





Anthropology (ANTH) 320

Ancient Cities & Civilizations (Revision 2)

Status:

Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

Delivery mode:

Individualized study online 

Credits:

3

Areas of study:

Arts or Social Science

Prerequisites:

ANTH 272 or **ANTH 277** or permission of the course coordinator.

Precluded:

None

Challenge:

ANTH 320 has a challenge for credit option.

Faculty:

[Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences](#) 

Overview

Anthropology 320: Ancient Civilizations is designed to provide you with an understanding of the early cities, states, kingdoms, and empires that developed in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas beginning about 5,000 years ago.

After completing this course, you should be able to achieve the following course learning outcomes.

1. Understand the processes involved in the rise of the first cities and ancient civilizations.
2. Comprehend the different trajectories these civilizations took as their complexity increased.
3. Outline and explain the factors involved in the decline and eventual collapse of early civilizations.
4. Share the lessons found in the past and suggest ways that they may apply to present and future human civilizations.
5. Think and write critically regarding archaeological evidence and interpretation.

Outline

- Unit 1: Studying Ancient Cities & Civilizations
- Unit 2: The First Cities & Civilizations
- Unit 3: Great Powers of the Near East
- Unit 4: The Mediterranean World
- Unit 5: Northeast Africa and Asia
- Unit 6: Early States of the Americas
- Unit 7: Epilogue—Prospect and Retrospect

Evaluation

You must complete Quiz #1 and Quiz #2, Assignment 1 and Assignment 2A

and 2B, plus the mid-term and final exams to **receive credit** [↗](#) for Anthropology 320. In addition, to receive credit for ANTH 320, you must achieve a minimum grade of D (50 percent) on both the mid-term and final examinations and a minimum overall grade of **D (50 percent)** [📄](#) for the entire course. The weighting of the composite grade is as follows:


Activity	Weight
Quiz #1	5%
Assignment 1: Three Short Essays	15%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Assignment 2A: Research Paper Outline	10%
Quiz #2	5%
Assignment 2B: Research Paper	25%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

The **midterm and final examinations** for this course must be requested in advance and written under the supervision of an AU-approved exam invigilator. Invigilators include either ProctorU or an approved in-person invigilation centre that can accommodate online exams. Students are responsible for payment of any invigilation fees. Information on exam request deadlines, invigilators, and other exam-related questions, can be found at the **Exams and grades** [↗](#) section of the Calendar.

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's **online Calendar** [↗](#).

Materials

Scarre, Christopher, and Brian M. Fagan. *Ancient Civilizations*. 4th ed. New York: Routledge, 2016.  (Print)

Marcus, Joyce, and Jeremy A. Sabloff, eds. *The Ancient City: New Perspectives on Urbanism in the Old and New World*. Santa Fe, NM: School for Advanced Research Press, 2008.  (Print)

Other Materials

All other materials needed for this course can be accessed online.



Challenge for credit

Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about [challenge for credit](#)  can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Evaluation

To **receive credit**  for the ANTH 320 challenge registration, you must complete a short essay assignment, a research paper assignment, a mid-term exam, and a final exam and receive at least a **D (50 percent)**  on each of the exams and an overall course grade of D (50 percent). The weightings of each activity are listed below:





Activity	Weight
Assignment 1 (3 Short Essays)	20%
Assignment 2 (Research Paper)	30%
Mid-term Exam	25%

Activity	Weight
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

The mid-term and final exams are each 3 hours long and written at an Invigilation Centre.

 **Challenge for credit course registration form**

Important links

- > [Academic advising](#) 
- > [Program planning](#) 
- > [Request assistance](#) 
- > [Support services](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

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View [previous revision](#) 
