (1,425-1,575 words, 30% of course-mark);
- c) one written discussion of an artefact or display based on museum visits (950-1,050 words, 20% of course-mark).

If students are unclear about the nature of an assignment, they should discuss this with the course coordinator.

The nature of the assignment and possible approaches to it will be discussed in class, in advance of the submission deadline. See below for the questions and details on the assignments.

ATTENDANCE

A register will be taken at each class. If you are unable to attend a class, please notify the lecturer by email. Departments are required to report each student's attendance to UCL Registry at frequent intervals throughout each term. Students are expected to attend at least 70% of classes.

LIBRARIES

The library of the Institute of Archaeology will be the principal resource for this course. Please note that the reading lists for this course are available online at: <http://ls-tlss.ucl.ac.uk/cgi-bin/displaylist?module=07ARCL3051>

MOODLE

Please note that materials relevant to this course can be found on UCL's Virtual Learning Environment at Moodle: <http://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/Week-by-Week Summary>

TEACHING SCHEDULE

Lecture 1: 30th September 2013

Aims and Objectives

Nature of the Discipline, Theories, Approaches, Current Situation

Nature of Sources, Archaeological and Historical Geography, and Environment

Lecture 2: 7th October 2013

Urban and Rural Landscapes

Subsistence, Diet, and the Domestic Economy

Lecture 3: 14th October 2013

Palaces and Temples

Administration and Communication

Lecture 4: 21st October 2013

Trade, War, and Migration

Lecture 5: 28th October 2013

British Museum Visit: Empire and Propaganda

Lecture 6: 11th November 2013

Art and Iconography

Lecture 7: 18th November 2013

House and Households

Lecture 8: 25th November 2013

Object Handling Session: Material Culture of Mesopotamia

Lecture 9: 2nd December 2013

Ancient Technology and Innovation

Lecture 10: 9th December 2013

Cult and Religion

Lecturers: All lectures will be by Dr. Mark Altaweel and David Kertai

BASIC TEXTS

- Akkermans, P. M. M. G., and G. M. Schwartz (2003) *The Archaeology of Syria*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. INST ARCH DBD 100 AKK.
- Chavalas, M. W. (2006) *The Ancient Near East. Historical Sources in Translation*, Oxford: Blackwell. ANC HIST B4 CHA.
- Foster, B. R., K. P. Foster and P. Gerstenblith (2005) *Iraq Beyond the Headlines. History, Archaeology, and War*. Singapore: World Scientific. INST ARCH DBB 100 FOR.
- Foster, B. R. and K. P. Foster (2009) *Civilizations of Ancient Iraq*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. ANC HIST D5 FOS.
- Kuhrt, A. (1995) *The Ancient Near East, c. 3000-330 BC*, London: Routledge. INST ARCH DBA 100 KUH.
- Leick, G. (ed.) (2007) *The Babylonian World*. London: Routledge. ANC HIST D14 LEI
- Lloyd, S. (1978) *The Archaeology of Mesopotamia from the Old Stone Age to the Persian Conquest*, London: Thames and Hudson. INST ARCH ISSUE DESK DBB 100 LLO.
- Matthews, R. (2003) *The Archaeology of Mesopotamia: Theories and Approaches*, London: Routledge. INST ARCH DBB 100 MAT.
- Meyers, E. M. (ed.) (1997) *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Archaeology in the Near East*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. INST ARCH DBA 100 MEY.
- Nissen, H. J. and P. Heine (2009) *From Mesopotamia to Iraq. A Concise History*, Chicago: University Press. INST ARCH Cataloguing.
- Oates, J. (1979) *Babylon*, London: Thames and Hudson. INST ARCH DBB 200 OAT; ISSUE DESK DBB 200 OAT.
- Pollock, S. and R. Bernbeck (eds) (2005) *Archaeologies of the Middle East. Critical Perspectives*, Oxford: Blackwell. INST ARCH DBA 100 POL, ISSUE DESK POL.
- Postgate, J. N. (1977) *The First Empires*, Oxford: Elsevier. INST ARCH DBB 100 Qto POS;; ISSUE DESK IOA POS 3
- Postgate, J. N. (1992) *Early Mesopotamia. Society and Economy at the Dawn of History*, London: Routledge. INST ARCH DBB 100 POS;; ISSUE DESK IOA POS 2
- Potts, D. T. (1997) *Mesopotamian Civilization. The Material Foundations*, London: Athlone Press. INST ARCH DBB 200 POT.
- Potts, D.T (e.d.). (2012) *A Companion to the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell. INST ARCH DBA 100 POT
- Richard, S. (ed.) (2003) *Near Eastern Archaeology. A Reader*, Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 367-82. INST ARCH DBA 100 RIC.
- Roaf, M. (1990) *Cultural Atlas of Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East*, Oxford: Facts on File. INST ARCH DBA 100 Qto ROA; ISSUE DESK DBA 100 Qto ROA.
- Sasson, J. M. (ed.) (1995) *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, New York: Scribner. INST ARCH DBA 100 SAS.
- Snell, D. C. (ed.) (2005) *A Companion to the Ancient Near East*, Oxford: Blackwell. MAIN ANC HIST B 5 SNE.
- Van De Mierop, M. (2004) *A History of the Ancient Near East*, Oxford: Blackwell. INST ARCH DBA 100 MIE.

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

The deadlines for submission of assessed work are:

- a) Written book/article review and critique: **Friday 1st November 2013**
- b) Written discussion of an artefact or display based on museum visit: **Friday 6th December 2013**
- c) Written essay: **Friday 13th December 2013**

Please do one piece of work from each of the following three sections.

Please note that there must not be significant overlap in content between any of the three submitted pieces of assessed work.

Section 1. Book/article review and critique (1,425-1,575 words, 30% of course-mark) **Deadline: Friday 1st November 2013**

Select any one of the publications from the following list and produce a brief summary and a critical review of it. If you would like to do some other work please come and talk to me.

1. Bahrani, Z. (1998) 'Conjuring Mesopotamia: imaginative geography and a world past', in L. Meskell (ed.) *Archaeology Under Fire. Nationalism, Politics and Heritage in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East*, London: Routledge: 159-74. INST ARCH AG MES
2. Pollock, S. (1999) *Ancient Mesopotamia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. INST ARCH DBB 100 POL;; ISSUE DESK IOA POL
3. Stone, E. C. (1999) 'The constraints on state and urban form in ancient Mesopotamia', in M. Hudson and B. A. Levine (eds) *Urbanization and Land Ownership in the Ancient Near East*, Cambridge: Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University: 203- 27. INST ARCH DBA 200 HUD
4. Black, J. (2002) 'The Sumerians in their landscape', in T. Abusch (ed.) *Riches Hidden in Secret Places*, Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns: 41-61. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D 6 ABU
5. Steinkeller, P. (2003) 'Archival practices at Babylonia in the third millennium', in M. Brosius (ed.) *Ancient Archives and Archival Traditions. Concepts of Record-Keeping in the Ancient World*, Oxford: Oxford University: 37-58. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY A 72 BRO
6. Weiss, H (ed). (2012) *Seven Generations Since the Fall of Akkad* (just choose one chapter). Wiesbaden : Harrassowitz. See IoA Library Site or Talk to Me for a copy.
7. Schwartz, G. M. (1994) 'Rural economic specialization and early urbanization in the Khabur valley, Syria', in G. M. Schwartz and S. E. Falconer (eds) *Archaeological Views from the Countryside: Village Communities in Early Complex Societies*, Washington: Smithsonian Institution: 19-36. INST ARCH ISSUE DESK IOA SCH 11
8. Wright, R. P. (1991) 'Technology, class and gender: worlds of difference in Ur III Mesopotamia', in R. P. Wright (ed.) *Gender and Archaeology*, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania: 79-110. INST ARCH BD WRI
9. Foster, B. R., K. P. Foster and P. Gerstenblith (2005) *Iraq Beyond the Headlines. History, Archaeology, and War*. Singapore: World Scientific. INST ARCH DBB 100

FOR

10. Liverani, M. (1979) 'The ideology of the Assyrian empire', in M. T. Larsen (ed.) *Power and Propaganda. A Symposium on Ancient Empires*, (Mesopotamia Copenhagen Studies in Assyriology 7) Copenhagen: Akademisk Forlag: 297-317.
INST ARCH DBB Series MES 7;; ISSUE DESK DBB Series MES 7
- 11 Kennett, D. and Kennett, J.P. 2006. Early state formation in Mesopotamia. *The Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology* 1(1):67-99.

