

HIST 5521: HISTORY OF MEDITERRANEAN ISLANDS (FROM BYZANTIUM TO THE OTTOMANS: 550-1571 CE.)

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 Have acquired a broad understanding of the history of the Mediterranean and the Byzantine as well as the Ottoman period.
- 2 Have acquired the ability to present, using a diachronic perspective, original research on an insular site of choice in the form of a written academic-style paper
- 3 Have acquired a familiarity with a range of forms of material evidence for pre-industrial civilization, and an understanding of how they can be exploited in combination with literary and documentary evidence.

SYLLABUS:

Week 1 Introduction to the course: the Mediterranean (islands) and their historiography.

Readings: - Braudel, F. (1996), *The Mediterranean and Mediterranean World in the Age of Philip II*, 2 vols. Los Angeles: UCP. (Original work published 1966): pp. 148-67.
Broadbank, C. (2000). *An Island Archaeology of the early Cyclades*. Cambridge: CUP: 6-35; Horden, P. and Purcell, W. (2000), *The Corrupting Sea. A Study in Mediterranean History*. Oxford: OUP: pp. 1-30.

Week 2 Theoretical and methodological issues for studying islands historically.

Readings: Zanini E., Pergola, P. & Michaelidis D. (Eds.). (2013). *The Insular System of Byzantine Mediterranean. Archaeology and History*. Oxford: Archeopress: pp. 1-13;
Veikou, M. (2015). Mediterranean Byzantine Ports and Harbors in the Complex Interplay between environment and Society. Spatial, Socio-Economic and Cultural Considerations Based on Archeological Evidence from Greece, Cyprus and Asia Minor. In J. Preiser-Kapeller and F. Daim (Eds.), *Harbours and Maritime Networks as Complex Adaptive Systems*. Mainz: RGZM: pp. 39-61; Van Dommelen, P. (1999). Island in History. *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 12(2), 246-51.

Week 3 What is an island anyway?

Readings: Lowenthal, D. (2007) "Islands, lovers, and others." *Geographical Review* 97.2: 202-29; Baldacchino, G. (2007) "Islands as novelty sites." *Geographical Review* 97.2: 165-74. Kopaka, K. (2008) "What is an island? Concepts, meanings and polysemies of insular topoi in Greek sources." *European Journal of Archaeology* 11 (2-3): 179-97; Knapp, A.B., and P. van Dommelen (2010) Ch. 1, "Material connections: mobility, materiality and Mediterranean identities", in P. van Dommelen and A.B. Knapp (eds.), *Material Connections in the Ancient Mediterranean: Mobility, Materiality and Identity* (London 2010), 1-18.

Week 4 **The Mediterranean in transition (from Late Antiquity to the early Middle age)**

Readings: Lombardo, M. (2012) “Greek colonization: small and large islands.” *Mediterranean Historical Review* 27: 73-85; Wickham, C. (2009) *The Inheritance of Rome Illuminating the Dark Ages 400- 1000 (The Penguin History of Europe)*. London: Penguin Press: pp. 76-110; Cameron, A. (1993) *The Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity: AD 395-700 (The Routledge History of the Ancient World)*. London-New York: Routledge: pp. 84-104.

Week 5 **The early Medieval Mediterranean islands**

Readings: Valérian, D. (2014), “The Medieval Mediterranean,” in P. Horden and S. Kinoshita (eds.), *A Companion to Mediterranean History (Wiley Blackwell Companions to World History)*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell: pp. 77-90; Wickham, C. (2009) *The Inheritance of Rome Illuminating the Dark Ages 400- 1000 (The Penguin History of Europe)*. London: Penguin Press: pp. 70-203.

Week 6 Presentations (Round 1)

Week 7 **The Mediterranean between Byzantium and the Arabs I**

Readings: Cosentino, S. (2013), *Mentality, Technology and Commerce: Shipping amongst Mediterranean islands in Late Antiquity and Beyond*. In E. Zanini, P. Pergola and D. Michaelidis (Eds.), *The Insular System of Byzantine Mediterranean. Archaeology and History*. Oxford: Archeopress: pp. 65-79; Darling, L. (2012) *The Mediterranean as a Borderland. Review of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 46, No. 1: pp. 54-63.

