

His 5400: Bronze Age Aegean
Summer 2011

Lee E. Patterson

Office: Coleman 3280

Office Hours: 12:30-2:30 MR
and by appointment

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Class Meeting Times and Location: MR, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Coleman 2750

Texts Available through Textbook Rental

Higgins, Reynold. 1997. *Minoan and Mycenaean Art*.

Latacz, Joachim. 2004. *Troy and Homer: Towards a Solution of an Old Mystery*.

Other readings are required. For the full range of reading assignments, see the Schedule and Bibliography below.

Course Themes: Despite over a century of intensive study, the Bronze Age Aegean continues to be a field on the cutting edge. Every year new discoveries are made at Minoan, Mycenaean, and other archaeological sites dating from 3000 to 1000 BC. This course will take an immersive approach to this field. Students will gain familiarity with some of the main archaeological sites, some methodologies used in studying the Bronze Age, and current issues and controversies. We begin with a survey of the Minoan and Mycenaean worlds, continue with the debate over the historicity of the Trojan War, and end with questions regarding the end of the Bronze Age world.

Grading:	Participation:	15%
	Report (June 20-30):	15%
	Report (Aug 1-4):	15%
	Short Papers:	20%
	Term Paper:	35%

June 20-30 Reports: During the June 20 to June 30 classes, students will make two presentations of select archaeological sites, one Minoan and one Mycenaean. The starting point in each of these presentations will be a chapter assigned in Cline. However, as these chapters are merely starting points, the idea is not merely to summarize the chapter. You will outline key ideas in each chapter and supplement with additional information (as found, for example, in Jeremy Rutter's website, referenced below). One requirement for all reports is a handout containing a site plan. Also be sure you are clear about the chronological development of the site. Each report will be approximately 20 minutes with additional time for discussion.

Term Reports: These reports will summarize your term papers. You will break down in 20 minutes or so the main arguments from your research, the methods you used to reach them, and your conclusions. One requirement is a handout outlining your findings and providing a bibliography. All reports in this class (June 20-30, Aug 1-4) will be judged by their clarity and thoroughness.

Attendance and Make-Up Policy: Regular attendance should be considered a top priority. Roll will be taken at the start of each class. Absences can only be excused if your absence on that day was absolutely unavoidable (e.g., a serious medical condition, a serious accident, etc.), and you

will need to provide written documentation. No exceptions! (Believe me when I say this: if you are not totally committed to the class and attend regularly, chances are you will not get the grade you want.)

Academic Integrity (and other information): All work you do for this course must be yours alone. Academic dishonesty in any form is an offense against the integrity, standards, and stated policies of the university. Be sure to ask me if you are at any time uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating. Such breaches of academic integrity will be treated with stern measures, including, but not necessarily limited to, an F for the course.

For Students with Disabilities: Any students who need accommodation for physical or learning disabilities should communicate with me as soon as possible. Appropriate accommodations are only possible for documented disabilities. If you have questions on what constitutes appropriate accommodation, or about disabilities in general, contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS).

WebCT: All students are required to access the course web page on WebCT regularly. I will be using this resource to post lecture outlines, assigned readings, and other materials. This syllabus will also be posted on the web site, disallowing any excuse for losing the syllabus.

Abbreviations and Select Bibliography

The following abbreviations, aside from Latacz and Higgins, are used in the Schedule below. All readings are required unless otherwise indicated.

- Cline = Cline, Eric H., ed. 2010. *The Oxford Handbook of the Bronze Age Aegean (ca. 3000 – 1000 BC)*. Oxford: Oxford UP. [Available in Grad Office]
- Easton = Easton, D. F., J. D. Hawkins, A. G. Sherratt, and E. S. Sherratt. 2002. "Troy in Recent Perspective." *Anatolian Studies* 52: 75-109. [On WebCT]
- Güterbock = Güterbock, Hans G. 1984. "Hittites and Akhaeans: A New Look." *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* 128.2: 114-22. [On WebCT]
- Jablonka = Jablonka, Peter and C. Brian Rose. 2004. "Late Bronze Age Troy: A Response to Frank Kolb." *American Journal of Archaeology* 108.4: 615-30. [On WebCT]
- Kolb = Hertel, Dieter and Frank Kolb. 2003. "Troy in Clearer Perspective." *Anatolian Studies* 53: 71-88. [On WebCT]
- Korfmann = Korfmann, Manfred. 1998. "Troia, an Ancient Anatolian Palatial and Trading Center: Archaeological Evidence for the Period of Troia VI/VII." *Classical World* 91.5: 369-85. [On WebCT]
- Pedley = Pedley, John Griffiths. 2007. *Greek Art and Archaeology*. 4th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. [Selections on WebCT]
- Rutter = Rutter, Jeremy B. *The Prehistoric Archaeology of the Aegean*. (http://projectsx.dartmouth.edu/history/bronze_age/)
- Shelmerdine = Shelmerdine, Cynthia W., ed. 2008. *The Cambridge Companion to the Aegean Bronze Age*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP. [Booth Library: on reserve]
- Van De Mieroop = Van De Mieroop, Marc. 2006. *A History of the Ancient Near East ca. 3000 – 323 BC*. 2nd ed. Malden, MA: Blackwell. [Booth Library: on reserve]
- Wood = Wood, Michael. 1998. *In Search of the Trojan War*. Berkeley: U of California P. [Booth Library: on reserve]