Section 2. Written discussion of an artefact(s) or display based on museum visit/object handling (950-1050 words, 20% of course-mark)

Deadline: Friday 6th December 2013

Select any one of the objects, or a coherent group of objects, that we have viewed on our visit to the Near Eastern collections in the British Museum or object handling session and produce a discussion that considers the following factors:

The nature and significance of the object(s) as artefacts;

Relevant social, cultural, political, environmental, or other issues such an object(s) can tell us about the past.

Section 3. Written essay (2,375-2,625 words, 50% of course-mark)

Deadline: Friday 13th December 2013 Select any one of the following titles:

1. What factors have shaped the history and nature of the discipline of Mesopotamian archaeology up to today?
2. In what ways did Mesopotamian cities interact with their rural surroundings?
3. How would you characterize the subsistence systems of ancient Mesopotamia, and what factors structured those systems?
4. How were individuals buried in Mesopotamia? How can such burials help us to understand Mesopotamian society?
5. Examine and explain the social and cultural contexts in which craft and technology developed in ancient Mesopotamia.
6. Why did cities, writing, and cylinder seals all appear and evolve at approximately the same time in ancient Mesopotamia?
7. How significant was the role of trade in international interactions within and beyond Mesopotamia in the 4th to 1st millennia?
8. How important was the role of the temple in ancient Mesopotamian society? In what ways did religion play a role in daily life?
9. Describe the role of propaganda, art, and communication and their roles in one or more empires from Mesopotamia?

10. Pick your own research topic! If you choose this route talk to me about it first to let me know what you will do and how you will do it.

GENERAL ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

If students are unclear about the nature of an assignment, they should discuss this with the Course Co-ordinator.

Students are not permitted to re-write and re-submit essays or other coursework in order to try to improve their marks. Students may be permitted, in advance of the deadline for a given assignment, to submit for comment a brief outline of the assignment.

The course co-ordinator is willing to discuss an outline of the student's approach to the assignment, provided this is planned suitably in advance of the submission date.

WORLD-COUNT

Strict new regulations with regard to word-length were introduced UCL-wide with effect from 2013:

Penalties for Over-length Coursework

For submitted coursework, where a maximum length has been specified, the following procedure will apply:

- i) The length of coursework will normally be specified in terms of a word count
- ii) Assessed work should not exceed the prescribed length.
- iii) For work that exceeds the specified maximum length by less than 10% the mark will be reduced by ten percentage marks; but the penalised mark will not be reduced below the pass mark, assuming the work merited a pass.
- iv) For work that exceeds the specified maximum length by 10% or more, a mark of zero will be recorded.
- vii) In the case of coursework that is submitted late and is also overlength, the lateness penalty will have precedence.

The following should not be included in the word-count: title page, contents pages, lists of figure and tables, abstract, preface, acknowledgements, bibliography, captions and contents of tables and figures, appendices, and wording of citations.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Students are required to submit hard copy of all coursework to the course co-ordinator's pigeon-hole via the Red Essay Box at Reception by the appropriate deadline. The coursework must be stapled to a completed coversheet (available from the web, from outside room 411A or from the library). Late submission will be penalized in accordance with these regulations unless permission has been granted and an Extension Request Form (ERF) completed. Please note the stringent penalties for late submission that have been introduced (UCL-wide) from 2012-13.

Students should put their Candidate Number on all coursework. This is a 5 digit alphanumeric code and can be found on Portico: it is different from the Student Number/ID. Please also put the Candidate Number and course code on each page of the work.

It is also essential that students put their Candidate Number at the start of the title line on Turnitin, followed by the short title of the coursework.. – e.g., YBPR6 Funerary practices

Date-stamping will be via ‘Turnitin’ (see below), so in addition to submitting hard copy, students must also submit their work to Turnitin by midnight on the day of the deadline.

Students who encounter technical problems submitting their work to Turnitin should email the nature of the problem to ioa-turnitin@ucl.ac.uk in advance of the deadline in order that the Turnitin Advisers can notify the course co-ordinator that it may be appropriate to waive the late submission penalty.

If there is any other unexpected crisis on the submission day, students should telephone or (preferably) e-mail the course co-ordinator, and follow this up with a completed ERF.

UCL-WIDE PENALTIES FOR LATE SUBMISSION OF COURSEWORK

UCL regulation 3.1.6 Late Submission of Coursework

Where coursework is not submitted by a published deadline, the following penalties will apply:

- i) A penalty of 5 percentage marks should be applied to coursework submitted the calendar day after the deadline (calendar day 1).
- ii) A penalty of 15 percentage marks should be applied to coursework submitted on calendar day 2 after the deadline through to calendar day 7.
- iii) A mark of zero should be recorded for coursework submitted on calendar day 8 after the deadline through to the end of the second week of third term. Nevertheless, the assessment will be considered to be complete provided the coursework contains material that can be assessed.
- iv) Coursework submitted after the end of the second week of third term will not be marked and the assessment will be incomplete.
- vii) Where there are extenuating circumstances that have been recognised by the Board of Examiners or its representative, these penalties will not apply until the agreed extension period has been exceeded.
- viii) In the case of coursework that is submitted late and is also over length, only the lateness penalty will apply.

Please see the Coursework Guidelines document at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/handbook/common/> (or your degree programme handbook) for further details of the required procedure and of penalties.

The ‘Class Enrolment Password’ is **IoA1213** for Moodle. Please upload assignments to Turnitin via the Moodle site for this course. Moodle will be the primary way in which you will be able to upload assignments, receive course information, and have access to additional resources about the course. The Turnitin enrolment key, if you need this, is: **4159**, with class ID as: 587761.

Further information is given here:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/handbook/common/cfp.htm>

Turnitin advisers will be able to help you via email: ioa-turnitin@ucl.ac.uk if you need help generating or interpreting the reports.

TIMESCALE OF MARKED COURSEWORK

You can expect to receive your marked work within four calendar weeks of the official submission deadline. If you do not receive your work within this period, or a written explanation from the marker, you should notify the IoA's Academic Administrator, Judy Medrington.

KEEPING COPIES

Please note that it is an Institute requirement that you retain a copy (this can be electronic) of all coursework submitted. When your marked essay is returned to you, you should return it to the course co-ordinator within two weeks.

CITING OF SOURCES

Coursework should be expressed in a student's own words giving the exact source of any ideas, information, diagrams etc. that are taken from the work of others. Any direct quotations from the work of others must be indicated as such by being placed between inverted commas. **Plagiarism is regarded as a very serious irregularity, which can carry very heavy penalties.** It is your responsibility to read and abide by the requirements for presentation, referencing and avoidance of plagiarism to be found in the IoA 'Coursework Guidelines' on the IoA website.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/administration/students/handbook>.

Strict new penalties for plagiarism have been introduced since the 2012-13 session.

For guidelines on referencing in assessed work, please see:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/handbook/common/referencing.htm>

For guidance on the use of illustrations in your essays, please see:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/handbook/common/illustrations.htm>

AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

The term "plagiarism" means presenting material (words, figures etc.) in a way that allows the reader to believe that it is the work of the author he or she is reading, when it is in fact the creation of another person.

