

**GREEK ARCHAEOLOGY READING LIST: COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS**  
**For PhD in Classical Archaeology Stream**  
University of Western Ontario  
Department of Classical Studies

**Updated: June 2023 (EMG)**

**OVERVIEW:**

*The comprehensive exams in archaeology give students the opportunity to demonstrate a broad working knowledge of the material necessary to operate widely in our field of Classical Archaeology and to teach a range of courses at the undergraduate level easily and competently. To that end, the comprehensive reading list is broad and includes monuments, sites and art from around the ancient Mediterranean and related areas. In addition, the list includes some key debates in Roman archaeology that will demonstrate a student's ability to think critically about archaeological problems and understand some of the major debates that have taken place (or are still active) in our field. It is expected that at this stage students are able to place the archaeological record into its historical context and can speak competently about the physical remains as well as their importance in the social and political world in which they existed.*

**General works and broad categories (know content: Monuments, works of art, concepts):**

*This is background material that you may very well come to the PhD knowing already. Use **this list as needed** to fill in subjects, time periods, and the major works that should be known to teach and discuss Greek Archaeology as a whole. You do not need to know every example of e.g. frescos, black figure, statuary, etc., but you should be able to have a thorough discussion, citing examples, about the major trends or problems associated with the material.*

- Lemos, I. and S. Deger-Jalkotzy (eds.). 2006. *Ancient Greece: From the Mycenaean Palaces to the Age of Homer*. Edinburgh Leventis Studies 3. Edinburgh University Press
- Alcock, S.E. and R. Osborne (eds.). 2007. *Classical Archaeology*. Blackwell. (Greek chapters, first half of each section)
- Hurwit, J. 1999. *The Athenian Acropolis: History, Mythology, and Archaeology from the Neolithic Era to the Present*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Travlos, J. 1971. *Pictorial Dictionary of Ancient Athens*. New York: Praeger.
- J. Pedley. 2011. *Greek Art and Archaeology*, 5th ed. (Prentice Hall)
- S. Pomeroy et al. 2012. *Ancient Greece: A Political, Social, and Cultural History*. Oxford University Press. (Read if you need the historical background).
- Plantzos, D. 2016: *Greek Art and Archaeology (1200-30 BCE)*. Kapon Editions.
- Smith, T. and D. Plantzos (eds). 2012. *A Companion to Greek Art*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- Spivey, N. 1996. *Understanding Greek Sculpture*. Cambridge University Press.
- Stewart, A. 1990. *Greek Sculpture* (2 vols.: text + plates). Yale University Press.
- Emerson, M. 2018. *Greek Sanctuaries and Temple Architecture: An Introduction* (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Bloomsbury.

### **Theory and method reference works:**

*This list contains reference works for particular aspects of archaeological work, e.g., ceramics analysis, artifact typologies, theories, gender, ethnicity, etc. **Don't feel that you need to read everything on this list**, but rather use it for your particular interests and to fill in gaps in knowledge.*

- Horden, Peregrine and Nicholas Purcell 2000. *The corrupting sea: A study of Mediterranean history*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Rice, Prudence M. 1987. *Pottery analysis: a sourcebook*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press (esp. chapters 8-9)
- Renfrew, C. and P. Bahn 1996. *Archaeology: theories, methods, and practice* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London: Thames and Hudson (esp. pp. 533-539)
- Lucas, Gavin 2001. *Critical approaches to fieldwork: contemporary and historical archaeological practice*. New York: Routledge.
- Parker Pearson, M. 1999. *The archaeology of death and burial*. College Station: Texas A & M University Press.
- Arnold, Bettina, and Nancy L. Wicker (eds.). 2001. *Gender and the archaeology of death*. Walnut Creek: AltaMira Press.
- Cullen, T. 1996. "Contributions to Feminism in Archaeology," *AJA* 100, 409–414.
- Hall, Jonathan M. 1997. *Ethnic identity in Greek antiquity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Appadurai, Arjun (ed.). 1986 *The social life of things: commodities in cultural perspective*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Papadopoulos, John K., and Richard Leventhal (eds.) 2003 *Theory and Practice in Mediterranean Archaeology: Old World and New World Perspectives*. Los Angeles: Cotsen Institute of Archaeology (esp. papers by Lynne Gamble, Claire Lyons, Nicholas Stanley-Price).

