

COURSE TITLE: History of Ancient Mesopotamia

Name Surname DR. Ahmed Lefta Rehma

University of Alqadissya

Email: laftaahmed98@gmail.com

Mob: 0780828362

Office hours: 30 hour weekly

Room and date: Room 264

Course description and objectives

This course introduces the topography and geography of ancient Mesopotamia focusing on the Euphrates and Tigris valleys where the Sumerian and Akkadian civilizations have flourished. The course illustrates the human history in Ancient Mesopotamia, since the pre-historic period and the appearance of the Neanderthal until the Assyrian Empire. The course also traces the development of the different techniques used in construction, irrigation and fabrication during the different historical period. Furthermore, an anthropological study will be carried out in order to illustrate the social differences between the inhabitants of Mesopotamia, in addition to a basic introduction on the genetic studies and the use of the DNA analysis in Archaeology.

Methods

During the course there are different visits to the Archaeological sites and the ongoing excavations. The study of the material culture and the chronological issue, by using new programs and scientific methods. At the end of the course the students have to carry out seminars on the different topics of the course discussing their research capacities.

Knowledge and skills to be achieved

Illustrate the role of the Mesopotamian civilizations in the human history. Good understanding of the evolution of the urbanization and the empires/states strategies and their social, economical and political organization.

Introducing new research methodologies and the use of the new scientific techniques in the archaeological researches. The student will be able to carry out researches on different archaeological topics on an international level.

Required Readings and materials

The Greatness That Was Babylon by Henry Saggs

The Might That Was Assyria by Henry Saggs

The Land of Assur and the Yoke of Assur, studies on Assyria 1971-2005. By Nicholas Postgate

The rise of civilization by David John Oates

An Introduction of the Ancient Mesopotamian Civilization by Taha Baqer

Reference 1: _____
 Reference 2: _____
 Reference 3: _____
 Reference 4: _____
 Reference 5: _____

Grade

The grade for the History of Ancient Mesopotamia will be divided as follow:

TYPE OF EXAM	DESCRIPTION	%
The first exam		15%
The second exam		15%
The Final exam		60%
Paper and Presentation		3%
Attendance and class participation		3%
Quizzes		4%

The grade scale will be as follows:

Excellence	90-95
Very good	80-89
Good	70-79
Average	65-69
Acceptable	60-64

Attendance

The attendance of the classes is mandatory, while is free choice for the filed visit.

Calendar

Basic and support material to be covered according to the homework/reports and their due dates:

Week	Subject
Week 1	Title : Introduction on the geography of Ancient Iraq bibliography
Week 2	Title : The topography of ancient Mesopotamia bibliography
Week 3	Title :The Origin of Iraq name bibliography
Week 4	Title : Study on the ancient population and the different migrations to and from Mesopotamia bibliography
Week 5	Title : the urban process of the ancient Mesopotamia

Week	Subject
	bibliography
Week 6	Title : the pre-historic era and the human expansion bibliography
Week 7	Title : The origin of the urban revolution bibliography
Week 8	Title : the origins of the artistic, economic and political development bibliography
Week 9	Title : the development of production and the ancient techniques bibliography
Week 10	Title : the development of the pottery production bibliography
Week 11	Title : The development of the construction techniques bibliography
Week 12	Title : Anthropology of ancient Mesopotamian populations bibliography
Week 13	Title : Socio-political organization of the ancient empire and states bibliography
Week 14	Title : Migration and human interaction and its result on the social system bibliography
Week 15	Title the effect of the Ancient Mesopotamian civilizations onto other population. bibliography