In academic and other circles, plagiarism is regarded as theft of intellectual property. UCL regulations, all detected plagiarism is to be penalized and noted on the student's record, irrespective of whether the plagiarism is committed knowingly or unintentionally. The whole process of an allegation of plagiarism and its investigation is likely to cause considerable personal embarrassment and to leave a very unpleasant memory in addition to the practical consequences of the penalty. The penalties can be surprisingly severe and may include failing a course or a whole degree. It is thus important to take deliberate steps to avoid any inadvertent plagiarism.

Avoiding plagiarism should start at the stage of taking notes. In your notes, it should be wholly clear what is taken directly from a source, what is a paraphrase of the content of a source and what is your own synthesis or original thought. Make sure you include sources and relevant page numbers in your notes.

When writing an essay any words and special meanings, any special phrases, any clauses or sentences taken directly from a source must be enclosed in inverted commas and followed by a reference to the source in brackets. It is not generally necessary to use direct quotations except when comparing particular terms or phrases used by different authors. Similarly, all figures and tables taken from sources must have their origin acknowledged in the caption. Captions do not contribute to any maximum word lengths.

Paraphrased information taken from a source must be followed by a reference to the source. If a paragraph contains information from several sources, it must be made clear what information comes from where: a list of sources at the end of the paragraph is not sufficient. Please cite sources of information fully, including page numbers where appropriate, in order to avoid any risk of plagiarism: citations in the text do not contribute to any maximum word count.

To guard further against inadvertent plagiarism, you may find it helpful to write a plan of your coursework answer or essay and to write the coursework primarily on the basis of your plan, only referring to sources or notes when you need to check something specific such as a page number for a citation.

COLLUSION, except where required, is also an examination offence. While discussing topics and questions with fellow students is one of the benefits of learning in a university environment, you should always plan and write your coursework answers entirely independently.

SCHEDULE AND SYLLABUS

TEACHING SCHEDULE

Lectures will be held as follows:

Term I Mondays 9.00-11.00 AM

Room 209, Institute of Archaeology

WEEK-BY-WEEK SYLLABUS

The following is an outline for the course as a whole, and identifies essential and supplementary readings relevant to each session. Information is provided as to where in the UCL library system individual readings are available; their location and Teaching Collection (TC) number, and status (whether out on loan) can also be accessed on the *eUCLid* computer catalogue system. Readings marked with an * are considered essential to keep up with the topics covered in the course. Student, however, should utilise all readings for possible research topics.

Lecture 1: 30th September 2013

Aims and Objectives

Nature of the Discipline, Theories, Approaches, Current Situation

Nature of Sources, Archaeological and Historical Geography, and Environment

In this introductory session an outline of the course structure, content, reading support, and assessment methods will be presented. We will consider the nature of the sources, and the geography and environment of Mesopotamia, the nature of the discipline itself, and recent events and how they have shaped archaeology in this region.

Reading:

Chronological Summary and Overview:

- *Liverani, M. (2005) 'Historical overview', in D. C. Snell (ed.) (2005) *A Companion to the Ancient Near East*, Oxford: Blackwell: 3-19. MAIN ANC HIST B 5 SNE
- Pollock, S. (1999) *Ancient Mesopotamia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Chapter 1. INST ARCH DBB 100 POL; ISSUE DESK IOA POL; MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D5 POL
- Postgate, J. N. (1992) *Early Mesopotamia. Society and Economy at the Dawn of History*, London: Routledge. Chapter 1. INST ARCH DBB 100 POS;; ISSUE DESK IOA POS 2

General and Recent Mesopotamia:

- *Altaweel, et al. 2012. New investigations in the environment, history and archaeology of the Iraqi hilly flanks: Shahrizor survey project 2009-2011. *Iraq* 74:1-35.
- Chavalas, M. W. (2006) *The Ancient Near East. Historical Sources in Translation*, Oxford: Blackwell. MAIN IN CATALOGUING
- *Emberling, J.G. 2008. Archaeologists and the military in Iraq, 2003-2008: Compromise or contribution. *Archaeologies: Journal of the World Archaeological Congress*. DOI 10.1007/s11759-008-9085-5.
- *Foster, B. R., K. P. Foster and P. Gerstenblith (2005) *Iraq Beyond the Headlines. History, Archaeology, and War*, Singapore: World Scientific. Chapters 14-16. INST ARCH DBB 100 FOR
- *Liverani, M. (1999) 'History and archaeology in the ancient Near East: 150 years of a

- difficult relationship', in H. Kühne, R. Bernbeck and K. Bartl (eds) *Fluchtpunkt Uruk. Archäologische Einheit aus Methodischer Vielfalt. Schriften für Hans Jörg Nissen*, (Internationale Archäologie Studia Honoria 6) Rahden: Marie Leidorf: 1-11. INST ARCH DBA 100 Qto KUH
- *Matthews, R. 2003. 'Year Zero for the Archaeology of Iraq', *Papers from the Institute of Archaeology* 14: 1-23. INST ARCH Pers
- Matthews, R. and M. Seymour (2006) 'By the waters of Babylon', *British Archaeology* 90: 28-33. INST ARCH Pers
- Pollock, S. (1999) *Ancient Mesopotamia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1. INST ARCH DBB 100 POL;; ISSUE DESK IOA POL;; MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D5 POL
- Postgate, J. N. (2002) 'The first civilizations in the Middle East', in B. Cunliffe, W. Davies, C. Renfrew (eds) *Archaeology. The Widening Debate*, Oxford: Oxford University Press: 385-410. INST ARCH AH CUN
- Van De Mierop, M. (1999) *Cuneiform Texts and the Writing of History*, London: Routledge. Pages 9- 38. INST ARCH DBB 200 MIE
- Van De Mierop, M. (2004) *A History of the Ancient Near East*, Oxford: Blackwell. Pages 1-16. INST ARCH DBA 100 MIE

Geography and Environment:

- *Bar-Matthews, et al. 1997. Late quaternary paleoclimate in the eastern Mediterranean region from stable isotope analysis of speleothems at Soreq cave, Israel. *Quaternary Research* 47:155-168.
- Gasche, H. and M. Tanret (eds) (1998) *Changing Watercourses in Babylonia. Towards a Reconstruction of the Ancient Environment in Lower Mesopotamia*, Ghent: University of Ghent. INST ARCH DBB 100 GAS
- Hritz, C. and T. J. Wilkinson (2006) 'Using Shuttle radar topography to map ancient water channels in Mesopotamia', *Antiquity* 80: 415-24. INST ARCH Pers
- *Jacobsen, T. and Adams, R.M. 1958. Salt and silt in ancient Mesopotamian agriculture *Science* 128(3334):1251-1258.
- *Kaniewski, D. et al. 2010. Late second–early first millennium BC abrupt climate changes in coastal Syria and their possible significance for the history of the Eastern Mediterranean. *Quaternary Research* 74(2):207-215.
- Matthews, R. (2000) *The Early Prehistory of Mesopotamia 500,000 to 4,500 bc*, (Subartu V) Turnhout: Brepols. Pages 5-11. INST ARCH DBB 100 Qto MAT
- Neumann, J. and S. Parpola (1987) 'Climatic change and the eleventh-tenth-century eclipse of Assyria and Babylonia', *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 46: 161-82. MAIN CLASSICS Pers
- Pollock, S. (1999) *Ancient Mesopotamia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2. INST ARCH DBB 100 POL; ISSUE DESK IOA POL; MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D5 POL
- Postgate, J. N. (1992) *Early Mesopotamia. Society and Economy at the Dawn of History*, London: Routledge. Chapter 1. INST ARCH DBB 100 POS;; ISSUE DESK IOA POS 2
- Redman, C. L. (1978) *The Rise of Civilization. From Early Farmers to Urban Society in the Ancient Near East*, San Francisco: W. H. Freeman. Pages 16-49. INST ARCH DBA 100 RED
- *Weiss, H. et al. 1993. The genesis and collapse of third millennium north Mesopotamia. civilization. *Science* 261(5124):995-1004.
- *Wilkinson, T. J. (2003) *Archaeological Landscapes of the Near East*, Tucson: University of Arizona. See Chapters 5-6. INST ARCH DBA 100 WIL

Lecture 2. 7th October 2013:

Urban and Rural Landscapes Subsistence, Diet, and the Domestic Economy

In this week, the urban and rural landscapes of Mesopotamia are introduced, including interactions between the two that has shaped its history. We look at how subsistence, diet, and the domestic economy have shaped the region in many periods.

