

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE HELLENISTIC WORLD

(AEA500023)

FALL SEMESTER 2024

LECTURER

Assoc. Prof. Filip Coppens, Ph.D. (Czech Institute of Egyptology)

GUEST LECTURERS

Assoc. Prof. PhDr. Ladislav Stančo, Ph.D. (Institute of Classical Archaeology)

Mgr. Jakub Havlík (Institute of Classical Archaeology)

LECTURE ROOM C 505 (CELETNÁ) — FRIDAY, 14.10–15.45

Type of attestation: credit (zápočet)

Language of instruction: English

CONDITIONS FOR ACQUIRING THE CREDIT:

A 15-minute presentation on an assigned topic in English, French or German

COURSE SUMMARY

The course covers a number of case studies from various regions of the Hellenistic world, both from the core, such as Ptolemaic Egypt and the Syrian Tetrapolis, as well as from farther afield, like the Hellenistic Far East (Bactria). On the basis of settlements and city-planning, funerary and religious architecture, the course will focus on the underlying themes of cultural integration, regionalism and local traditions, and the religious and economic landscape of the Hellenistic world.

INTRODUCTORY LITERATURE (GENERAL)

- M. Austin, *The Hellenistic World from Alexander to the Roman Conquest. A Selection of Ancient Sources in Translation*, Cambridge 2006 (second augmented edition).
- P. Ballet (ed.), *Grecs et Romains en Égypte: territoires, espaces de la vie de la mort, objets de prestige et du quotidien*, Cairo 2012. [A 1648]
- G. R. Bugh, *The Cambridge Companion to the Hellenistic World*, Cambridge 2006.
- A. Erskine (ed.), *A Companion to the Hellenistic World*, (Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World), Oxford 2005. [H 1425]

- A. Erskine – Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones (eds.), *Creating a Hellenistic world*, Swansea 2011 [H 1389].
- G. Shipley, *The Greek World After Alexander, 323–30 BC*, London – New York 2000. [H 1419]
- A. Stewart, *Art in the Hellenistic World*, Cambridge 2014. [U 445]

COURSE PROGRAM

1. General Introduction

- Historical background to the Hellenistic World
- Situation sketch of the pre-Hellenistic period (colonisation and cities)
- The Hellenistic city – general characteristics
- Case studies of three Hellenistic cities in Asia Minor: Priene, Pergamon and Ephesos

2. Case studies

- **Core regions**
 1. Seleucid Kingdom – Seleucid settlement patterns
 - a. Continental scale
 - b. Regional scale (“Effects on the ground”)
 - c. Cities and Settlements
 2. Ptolemaic Egypt
 - a. Historical background
 - b. Settlement types: polis, nome capitals (metropoleis) and urban settlements
- **Periphery (guest lectures)**
 3. Hellenistic Bactria
- **Presentations**

GUEST LECTURES

1) HELLENISTIC BACTRIA: ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE (L. STANČO) – NOVEMBER 1

The lecture focuses on the process of formation and development of a Greek-governed state in Bactria, Central Asia. Starting from the Alexander the Great campaign, we shall discuss briefly principal economic and military aspects of the “Hellenistic Far East”, taking into account peculiarities of the Seleucid and Greco-Bactrian periods. Having at hand only scarce written sources on the area in question, almost all evidence comes from the archaeological research, recent one including that of the Czech-Uzbek team.

- Bernard, P. 1994: The Greek Kingdoms of Central Asia. In: Harmatta, J. (ed.): *History of Civilization of Central Asia II: The development of sedentary and nomadic civilizations: 700 B.C. to A.D. 250*. Paris, 97–127.
- Holt, F. L. 1999: *Thundering Zeus. The Making of Hellenistic Bactria*. Berkeley – Los Angeles – London.
- Mairs, R. 2014: *The Hellenistic Far East: Archaeology, Language, and Identity in Greek Central Asia*. University of California Press
- Mairs, R. (ed.) 2020: *The Graeco-Bactrian and Indo-Greek World*. Routledge.
- Masson 1985: Массон, В. М., Северная Бактрия. In: Кошеленко, Г. А. (ed.), *Древнейшие государства Кавказа и Средней Азии*. Москва, 250–271.
- Stančo, L. 2012: *Greek gods in the East. Hellenistic iconographic schemes in Central Asia*. Prague.

2) BACTRIA IN THE HELLENISTIC PERIOD – SETTLEMENT PATTERNS (J. HAVLÍK) – NOVEMBER 8

The lecture will outline a settlement transformation that occurred in Bactria (Upper Amu Darya basin) as a consequence of the Greek conquest of the area. Based on excavations and surveys from different parts of Bactria, general settlement trends will be defined on both regional and site level. Several settlement sites of different character will be described in order to present large (urban) sites as well as minor ones. Special attention will be paid to site of Ai Khanoum including its rural hinterland.

- Allchin, R. – Ball, W. – Hammond, N. (eds.) 2019: *The Archaeology of Afghanistan from Earliest Times to the Timurid period*. Edinburgh. Ch. 5: The Iron Age, Achaemenid and Hellenistic periods.
- Gardin, J.-C. 1998: *Prospections archéologiques en Bactriane orientale (1974–1978). Volume 3: Description des sites et notes de synthèse*. Paris.
- Lecuyot, G. (ed.) 2013: *Fouilles d’Ai Khanoum IX. L’Habitat*. Paris.
- Leriche, P. 2007: Bactria, Land of Thousand Cities. In: Cribb, J. – Herrmann, G. (eds.): *After Alexander: Central Asia before Islam*. Oxford, 121–153.
- Mairs, R. (ed.) 2020: *The Graeco-Bactrian and Indo-Greek World*. London – New York, chapters 10–12.
- Martinez-Sève, L. 2015: Ai Khanoum and the Greek Dominance of Central Asia. *Electrum* 22, 17–46.
- Пичикян, И. Р. 1991: *Культура Бактрии. Ахеменидский и эллинистический периоды*. Москва.