### **CHRONOLOGICAL PERIODS:**

*You should know generally how Greece and the city of Athens evolved and how trends shift in other important areas of the Greek world. The following lists focus more specifically on issues and debates of particular time periods. Please use the general works listed above in conjunction with these lists to understand more in depth some of the primary issues of each chronological period. In all cases there are plenty more sources that could be listed and you are welcome to consult anything else that will help in your general preparation for this comprehensive exam.*

#### **Early/Middle Bronze Age**

- D. Preziosi and L.A. Hitchcock. 1999. *Aegean Art and Architecture*. Oxford.
- Cline, E. 2010. *The Oxford Companion to the Aegean Bronze Age*. Oxford.
- Cullen, T. 2001. *Aegean Prehistory. A Review*. Boston.
- Whitelaw, B. 2006. "The Knossos Urban Landscape Project: investigating the long-term dynamics of an urban landscape." *Archaeology International* 10: 28–31.

- Schoep, I. 2006. "Looking Beyond the First Palaces: Elites and the Agency of Power in EM III–MM II Crete." *AJA* 110(1):37–64.
- Bennet, J. 2007. "Pylos: The Expansion of A Mycenaean Palatial Center," in M.L. Galaty and W.A. Parkinson (eds.), *Rethinking Mycenaean Palaces II: Revised and Expanded Second Edition*. Los Angeles: The Cotsen Institute of Archaeology. 29-39.

### **Late Bronze Age**

- Halstead, Paul. 2007. "Toward a model of Mycenaean palatial mobilization," In M.L. Galaty and William A. Parkinson (eds), *Rethinking Mycenaean Palaces II: Revised and Expanded Second Edition*. Los Angeles: The Cotsen Institute of Archaeology. 66-73
- Bachhuber, C. and G. Roberts. 2009. *Forces of Transformation: The End of the Bronze Age in the Mediterranean*. Oxbow.
- Shelmerdine, C., ed. 2008. *The Cambridge Companion to the Aegean Bronze Age*. Cambridge.
- Burns, B. 2010. *Mycenaean Greece, Mediterranean Commerce, and the Formation of Identity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Hitchcock, L.A. 2000. *Minoan Architecture: A Contextual Analysis*. Jonsered.
- Marinatos, N. 1993. *Minoan Religion: Ritual, Image, and Symbol*. Columbia.
- Driessen, J., and C. Macdonald. 1997. *The Troubled Island: Minoan Crete Before and After the Santorini Eruption*. Aegaeum 17. Liège and Austin: Université de Liège, and University of Texas at Austin.

### **Early Iron Age**

- Antonnacio, C. (ed.). 2018. *The Cambridge Companion to Early Iron Age Greece*. Cambridge.
- Murray, S.C. 2017. *The Collapse of the Mycenaean Economy. Imports, Trade, and Institutions 1300-700 BCE*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Knapp, A.B. and S.W. Manning. 2016. "Crisis in Context: The End of the Late Bronze Age in the Eastern Mediterranean." *American Journal of Archaeology* 120.1: 99-149.
- A.M. Snodgrass. 2000. *The Dark Age of Greece*. Routledge.
- Antonaccio, C.M. 1995 *An archaeology of ancestors: tomb cult and hero cult in early Greece*. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield.
- I. Morris. 2010. "The Collapse and Regeneration of Complex Society in Greece, 1500-500 BC," In G.M. Schwartz and J.J. Nichols (eds.) *After Collapse: The Regeneration of Complex Societies*. University of Arizona Press. 72-84
- Coldstream, J.N. 2003. *Geometric Greece* (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Routledge.
- Boardman, J. 1998: *Early Greek Vase Painting: 11th to 6th Cs. B.C.*
- Middleton, G. 2020. *Collapse and Transformation: the LBA to EIA in the Aegean*. Oxbow.

### **Archaic Period**

- J. Boardman. 1991. *Greek Sculpture: The Archaic Period*. Thames & Hudson.
- Hurwit, J. M. 1985. *The Art and Culture of Early Greece*. Cornell University Press.