Reading:

General and Urban Landscapes:

- *Adams, R. 2001. Complexity in archaic states. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 20(3):345-360.
- Charvát, P. (2002) *Mesopotamia Before History*, London: Routledge. Pages 160-233.
INST ARCHDBB 100 CHA
- Cordova, C. E. (2005) 'The degradation of the ancient Near Eastern environment', in D. C. Snell (ed.) *A Companion to the Ancient Near East*, Oxford: Blackwell: 109-25. MAIN ANC HIST B 5 SNE6
- Crawford, H. (2004) *Sumer and the Sumerians*, (second edition), Cambridge: University Press. Chapters 4-5. INST ARCH DBB 100 CRA
- Foster, B. R. (2004) 'Shuruppak and the Sumerian City State', in L. Kogan et al. (eds) *Memoriae Igor M. Diakonoff*. Winona Lake; Eisenbrauns: 71-88.
- Hansen, D. P. et al. (2003) 'Art of the early city-states', in J. Aruz (ed.) *Art of the First Cities. The Third Millennium B.C. from the Mediterranean to the Indus*, New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art: 21-132. INST ARCH DBA 300 Qto ARU
- *Kepinski, C. (2005) 'Material culture of a Babylonian commercial outpost on the Iraqi Middle Euphrates: the case of Haradum during the Middle Bronze Age', *Akkadica* 126: 121-31. INST ARCH Pers
- *Liverani, M. (2006) *Uruk the First City*. London: Equinox. INST ARCH DBB 10 LIV
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Rural Landscapes:

- *Abdi, K. (2003) 'The early development of pastoralism in the central Zagros mountains', *Journal of World Prehistory* 17: 395-448. INST ARCH Pers
- Akkermans, P. M. M. G. (2006) The fortress of Ili-pada. Middle Assyrian architecture at Tell Sabi Abyad, Syria, in P. Butterlin et al. (eds) *Les espaces Syro-Mésopotamiens*. Turnhout: Brepols: 201-11. INST ARCH DBA 100 Qto BUT.
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- *Wilkinson, T. J. (2000) 'Regional approaches to Mesopotamian archaeology: the contribution of archaeological surveys', *Journal of Archaeological Research* 8: 219-67. INST ARCH Pers
- Wilkinson, T. J. (2002) 'Physical and cultural landscapes of the Hamoukar area', *Akkadica* 123: 89-106. INST ARCH Pers
- Wright, H. T. (1969) *The Administration of Rural Production in an Early Mesopotamian Town*, (Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Anthropological Papers 38) Ann Arbor: University of Michigan. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D64 WRI
- *Zaccagnini, C. (1979) *The Rural Landscape of Arraphe*. Rome: QGS. MAIN ANC HIST D 58 ZAC

Lecture 3. 14th October 2013:

Palaces and Temples Administration and Communication

This week we explore the role of temple, palaces, and their related institutions on society and the economy of Mesopotamia. We investigate how these institutions changed and what devices, of administration and communication, may have led to their importance in Mesopotamian society.

Reading:

Temples:

- *George, A (1993) *House Most High: The Temples of Ancient Mesopotamia*. Eisenbrauns. See online for location.
- Heinrich, E. (1982). *Die Tempel Und Heiligtümer Im Alten Mesopotamien. Typologie, Morphologie Und Geschichte*, Berlin: W. de Gruyter. INST ARCH DBB 300 Qto HEI
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- Zettler, R. (1992) The Ur III Temple of Inanna at Nippur : the operation and organization of urban religious institutions in Mesopotamia in the late third millennium B.C. Dietrich Reimer Verlag.

Palaces:

- Heinrich, E. (1984). *Die Paläste Im Alten Mesopotamien*, Berlin: W. de Gruyter. INST ARCH DBB 300 Qto HEI
- Oates, J. and Oates, D. (2001) *Nimrud. An Assyrian Imperial City Revealed*, London: British School of Archaeology in Iraq. INST ARCH DBB 10 OAT
- Özgüç, T. (1999) *The Palaces and Temples of Kültepe-Kaniş/Neşar*, Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu. INST ARCH DBC Qto Series TUR 46
- *Roaf, M. (1995) Palaces and temples in Ancient Mesopotamia, In *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, ed. Jack M. Sasson (New York: Scribner's Sons, 1995), 1:423–41. INST ARCH DBA 100 SAS.
- *Kertai, D. (2011) Kalhu's palaces of war and peace: Palace architecture at Nimrud in the ninth century BC. *Iraq* 73:71-86 INST ARCH Pers
- Winter, I. (1993) "Seat of Kingship"/"A Wonder to Behold": The Palace as Construct in the Ancient Near East. *Ars Orientalis* 23:27-55. INST ARCH Pers or online electronic journals.

Writing:

- *Archi, A. (2003) 'Archival record-keeping at Ebla 2400-2350 BC', in M. Brosius (ed.) *Ancient Archives and Archival Traditions. Concepts of Record-Keeping in the Ancient World*, Oxford: Oxford University: 17-36. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY A 72 BRO
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- Englund, R. K. (1998) 'Texts from the Late Uruk period', in J. Bauer, R. K. Englund and

- M. Krebernik. *Mesopotamien. Späturuk-Zeit und Frühdynastische Zeit. Annäherungen I*, (Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis 160/1) Freiburg: Universitätsverlag Freiburg Schweiz: 15-233. INST ARCH DBB 100 BAU
- *Glassner, J.-J. (2004) *Mesopotamian Chronicles*, Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D 4 GLA
- Larsen, M. T. (1989) 'What they wrote on clay', in K. Schousboe and M. T. Larsen (eds) *Literacy and Society*, Copenhagen: Akademisk: 121-48. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY A 72 SCH 11
- Michalowski, P. (1993) *Letters from Early Mesopotamia*, Atlanta: Scholars Press. INST ARCH DBA 600 MIC
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- *Postgate, J. N., T. Wang and T. Wilkinson (1995) 'The evidence for early writing: utilitarian or ceremonial?', *Antiquity* 69: 459-80. INST ARCH Pers
- Potts, D. T. (1997) *Mesopotamian Civilization. The Material Foundations*, London: Athlone. Chapter 11. INST ARCH DBB 200 POT
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- Robson, E. (2001) 'The Tablet House: a scribal school in Old Babylonian Nippur', *Revue d'Assyriologie* 95: 39-67. INST ARCH Pers
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- * Steinkeller, P. (2004) 'The function of written documentation in the administrative praxis of early Babylonia', in M. Hudson and C. Wunsch (eds) *Creating Economic Order. Record-Keeping, Standardization, and the Development of Accounting in the Ancient Near East*, Bethesda: CDL: 64- 88. MAIN IN CATALOGUING
- *Stone, E. C. (1981) 'Texts, architecture and ethnographic analogy: patterns of residence in Old Babylonian Nippur', *Iraq* 43: 19-33. INST ARCH Pers
- Tanret, M. (2004) 'The works and the days...on scribal activity in Old Babylonian Sippar-Amnūnum', *Revue d'Assyriologie et d'Archéologie Orientale* 98: 33-62. INST ARCH Pers
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- *Zettler, R. L. (1987) 'Administration of the temple of Innana at Nippur under the Third Dynasty of Ur: archaeological and documentary evidence', in McG. Gibson and R. D. Biggs (eds). *The Organization of Power. Aspects of Bureaucracy in the Ancient Near East*, Chicago: Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago: 117-31. INST ARCH DBA 100 GIB
- Zettler, R. L. (1996) 'Written documents as excavated artefacts and the holistic interpretation of the Mesopotamian Archaeological Record', in J. S. Cooper and G. M. Schwartz (eds) *The Study of the Ancient Near East in the Twenty-First Century*, Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns: 81- 102. INST ARCH ISSUE DESK IOA COO 4
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Seals and Sealing:

- *Collon, D. (1987) *First Impressions. Cylinder Seals in the Ancient Near East*, London: British Museum. INST ARCH ISSUE DESK IOA COL 13
- Duistermaat, K. 2010 *Administration in Neolithic Societies? The First Use of Seals in Syria and Some Considerations on Seal Owners, Seal Use and Private Property*. In Müller (ed.) *Die Bedeutung Der Minoischen Und Mykenischen Glyptik: VI. Internationales Siegel-Symposium, Marburg, 9.-12. Oktober 2008. (CMS Beiheft 8)* Mainz am Rhein: Verlag Philipp von Zabern: 167-182. INST ARCH KG MUL
- Helwing, B. (2003) 'Feasts as a social dynamic in prehistoric Western Asia – three case studies from Syria and Anatolia', *Paléorient* 29: 63-86. INST ARCH Pers
- *Martin, H. P. and R. Matthews (1993) 'Seals and sealings', in A. Green (ed.) *The 6G Ash-Tip and its Contents: Cultic and Administrative Discard from the Temple?* (Abu Salabikh Excavations 4.) London: British School of Archaeology in Iraq: 23-81. INST ARCH DBB 10 Qto Series ABU 4
- Matthews, R. (1993) *Cities, Seals and Writing. Archaic Seal Impressions from Jemdet Nasr and Ur*, Berlin: Mann. INST ARCH ISSUE DESK IOA MAT
- *Potts, D. T. (1997) *Mesopotamian Civilization. The Material Foundations*, London: Athlone. Chapter 11. INST ARCH DBB 200 POT
- Reichel, C. (2001) 'Seals and sealings at Tell Asmar: a new look at an Ur III to early Old Babylonian palace', in W. W. Hallo and I. J. Winter (eds) *Seals and Seal Impressions*, Bethesda: CDL: 101-31. INST ARCH DBA 200 ABU
- *Reichel, C. (2002) 'Administrative complexity in Syria during the 4th millennium B.C. – the seals and sealings from Tell Hamoukar', *Akkadica* 123: 35-56. INST ARCH Pers

Lecture 4. 21st October 2013:

Trade, War, and Migration

Often it has been argued that trade, war, and migration have culturally transformed the Near East and Mesopotamia by extension. This week we examine the evidence from different periods, specifically what may have led to changes in these, and discuss the implications of these on societies.

Reading:

General:

- *Algaze, G. (2001) 'Initial social complexity in Southwestern Asia. The Mesopotamian advantage. *Current Anthropology* 42: 199-233. SCIENCE ANTHROPOLOGY Pers
- Beale, T. W. (1973) 'Early trade in highland Iran: a view from a source area', *World Archaeology* 5:133-48. INST ARCH Pers
- Crawford, H. (2004) *Sumer and the Sumerians*, (second edition), Cambridge: University Press. Chapter 9. INST ARCH DBB 100 CRA 14
- Kohl, P. L. (1975) 'The archaeology of trade', *Dialectical Anthropology* 1: 43-50. SCIENCE ANTHROPOLOGY Pers
- *Lamberg-Karlovsky, C. C. (1996) 'The archaeological evidence for international commerce: public and/or private enterprise in Mesopotamia', in M. Hudson and B. Levine (eds) *Privatization in the Ancient Near East and Classical World*, Harvard: Peabody Museum Bulletin 5. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY B 64 HUD
- Liverani, M. (1990) *Prestige and Interest. International Relations in the Near East ca. 1600-1100 BC*, Padua: Sargon. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY B 61 LIV
- Matthews, R. and H. Fazeli (2004) 'Copper and complexity: Iran and Mesopotamia in the fourth millennium B.C.', *Iran* 42: 61-75. INST ARCH Pers
- Pollock, S. (1999) *Ancient Mesopotamia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 7. INST ARCH DBB 100 POL;; ISSUE DESK IOA POL;; MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D5 POL
- Postgate, J. N. (1992) *Early Mesopotamia. Society and Economy at the Dawn of History*, London: Routledge. Chapters 7, 11, 13. INST ARCH DBB 100 POS;; ISSUE DESK IOA POS 2
- *Postgate, J. N. (2003) 'Learning the lessons of the future: trade in prehistory through a historian's lens', *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 60/1-2: 5-26. INST ARCH Pers
- Potts, D. T. (1997) *Mesopotamian Civilization. The Material Foundations*, London: Athlone. Chapters 12-13. INST ARCH DBB 200 POT
- Potts, T. (1994) *Mesopotamia and the East*, Oxford: Oxford University. INST ARCH DBB 100 POT
- *Ratnagar, S. (2003) 'Theorizing Bronze-Age intercultural trade: the evidence of the weights', *Paléorient* 29: 79-92. INST ARCH Pers
- *Stein, G. J. (1999) *Rethinking World-Systems. Diasporas, Colonies, and Interaction in Uruk Mesopotamia*, Tuscon: University of Arizona. INST ARCH DBB 100 STE
- Van de Mierop, M. (2002) 'In search of prestige: foreign contacts and the rise of an elite in Early Dynastic Babylonia', in E. Ehrenberg (ed.) *Leaving No Stones Unturned*, Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns: 125-37. INST ARCH DBA 100 HER

Anatolian Trade in the Old Assyrian period:

Marzahn, J. and B. Salje (eds) (2003) *Wiedererstehendes Assur. 100 Jahre Deutsche*

- Ausgrabungen in Assyrien*, Mainz: Phillip von Zabern. INST ARCH DBB 100 MAR
- *Özgüç, T. (1999) *The Palaces and Temples of Kültepe-Kanis/Nesha*, Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu. INST ARCH DBC Qto Series TUR 46
- Veenhof, K. R. (1995) 'Kanesh: an Assyrian colony in Anatolia', in J. M. Sasson (ed.) *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, New York: Scribner: 859-71. INST ARCH DBA 100 SAS

Other Relevant Works:

- Drews, R. 1993. *The End of the Bronze Age: Changes in Warfare and the Catastrophe Ca. 1200 B.C.* Princeton University Press. INST ARCH BC 150 DRE.
- *Kamp, K. and Yoffee, N. 1980. Ethnicity in ancient Western Asia during the early second millennium B.C.: Archaeological assessments and ethnoarchaeological perspectives. *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 237:85-104
- Potts, D.T. 2013. Mesopotamian and Persian migration. In : *The Encyclopedia of Global Human Migration*, Immanuel Ness (ed.). Blackwell Publishing.
- Van Soldt, W. H. (ed.) (2005) *Ethnicity in Ancient Mesopotamia*. Leiden: NINO. INST ARCH DBB 100 SOL
- *Younger, K.L. 2007. The Late Bronze Age/Iron Age transition and the origins of the Arameans. In K.L. Younger (ed.), *Ugarit at Seventy-Five*. Eisenbrauns. Pp. 131-174. INST ARCH DBD 10 YOU
- Zagarell, A, et al. 1986. Trade, Women, Class, and Society in Ancient Western Asia. *Current Anthropology* 27(5):415-430. INST ARCH Pers.

Lecture 5. 28th October 2013:

British Museum Visit: Empire and Propaganda

This week we visit the British Museum and look at the role of how empires utilize propaganda and how this reflects their power and what they want to portray to others and their subjects. We will focus on the Neo-Assyrian Empire but also examine earlier empires from Mesopotamia.

Reading:

General:

- Bahrani, Z. 2008. *Rituals of War: The Body and Violence in Mesopotamia*. Zone Books: Brooklyn. INST ARCH DAK 161 PIO
- *Sinopoli, C. 1994. The archaeology of empires. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 23:159-180.

