

ANCIENT CITIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
Classical Studies 2500B (Section 001)
The University of Western Ontario
Winter 2027



Site of Palmyra, Syria (Ron Van Oers © UNESCO)

Course Information

Ancient Cities is an introductory survey of the urban centers of the ancient Mediterranean, western Asian and Egyptian world. The course focuses on the archaeological remains of some of the earliest and most impressive cities and civilizations in human history, such as Babylon, Thebes, Mycenae, Athens, and Rome. Throughout the course, we will investigate the earliest signs of urban organization in the archaeological record and track the evolution of the physical layout and social organization of urban life through 10,000 years of history in Western Asia, Egypt and the Mediterranean. The course ends with an in-depth look at the urban centres of Greece and Rome.

2 Lecture hours, 0.5 course

Required Textbook:

Gates, Charles and Andrew Goldman. 2024. *Ancient Cities: The Archaeology of Urban Life in the Ancient Near East and Egypt, Greece, and Rome*, **Third edition**. London: Routledge.

*This is a new edition of the textbook (**3rd edition**). Please make sure that you are reading the correct edition as the corresponding readings will be different from older versions.

The textbook is available as an e-book through Western libraries, accessible with this link:
<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/west/detail.action?docID=31088237>

Methods of Evaluation

Grading Scheme and Assessment Dates

The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:

Bi-weekly Quizzes (5/6)	30%
Midterm Test	30%
Final Exam	40%