- Osborne, R. 1998. *Archaic and Classical Greek Art*. Oxford University Press.
- Boardman, J. 2001. *The History of Greek Vases*. Thames & Hudson.
- Ridgway, B.S. 1970. *The Severe Style in Greek Sculpture*. Princeton University Press.

### **Classical Period**

- J. Boardman. 1985. *Greek Sculpture: The Classical Period*. Thames & Hudson.
- Papadopoulos, J.K. 1996. "The Original Kerameikos of Athens and the Siting of the Classical Agora" *Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies* 37(2):107-128.
- Rhodes, P.J. 2018. *Periclean Athens*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.
- R. Neer. 2004. "The Athenian Treasury at Delphi and the Material of Politics." *Classical Antiquity* 23.1: 63-93.
- Pollitt, J.J. 1972. *Art and Experience in Classical Greece*. Cambridge University Press.
- Ridgway, B.S. 1981. *Fifth-Century Styles in Greek Sculpture*. Princeton University Press.

### **Late Classical Period**

- J. Boardman. 1995. *Greek Sculpture: The Late Classical Period*. Thames & Hudson.
- Palagia, O. 2009. *Art in Athens during the Peloponnesian War*. Cambridge University Press.
- Harrison, E.B. 1997. "The Glories of the Athenians: Observations on the Program of the Frieze of the Temple of Athena Nike." *Studies in the History of Art* 49: 108-2.
- Ridgway, B.S. 1997. *Fourth Century Styles in Greek Sculpture*. University of Wisconsin Press.

### **Hellenistic/Roman Greece**

- E. Gruen. 1984. *The Hellenistic World and the Coming of Rome*. University of California Press.
- Alcock, Susan. 1993. *Graecia Capta: the landscapes of Roman Greece*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Alcock, Susan. 2002. *Archaeologies of the Greek past: Landscape, monuments and memories*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kuin, I.N.I. 2018. "Sulla and the Invention of Roman Athens." *Mnemosyne* 71.4: 616-639.
- Muñoz Grijalvo, E. 2005. "Elites and Religious Change in Roman Athens," *Numen* 52.2: 255-282.
- Hoff, M.C. 2013. "Greece and the Roman Republic: Athens and Corinth from the Late Third Century to The Augustan Era." In J.D. Evans (ed.), *A Companion to the Archaeology of the Roman Republic*. Wiley-Blackwell. 559-77.
- Gruen, E. 2004. "Rome and the Greek World." In H. Flower (ed.), *Cambridge Companion to the Roman Republic*. Cambridge University Press. 242-68.

## **SITES/REGIONS:**

*Many of the sections above will have already dealt with these areas. With these lists please gain an understanding of the archaeology of these regions broadly so that you are able to discuss the larger Greek world and the archaeological trends we observe as a cohesive whole.*

### **Southern Italy/Sicily:**

- Osborne, R. 1998. "Early Greek colonization? The nature of Greek settlement in the west." In N. Fisher and H. van Wees (eds.), *Archaic Greece: New approaches and new evidence*. London: Duckworth. 251-269.
- Thatcher, M. 2021. *The Politics of Identity in Greek Sicily and Southern Italy*. Greeks Overseas.
- Matthews, H. 2020. *Greek Cities of Sicily: History, Archaeology, Architecture*.

### **Black Sea:**

- Tsetskhladze, G.R. (ed.) 1998. *The Greek colonization of the Black Sea area: historical interpretation of archaeology*. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner.
- Colombi, C. 2022. *Comparing Greek colonies: Mobility and settlement consolidation from southern Italy to the Black Sea*. De Gruyter.
- Manoledakis, Manolis. 2018. *Essays on the archaeology and ancient history of the Black Sea littoral*. Colloquia Antiqua 18. Peeters Publishers.
- Manoledakis, Manolis (ed.). 2016. *The Black Sea in the light of new archaeological data and theoretical approaches: Proceedings of the 2nd International Workshop on the Black Sea in antiquity held in Thessaloniki, 18-20 September 2015*. Oxford: Archaeopress.
- Papuci-Władyka, Ewdoksia (ed.). 2011. *PONTIKA 2008: Recent research on the northern and eastern Black Sea in ancient times: Proceedings of the International Conference, 21st-26th April 2008, Kraków*. Oxford: Archaeopress.