Assyria in the British Museum:

- Bohrer, F.N. 1998. Inventing Assyria: Exoticism and Reception in Nineteenth-Century England and France. *The Art Bulletin* 80: 336-356
- Bohrer, F.N. (2003) *Orientalism and Visual Culture: Imagining Mesopotamia in Nineteenth-Century Europe*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ANCIENT HISTORY D 52 BOH
- *Curtis, J. E. and Reade, J. E. (1995) *Art and Empire. Treasures from Assyria in the British Museum*, London: The British Museum. INST ARCH DBB 300 CUR
- Jenkins, I. (1992) *Archaeologists & Aesthetes: In the Sculpture Galleries of the British Museum 1800 – 1939*, London: British Museum Press. INST ARCH YATES C 10 BRI
- *Reade, J. (1998) *Assyrian Sculpture*, London: The British Museum. INST ARCH DBB 300 REA

Assyria Generally:

- Kuhrt, A. (1995) *The Ancient Near East, c. 3000-330 BC*, London: Routledge. Pages 473-546. INST ARCH DBA 100 KUH
- *Liverani, M. (1979) 'The ideology of the Assyrian empire', in M. T. Larsen (ed.) *Power and Propaganda. A Symposium on Ancient Empires*, (Mesopotamia Copenhagen Studies in Assyriology 7) Copenhagen: Akademisk Forlag: 297-317. INST ARCH DBB Series MES 7; ISSUE DESK DBB Series MES 7
- Lumsden, S. (2001) 'Power and identity in the Neo-Assyrian world', in I. Nielsen (ed.) *The Royal Palace Institution in the First Millennium BC*, (Monographs of the Danish Institute at Athens 4) Aarhus: Aarhus University Press: 33-51. INST ARCH DBA 100 NIE
- Oates, J. and Oates, D. (2001) *Nimrud. An Assyrian Imperial City Revealed*, London: British School of Archaeology in Iraq. INST ARCH DBB 10 OAT
- *Parker, B. J. (1997) 'The northern frontier of Assyria: an archaeological perspective', in S. Parpola and R. M. Whiting (eds) *Assyria 1995*, Helsinki: The Neo-Assyrian Text Corpus Project: 217-44. INST ARCH DBB 200 PAR;; ISSUE DESK IOA PAR 2
- *Parker, B. J. (2003) 'Archaeological manifestations of empire: Assyria's imprint on southeastern Anatolia', *American Journal of Archaeology* 107: 525-57. INST ARCH Pers
- Parpola, S. and Porter, M. (2001) *The Helsinki Atlas of the Near East in the Neo-Assyrian*

- Period*, Helsinki: Neo-Assyrian Text Corpus Project. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY Qto B2 PAR
- Postgate, J. N. (1979) 'The economic structure of the Assyrian empire', in M. T. Larsen (ed.) *Power and Propaganda. A Symposium on Ancient Empires*, (Mesopotamia Copenhagen Studies in Assyriology 7) Copenhagen: Akademisk Forlag: 193-221. INST ARCH DBB Series MES 7;; ISSUE DESK DBB Series MES 7
- Radner, K., 2006. Provinz. C. Assyrian. *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* 11/1-2, 42-68.
- *Reade, J. (1979) 'Ideology and propaganda in Assyrian art', in M. T. Larsen ed.) *Power and Propaganda. A Symposium on Ancient Empires*, (Mesopotamia Copenhagen Studies in Assyriology 7) Copenhagen: Akademisk Forlag: 329-43. INST ARCH DBB Series MES 7;; ISSUE DESK DBB Series MES 7
- Reade, J. 2011. The Evolution of Assyrian Imperial Architecture: Political Implications and Uncertainties. *Mesopotamia* 46: 109-125.
- Russell, J.M. (1991). *Sennacherib's Palace without Rival at Nineveh*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press. INST ARCH DBB 10 RUS
- *Russell, J. M. (1998) 'The program of the palace of Assurnasirpal II', *American Journal of Archaeology* 102: 655-715. INST ARCH Pers
- *Russell, J. M. (1999) *The Writing on the Wall. Studies in the Architectural Context of Late Assyrian Palace Inscriptions*, Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D 4 RUS
- Thomason, A.K. 2004. From Sennacherib's bronzes to Taharqa's feet: Conceptions of the material world at Nineveh. *Iraq* 66:151-162.
- Van De Mieroop, M. (2004) *A History of the Ancient Near East*, Oxford: Blackwell. Pages 216-52. INST ARCH DBA 100 MIE
- *Winter, I. J. (1997) 'Art in empire: the royal image and the visual dimensions of Assyrian ideology', in S. Parpola and R. M. Whiting (eds) *Assyria 1995*, Helsinki: The Neo-Assyrian Text Corpus Project: 359-81. INST ARCH DBB 200 PAR; ISSUE DESK IOA PAR 2

Lecture 6: 11th November 2013

Art and Iconography

Art and iconography has played a very important part of Mesopotamian culture long before the first cities even arose. This week we examine the role of art and iconography in Mesopotamian society, including both household art and state-sponsored artistic works.

Reading:

- Aruz, J., Benzel, K., Evans, J.M. 2008. *Beyond Babylon: Art, Trade, and Diplomacy in the Second Millennium BC*. New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art New York. INST ARCH DBA 300 Qto ARU
- Ataç, M.A. 2010. *Mythology of Kingship in Neo-Assyrian Art*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. INST ARCH DBB 300 ATA
- *Bahrani, Z. 2001. *Women of Babylon: Gender and Representation in Mesopotamia*. London: Routledge. ANCIENT HISTORY D 65 BAH
- Bahrani, Z. 2003. *The Graven Image: Representation in Babylonia and Assyria*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. INST ARCH DBB 200 BAH
- Evans, J.M. 2012. *The Lives of Sumerian Sculpture: An Archaeology of the Early Dynastic Temple*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. INST ARCH DBB 10 EVA
- Feldman, M.H. 2006. *Diplomacy by Design: Luxury Arts and an "International Style" in the Ancient Near East, 1400-1200 BCE*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. INST ARCH DBA 100 FEL
- Feldman, M.H. 2006. Assur Tomb 45 and the Birth of the Assyrian Empire. BASOR 343: 21-43
- Frankfort, H. 1996 (5th ed.). *The Art and Architecture of the Ancient Orient*. INST ARCH DBA 300 FRA
- *Hansen, D. P. et al. (2003) 'Art of the early city-states', in J. Aruz (ed.) *Art of the First Cities. The Third Millennium B.C. from the Mediterranean to the Indus*, New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art: 21-132. INST ARCH DBA 300 Qto ARU
- Ornan, T. 2005. *The Triumph of the Symbol: Pictorial Representation of Deities in Mesopotamia and the Biblical Image Ban*. Fribourg: Academic Press Fribourg. ANCIENT HISTORY D 73 ORN
- Orthmann, W. 1975. *Der Alte Orient*. Berlin: Propyläen-Verlag. INST ARCH DBA 300 ORT
- Piotrovskii, B. 1967. *Urartu: the kingdom of Van and its art*. London: Evelyn Adams & Mackay. DAK 161 PIO
- *Pollard, A.M. and Moorey, P.R.S. 1982. Some analyses of Middle Assyrian faience and related materials from Tell al-Rimah in Iraq. *Archaeometry* 24(1):45-50.
- *Porter, B.N. 2003. *Trees, Kings, and Politics: Studies in Assyrian Iconography*. Fribourg: Academic Press. ANCIENT HISTORY D 52 POR
- Reade, J. (1979) 'Ideology and propaganda in Assyrian art', in M. T. Larsen ed.) *Power and Propaganda. A Symposium on Ancient Empires*, (Mesopotamia Copenhagen Studies in Assyriology 7) Copenhagen: Akademisk Forlag: 329-43. INST ARCH DBB Series MES 7; ISSUE DESK DBB Series MES 7
- *Thomason, A.K. 2001. Representations of the north Syrian landscape in Neo-Assyrian art. *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 323:63-96.
- Winter, I. 2010. *On the Art in the Ancient Near East*. Leiden: Brill. INST ARCH DBA 100 WIN

Lecture 7. 18th November 2013

House and Households

It is often argued that the household was the foundation of Mesopotamian society. That is, every institution, no matter how complex or powerful, was generally organized in households or thought of as organized in households. This week we examine this aspect and discuss the evidence and implications.