Week 8 **The Mediterranean between Byzantium and the Arabs II**

Readings: Ragia, E. (2008-2012) *The Geography of the Provincial Administration of the Byzantine Empire (ca. 600- 1200): I.3. Apothekai of Africa and Sicily. Final notes and Conclusions. EQA KAI EΣΠIEPIA* 8: pp. 113-145; Vroom, J. (2012) *From one coast to another: early Medieval ceramics in the southern Adriatic region.* In S. Gelichi and R. Hodges (eds.) *From one Sea to Another. Trading places in the European and Mediterranean early Middle Ages. Proceedings of the International Conference, Comacchio 27th-29th March 2009*. Turnhout: Brepols: pp. 353-91; Zuckerman, C. (2005) *Learning from the Enemy and More: Studies in “Dark Centuries” Byzantium.* In eds. W. Brandes et al. (eds.), *Millennium 2/2005 Jahrbuch zu Kultur und Geschichte des ersten Jahrtausends n. Chr. Yearbook on the Culture and History of the First Millennium C.E.* Berlin-New York: De Gruyter, 2005: 79-136; Hood, M.S.F. (1970) *Isles of refuge in the Early Byzantine period. Annual of the British School at Athens* 65: 37-45

Week 9 Cities of Islands: Cyprus and Crete

Readings: Zanini, E. 2015. "The excavation of the "Early Byzantine District" near the Pythion in Gortyn (field seasons 2011-2013): an image of the end of the Mediterranean city, in *3η Συνάντηση για το Αρχαιολογικό Έργο στην Κρήτη*, Rethymno, pp. 565-574; D. Metcalf, *Byzantine Cyprus 491-1191*. Nicosia, pp. 56-97;

Week 10 Sicily between Byzantium and the Normans.

Molinari, A. (2013). Sicily between the 5th and the 10th century: villae, villages, towns and beyond. Stability, expansion or recession? In E. Zanini, P. Pergola and D. Michaelidis (eds.), *The Insular System of Byzantine Mediterranean. Archaeology and History*. Oxford: Archeopress: pp.97-114; Langdale, A. (2015) *Palermo: Travels in the City of Happiness: Art, Architecture, and History in Sicily's Ancient Capital*. London: Land of Empires): pp. 13-57; Vionis, A. and Papantoniou, G. (2019), Economic Landscapes and Transformed Mindscapes in Cyprus from Roman Times to the Early Middle Ages. M. Cau Ontiveros and C. Mas Florit (eds.) *Change and Resilience: The Occupation of Mediterranean Islands in Late Antiquity*. Providence RI: Jaunkowsky Inst.: pp. 135-55.

Week 11 The Western Insular World: Sardinia, Corsica, the Balearics, and Malta.

Readings: Lai, F. (2011). "Muslim Sardinia in Mediterranean Context." Paper presented at: ATINER (Athens Institute for Education and Research), 4th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies, 20-23 April 2011, Athens.
http://veprints.unica.it/662/1/Atiner_eprint.pdf retrieved on 1.02.2019;
Castiglia, G. and Pergola, P. (2019) Between change and resilience: urban and rural settlement patters in Late Antique Corsica, in M. Cau Ontiveros and C. Mas Florit (eds.) *Change and Resilience: The Occupation of Mediterranean Islands in Late Antiquity*. Providence RI: Jaunkowsky Inst.: pp. 25-51; Brino, B. and Cutajar, N. (2013) Imported Amphorae as Indicators of Economic Activity in Early Medieval Malta, in E. Zanini, P. Pergola and D. Michaelidis (eds.), *The Insular System of Byzantine Mediterranean. Archaeology and History*. Oxford: Archeopress: pp. 33-48.

Week 12 The Aegean Sea: from Rome to the Beyliks and the early Ottomans.

Readings: Deligiannakis, G. (2014) *The Dodecanese and the Eastern Aegean Islands in Late Antiquity, AD 300-700*. Oxford: OUP: pp. 87-109; Vionis, A. (2013). Reading Art and Material Culture: Greeks, Slavs and Arabs in the Byzantine Aegean. In B. Crostini and S. La Porta (Eds.), *Negotiating Co- Existence: Communities, Culture and Convivencia in Byzantine Society*. Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier: pp. 103-27. Vionis, A., Crow, J. and Turner, S. (2011) Characterizing the Historic Landscapes of Naxos. *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology*, 24/1: pp 111-37. Hadjikyriacou, A. (2017) "Envisioning Insularity in the Ottoman World." *Interdisciplinary Journal of Middle East Studies. Volume XVIII Insularity in the Ottoman World*: pp. vii-xix; Bakirtzis, N.- Moniaros, X. (2019) Mastic Production in Medieval Chios: Economic Flows and Transitions in an Insular Setting. *Al-Masaq* 31/2.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09503110.2019.1596647?src=recsys>

Week 13	Presentations (Round 2)
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Week 14	Concluding Remarks.
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ASSESSMENT METHODS:

1. In-class Participation (20%).
2. Oral Presentations (40%)
3. Research Paper (40%)

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY FOR THE FINAL EXAM:

In order to qualify for the final exam, students must have no more than 10 absences and have acquired a minimum of 30 points of the total course grade.