## **MAJOR TOPICS/DEBATES in Greek Archaeology:**

*The following list of debates have been central to Greek Archaeology over the past few decades. These are just a representative sample of primary subjects that should be well understood by a PhD candidate in Greek Archaeology. If you would like to propose to the archaeology committee substituting for another subject, please present that case to the Graduate Chair at the appropriate time before the comprehensive exams.*

### **Landscape Archaeology/Survey**

- Alcock, S. and J. Cherry 2004. *Side-by-side survey: comparative regional studies in the Mediterranean world*. Oxford: Oxbow.
- Hirsh, E., and M. O'Hanlon. 1995. *The anthropology of landscape: Perspectives on place and space*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Tilley, C. 1994. *A phenomenology of landscape: Places, paths and monuments*. Oxford: Berg.
- Sutton, Susan B. (ed.). 2000. *Contingent countryside: settlement, economy, and land use*

*in the southern Argolid since 1700*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

### **The Parthenon: controversies over identification and ownership**

- Gerding, H. 2006. "The Erechtheion and the Panathenaic Procession." *American Journal of Archaeology* 110. 3: 389-401.
- Neils, J. 2001. *The Parthenon Frieze*. Cambridge University Press.
- Deacy, S. 2008. *Athena*. New York: Routledge. Chapter 7: All about Athena? The Classical Akropolis, pp. 105-121.
- Kousser, R. 2009. "Destruction and Memory on the Athenian Acropolis." *The Art Bulletin* 91(3): 263-82.
- R. Osborne. 1994. "Democracy and Imperialism in the Panathenaic Procession: The Parthenon frieze in its context." In Coulson et al. (eds.), *The Archaeology of Athens and Attica under the Democracy*. Oxford. 143-50.
- Pollitt, J.J. 1997. "The meaning of the Parthenon frieze." In D. Buitron-Oliver (ed.), *The interpretation of architectural sculpture in Greece and Rome*. Washington. 51-65.
- Boardman, J. 1985. *The Parthenon and Its Sculptures*. University of Texas Press.
- Neils, J. (ed.). 2005. *The Parthenon: From Antiquity to the Present*. Cambridge University Press.

### **Island archaeology and networks:**

- van Dommelen, Peter and A. Bernard Knapp. 2010. *Material connections in the ancient Mediterranean*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Cherry, J.F. (ed.) 1995. *Colonization of islands* (=World Archaeology 26: 3, 1995). [Available on Jstor](#).
- Knappett, Carl, Tim Evans and Ray Rivers. 2008. "Modeling maritime interaction in the Aegean Bronze Age," *Antiquity* 82, issue 318: 1009-1024.
- Brughmans, T. 2010. "Connecting the dots: towards archaeological network analysis," *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 29.3, 277-303.

### **Cultural interaction/colonization:**

- Dietler, Michael. 2009. "Colonial encounters in Iberia and the western Mediterranean: An explanatory framework." In M. Dietler and C. López-Ruiz (eds.), *Colonial encounters in ancient Iberia: Phoenician, Greek, and Indigenous Relations*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 3-48.
- Lyons, C.L. and J.K. Papadopoulos (eds.). 2002. *The Archaeology of Colonialism*. Los Angeles: The J. Paul Getty Trust.
- Dietler, M. 2005. "The archaeology of colonization and the colonization of archaeology: theoretical challenges from an ancient Mediterranean colonial encounter." In G. Stein (ed.), *The Archaeology of Colonial Encounters: Comparative Perspectives*. Santa Fe: SAR Press. 33-68.
- Descoedres, J.-P. (ed.). 1990. *Greek colonists and native populations*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

- Gosden, C. (ed.). 1997. *Culture contact and colonialism* (=World Archaeology 28:3, 1997). Available on JStor
- Gosden, C. 2001. Postcolonial archaeology: issues of culture, identity, and knowledge. In I. Hodder, ed., *Archaeological theory today*, 241-261. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- van Dommelen, P. 1997. Colonial constructs: colonialism and archaeology in the Mediterranean. *World Archaeology* 28: 305-323.