Reading:

- Algaze, G. et al (2001) 'Research at Titris Höyük in southeastern Turkey: the 1999 season', *Anatolica* 27: 23-106. INST ARCH Pers
- *Allison, P. M. (ed.) (1999) *The Archaeology of Household Activities*, London: Routledge. INST ARCH BD ALL
- Bottero, J. (2001) *Everyday Life in Ancient Mesopotamia*, Edinburgh: University Press. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D 65 BOT
- *Brusasco, P. (1999-2000) 'Family archives and the social use of space in Old Babylonian houses at Ur', *Mesopotamia* 34-35: 1-173. INST ARCH Pers
- *Brusasco, P. (2004) 'Theory and practice in the study of Mesopotamian domestic space', *Antiquity*, 78: 142-57. INST ARCH Pers
- Crawford, H. (2004) *Sumer and the Sumerians*, (second edition), Cambridge: University Press. Chapter 5. INST ARCH DBB 100 CRA
- Matthews, R. (2003) *The Archaeology of Mesopotamia. Theories and Approaches*, London: Routledge. Pages 155-88. INST ARCH DBB 100 MAT
- Matthews, W. and Postgate, J. N. (1994) 'The imprint of living in an early Mesopotamian city: questions and answers', in R. Luff and P. Rowley-Conwy (eds) *Whither Environmental Archaeology?*, (Oxbow Monograph 38) Oxford: Oxbow: 171-212. INST ARCH ISSUE DESK IOA LUF
- *McCorriston, J. 2011. *Pilgrimage and Household in the Ancient Near East*. Cambridge University Press. See Chapter 5. INST ARCH DBA 100 MCC.
- *Nemet-Nejat, K. R. (1998) *Daily Life in Ancient Mesopotamia*, Westport: Greenwood Press. MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D 65 NEM
- Pollock, S. (1999) *Ancient Mesopotamia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 5. INST ARCH DBB 100 POL;; ISSUE DESK IOA POL;; MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D5 POL
- Postgate, J. N. (1992) *Early Mesopotamia. Society and Economy at the Dawn of History*, London: Routledge. Chapter 5. INST ARCH DBB 100 POS;; ISSUE DESK IOA POS 2
- Potts, D. T. (1997) *Mesopotamian Civilization. The Material Foundations*, London: Athlone. Chapter 9. INST ARCH DBB 200 POT
- Rainville, L. (2005) *Investigating Upper Mesopotamian Households using Micro-Archaeological Techniques*, Oxford: BAR. INST ARCH DBC 100 Qto RAI
- Snell, D. C. (1997) *Life in the Ancient Near East*, New Haven: Yale University. INST ARCH DBA 200 SNE
- *Veenhof, K. R. (ed.) (1996) *Houses and Households in Ancient Mesopotamia*, Leiden: NINO. INST ARCH DBB 100 VEE

Lecture 8. 25th November 2013

Object Handling Session: Material Culture of Mesopotamia

This week we look at different types of material culture from Mesopotamia that are in the Institute's collections. We examine simple domestic objects as well as more elite goods. We discuss their implications and how they can be used to better understand Mesopotamian society. For the readings, we will look at some site reports and artefact studies that make up the foundation of archaeological theory and ideas that have been postulated for Mesopotamia.

Reading:

General:

- Dietler, M. and Herbich, I. 1998. Habitus, techniques, style: An integrated approach to the social understanding of material culture and boundaries. In: *The Archaeology of Social Boundaries*, M. T. Stark (ed.), Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press. Pp. 232-263. INST ARCH AH STA
- *Hodder, I (e.d.). 1982. *Symbolic and Structural Archaeology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-3 and 5. INST ARCH AH HOD
- Hurcombe, L. 2007. *Archaeological Artefacts and Material Culture*. Routledge.

Material Culture:

- Akkermans, P.M.M.G. 1997. Seals and Seal Impressions from Middle Assyrian Tell Sabi Abyad, Syria. *Subartu* 4:243-258.
- Akkermans, P.M.M.G. 2006. *The Fortress of Ili-pada. Middle Assyrian Architecture at Tell Sabi Abyad, Syria*. Subartu 14. Turnhout. Pp. 201-209.
- Bahrani, Z. 2001. *Women of Babylon: Gender and Representation in Mesopotamia*. London: Routledge. ANCIENT HISTORY D 65 BAH
- Collon D. 1987. *First Impressions: Cylinder Seals in the Ancient Near East*. British Museum Press: London. INST ARCH KG COL
- *Curtis, J. and Green, A. 1997. *Excavations at Khribet Khatuniyeh*. London: British Museum Press. INST ARCH DBB 10 CUR
- *Curtis, J. Collon, D., Green, A. 1993. British museum excavations at Nimrud and Balawat in 1989. *Iraq* 55:1-37. INST ARCH Pers
- Mallowan, M.E.L. 1966. *Nimrud and its Remains*. 3 Vols. British School of Archaeology in Iraq. London.
- *McCown, D.E. and Haines, R. 1967. *Nippur 1: Temple of Enlil, Scribal Quarter, and Soundings: Excavations of the Joint Expedition to Nippur of the University Museum of Philadelphia and the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*. Oriental Institute Publication 78. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. INST ARCH DBB 10 Qto MCC
- *Oates, D., Oates, J., McDonald, H. 1997. *Excavations at Tell Brak 1: The Mitanni and Old Babylonian Period*. Cambridge: McDonald Institute Monographs. INST ARCH DBD 10 Qto OAT
- *Postgate, C. Oates, D., Oates, J. 1997. *The Excavations at Tell al Rimah: The Pottery*. British School of Archaeology in Iraq and the Directorate of Antiquities. London. INST ARCH DBB 10 Qto POS

- Stone, E. and Zimansky, P. 2004. *The Anatomy of a Mesopotamian City: Survey and Soundings at Mashkan-shapir*. Winona Lake: Eisenbraun. INST ARCH DBB 10 Qto STO
- Werr, L.A.G., Mansour, S., Yaseen, G.T. 1992. *Old Babylonian Cylinder Seals from the Hamrin*. London: Nabu. INST ARCH KG Qto GAI
- *Woolley, L and Mallowan, M.E.L. 1927. *Ur Excavations VII: The Old Babylonian Period*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISSUE DESK IOA WOO 5
- *Woolley, L. 1965. *Ur Excavations VIII: The Kassite Period and the Period of the Assyrian Kings*. London: British Museum Press. ANCIENT HISTORY FOLIOS D 54 UR

Lecture 9. 2nd December 2013:

Ancient Technology and Innovation

Innovation played a key role in numerous cultures that arose in Mesopotamia. We discuss how this may have occurred and the role of technology, science, and innovation in Mesopotamian society.