Tentative Schedule (subject to change):

You are responsible for keeping track of all assignments and due dates. Any changes will be announced ahead of time.

Unit I: Introduction

Mon June 13: Introduction; Overview of the Bronze Age Aegean; Techniques and History

Reading Assignment:

Pedley pp. 11-22

Higgins pp. 7-15

Cynthia W. Shelmerdine, “Background, Sources, and Methods” = Shelmerdine pp. 1-18

Thur June 16: Background on the Minoan and Mycenaean Worlds

Reading Assignment:

Pedley pp. 31-100

Unit II: The Minoan and Mycenaean Worlds

Mon June 20: Student Reports: The Minoan World

Reading Assignment:

John G. Younger and Paul Rehak, “Minoan Culture: Religion, Burial Customs, and Administration” = Shelmerdine pp. 165-85 [**required for everyone**]

Each of the following is required for the presenter of that site, as a baseline for further readings (see June 20-30 Reports above). These readings (June 20-30 only) are recommended but not required for everyone else.

- 1) Knossos: Colin MacDonald = Cline pp. 529-42
- 2) Kommos: Joseph Shaw, Maria Shaw = Cline pp. 543-55
- 3) Phaistos: Vincenzo La Rosa = Cline pp. 582-95

Thur June 23: Student Reports (cont.)

Reading Assignment:

- 4) Malia: Jan Driessen = Cline pp. 556-70
- 5) Kato Zakros: Lefteris Platon = Cline pp. 509-17
- 6) Palaikastro: J. Alexander MacGillivray, L. Hugh Sackett = Cline pp. 571-81

Mon June 27: Student Reports: The Mycenaean World

Reading Assignment:

Cynthia W. Shelmerdine and John Bennet, “Mycenaean States: Economy and Administration” = Shelmerdine pp. 289-309 [**required for everyone**]

- 1) Lerna: Martha Heath Wiencke = Cline pp. 660-70
- 2) Mycenae: Elizabeth French = Cline pp. 671-79
- 3) Tiryns: Joseph Maran = Cline pp. 722-34

Thur June 30: Student Reports (cont.)

Reading Assignment:

- 4) Pylos: Jack L. Davis = Cline pp. 680-89
- 5) Thebes: Anastasia Dakouri-Hild = Cline pp. 690-711

6) Uluburun Shipwreck: Cemal Pulak = Cline pp. 862-76

Mon July 4: holiday (no class)

Thur July 7: The Eruption of Thera; Workshop on Term Papers (You should have a topic selected by this point. We will discuss ways to approach and research paper topics.)

Reading Assignment:

Sturt W. Manning, "Eruption of Thera/Santorini" = Cline pp. 457-74

Unit III: Troy and the Trojan War

Mon July 11: Early History of the Search: Schliemann to Blegen

Reading Assignment:

Latacz pp. 1-12; Wood pp. 47-122

Short Paper #1 due (on Thera)

Thur July 14: Korfmann's Excavations

Reading Assignment:

Korfmann; Latacz pp. 15-72

Mon July 18: The Debate Flares Up: Assessing Korfmann's Claims; Term Paper Bibliographies due

Reading Assignment:

Easton; Kolb; Jablonka

Thur July 21: The Hittite Evidence

Reading Assignment:

Van De Mieroop pp. 156-63; Güterbock; Latacz pp. 73-140

Short Paper #2 due (on the Korfmann Debate)

Mon July 25: Conclusions about the Trojan War

Unit IV: The End of the Bronze Age

Thur July 28: The Collapse of the Mycenaean World

Reading Assignment:

Oliver Dickinson, "The Collapse at the End of the Bronze Age" = Cline pp. 483-90

Sigrid Deger-Jalkotzy, "Decline, Destruction, Aftermath" = Shelmerdine pp. 387-415

Van De Mieroop pp. 190-203

Unit V: Reports on Term Papers

Mon Aug 1: Term Reports

Term Papers due

Thur Aug 4: Term Reports; Final Reflections