Reading:

- Aruz, J. (ed.) (2003) *Art of the First Cities. The Third Millennium B.C. from the Mediterranean to the Indus*, New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art. INST ARCH DBA 300 Qto ARU
- *Crawford, H. (2004) *Sumer and the Sumerians*, (second edition), Cambridge: University Press. Chapter 8. INST ARCH DBB 100 CRA
- Hodges H. (1970) *Technology in the Ancient World*, London: Allen Lane. INST ARCH K Qto HOD 10
- Mazzoni, S. (2003) 'Ebla: crafts and power in an emergent state of third millennium BC Syria', *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 16: 173-91. INST ARCH Pers
- Moorey, P. R. S. (1994) *Ancient Mesopotamian Materials and Industries. The Archaeological Evidence*, Oxford: University Press. INST ARCH DBB 100 MOO
- Pollock, S. (1999) *Ancient Mesopotamia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 4. INST ARCH DBB 100 POL;; ISSUE DESK IOA POL;; MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D5 POL
- Postgate, J. N. (1992) *Early Mesopotamia. Society and Economy at the Dawn of History*, London: Routledge. Chapter 12. INST ARCH DBB 100 POS;; ISSUE DESK IOA POS 2
- Potts, D. T. (1997) *Mesopotamian Civilization. The Material Foundations*, London: Athlone. Chapters 5-7. INST ARCH DBB 200 POT
- *Robson, E. 2008. *Mathematics in Ancient Iraq : A Social History*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. ANCIENT HISTORY D 76 ROB
- *Roux, V. (2003) 'Ceramic standardization and intensity of production: quantifying degrees of specialization', *American Antiquity* 68: 768-82. INST ARCH Pers
- *Stein, G. J. (1996.) 'Producers, patrons and prestige: craft specialists and emergent elite in Mesopotamia from 5500-3100BC', in B. Wailes (ed.) *Craft Specialization and Social Evolution: In Memory of V. Gordon Childe*, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Museum: 25-38. INST ARCH AE CHI
- Stein, G. J. and Blackman, M. J. (1993) 'The organizational context of specialized craft production in early Mesopotamian states', *Research in Economic Anthropology* 14: 29-59. SCIENCE ANTHROPOLOGY Pers
- *Wattenmaker, P. (1998) *Household and State in Upper Mesopotamia. Specialized Economy and the Social Uses of Goods in an Early Complex Society*, Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press. INST ARCH DBC 100 WAT
- *Wright, R. P. (1991) 'Technology, class and gender: worlds of difference in Ur III Mesopotamia', in R. P. Wright (ed.) *Gender and Archaeology*, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania: 79- 110. INST ARCH BD WRI

Lecture 10. 9th December 2013:

Cult and Religion

A well-known scholar once said that a book on Mesopotamian cult and religion should never be written, since we are likely to get it completely wrong. While this topic might be quite complex, it did play some important roles in Mesopotamian society that can be investigated, even if the full details may never be clear to us. This week we look at Mesopotamian religious practice and the diversity of this in relation to social life in the region.

Reading:

General:

- *Black, J. and A. Green (1998) *Gods, Demons and Symbols of Ancient Mesopotamia*, (second edition), London: British Museum. INST ARCH DBB 200 BLA
- Bahrani, Z. (2002) 'Performativity and the image: narrative, representation, and the Uruk Vase', in E. Ehrenberg (ed.) *Leaving No Stones Unturned*, Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns: 15-22. INST ARCH DBA 100 EHR
- Crawford, H. (2004) *Sumer and the Sumerians*, (second edition), Cambridge: University Press. Chapter 7. INST ARCH DBB 100 CRA
- *Dick, M. B. (2005) 'The Mesopotamian cult statue: a sacramental encounter with divinity', in N. H. Walls (ed.) *Cult Image and Divine Representation in the Ancient Near East*, Boston: ASOR: 43-67. INST ARCH DBA 200 WAL
- *Jacobsen, T. (1976) *The Treasures of Darkness: A History of Mesopotamian Religion*, New Haven: Yale University Press. INST ARCH ISSUE DESK IOA JAC 2
- Pollock, S. (1999) *Ancient Mesopotamia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 7-8. INST ARCH DBB 100 POL;; ISSUE DESK IOA POL;; MAIN ANCIENT HISTORY D5 POL
- Postgate, J. N. (1992) *Early Mesopotamia. Society and Economy at the Dawn of History*, London: Routledge. Chapters 6, 14. INST ARCH DBB 100 POS;; ISSUE DESK IOA POS 2
- Potts, D. T. (1997) *Mesopotamian Civilization. The Material Foundations*, London: Athlone. Chapters 8, 10. INST ARCH DBB 200 POT
- *Winter, I. (1999) 'Reading ritual in the archaeological record', in H. Kühne, R. Bernbeck and K. Bartl (eds) *Fluchtpunkt Uruk: Archäologische Einheit aus Methodischer Vielfalt. Schriften für Hans Jorg Nissen* (ed.). Raden: Marie Leidorf: 229-56. INST ARCH DBA 100 Qto KUH

Abu Salabikh:

- Martin, H. P. *et al.* (1985) *Abu Salabikh Excavations Volume 2. Graves 1 to 99*, London: BSAI. INST ARCH DBB 10 Series Qto ABU 2
- *Postgate, J. N. (1980) 'Early Dynastic burial customs at Abu Salabikh', *Sumer* 36: 65-82. INST ARCH Pers

Arslantepe:

- Frangipane, M. *et al.* (2001) 'New symbols of a new power in a "royal" tomb from 3000 BC Arslantepe, Malatya (Turkey)', *Paléorient* 27/2: 105-39. INST ARCH Pers

Umm el-Marra and Tell Banat:

- *Porter, A. (2002) 'The dynamics of death: ancestors, pastoralism, and the origins of a third-millennium city in Syria', *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 325: 1-36. INST ARCH Pers
- Schwartz, G. M. *et al.* (2003) 'A third-millennium B.C. elite tomb and other new evidence from Tell Umm el-Marra, Syria', *American Journal of Archaeology* 107: 325-61. INST ARCH Pers

Beydar:

- Lebeau, M. (2006) Les temples de Tell Beydar et leur environnement immediate à l'époque Early Jezirah IIIb, in P. Butterlin *et al.* (eds) *Les espaces Syro-Mésopotamiens*. Turnhout: Brepols: 101-40. INST ARCH DBA 100 Qto BUT

Tell Brak:

- Matthews, R. (2003) ed. *Excavations at Tell Brak 4*. London: BSAI. Pages 109-116. INST ARCH DBD 10 Qto MAT

Mozan:

- *Collins, B. J. (2004) 'A channel to the underworld in Syria', *Near Eastern Archaeology* 67/1: 54-56. INST ARCH Pers

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Libraries

The library of the Institute of Archaeology UCL will be the principal resource for this course. However, some materials will be found in History or other UCL library.

Dyslexia

If you have dyslexia or other relevant disability, please make your lecturer aware of this. Please discuss with your lecturer whether there is any way in which they can help you. Students with dyslexia are reminded to indicate this on each piece of coursework.

Support your local Near Eastern societies

Please consider joining and thereby supporting the work of at least one of the major British institutes and societies working in the Near East today. They each produce an annual journal as well as newsletters and other publications. They organise lectures on relevant topics, usually held in London, and they have some funding to help students travel and study in the modern countries of the Near East.

More information can be found at their websites:

British Institute for the Study of Iraq: <http://www.bisi.ac.uk/>
(listing of events, lectures, and other information about archaeology in Iraq):

The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (U.S. sister institution to BISI and about Iraq and archaeology): <http://www.taarii.org/>

British Association for Near Eastern Archaeology: <http://www.banea.org/>

<http://ecai.org/iraq> (extremely useful site devoted to the archaeology of Iraq)

<http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/> (British Museum site, basic introduction to ancient Mesopotamia, including Sumer, Babylon, and Assyria)

<http://www.etana.org/abzu/> (excellent resource covering all aspects of the ancient Near East) <http://www.assur.de/>
(devoted to German excavations at the important Assyrian site of Assur)

<http://www.utarp.org>
(devoted to archaeological project on north Assyrian frontier)

<http://www.learningsites.com/NWPalace/NWPalhome.html> (reconstructions of the Northwest Palace at Nimrud)

<http://www.cba-inst.org> (on-line version of Parpola, S. and Porter, M. (2001) *The Helsinki Atlas of the Near East in the Neo-Assyrian Period*, Helsinki: Neo-Assyrian Text Corpus Project)

<http://cdli.ucla.edu/> (project aiming to put on-line all cuneiform documents, about 120,000 of them, dating from 3200 – 2000 BC)