DISCOVERING GREEK & ROMAN CITIES

The massive open online course (MOOC) "Discovering Greek & Roman Cities" was part of the Strategic Partnership "Ancient Cities", an international teaching project led by the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (Germany). It brought together the following universities: Aarhus Universitet (Denmark), the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece), Universitetet i Bergen (Norway), Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (France) and the Open Universiteit Nederland.

The course was open to anyone with an interest in archaeology, architecture, history or cultural heritage and now this workshop is a smaller version of the MOOC.

You will obtain a basic knowledge of the layout and the history of Greek and Roman cities and the methods of urban archaeology. You will understand the relevance of urban archaeology and experience the diversity of our shared European and Mediterranean heritage.

The Workshop "Discovering Greek & Roman Cities" include videos, quizzes and different exercises. The course is in English but the videos are provided in three different languages (English, French, and German).

ORGANIZERS:

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Jonathan Westin, Florent Alias, Stephanie Merten

Tuesday, 14 December

I: Introduction

9:30-10:00 | Introduction

Teaser

Short introduction of the course leader Stephanie Merten and short overview of the course in general, short introduction of participants Video 1.1 »Why do ancient cities matter today?« First exchange of own experiences / opinions

II: Religion & the city and Politics & the city

10:00-10:15 | Videos

Video 3.1 »Religion and sanctuaries« Video 3.3 »Religion in cities of Anatolia and the Near East«

10:15-10:30 | Quiz

10:30-11:00 | Answering the questions & joint discussion

15 min short break

11:15-11:30 | Videos

Video 4.1 »Politics and citizenship« Video 4.3 »The Art of Roman politics«

11:30-12:00 | Joint discussion

12:00-12:30 Lunch break

III: Death & the city

12:30-12:50 | Quiz

12:50 -13:20 | Videos

Video 5.1 »Necropolis and tombs in the ancient world« Video 5.2 »Death and burial of elite Romans« Video 5.3 »Death and burial of ordinary Romans«

Video 5.4 »Family Matters: Funerary customs of Palmyra«

10 min short break

13:30-14:00 | Assignment: Digitally investigate your local cemetery

Questions to consider: Where is it located? How is it organized? Can you distinguish different kinds of tombs? When did the cemetery start to operate? Do the burials/tombs relate the social status of the dead? If yes how? And if there is still time: Can you see any changes in the commemoration of the deceased over time?

14:00-14:30 | Answering of questions & joint discussion of the assignment

Wednesday, 15 December

IV: Infrastructure & the city

9:30-10:00 | Videos Video 6.1 »Urban Planning« Video 6.2 »Moving on land«

Video 6.3 »Moving on water« Video 6.4 »Ports and port-cities«

10:00-10:15 | Short discussion round

10:15-12:00 | Assignment: Be a journalist

Create a short presentation (2-3 minutes) of gravitation points of the city you live in. You may use power point, you can make a video, or you just report on your enquiries - whatever way you prefer.

12:00-12:30 Lunch breack

12:30-14:00 | Presentations of the assignment including discussion

Thursday, 16 December

V: Economy & the city

9:30 | Video 7.2 »Economic buildings in the agora and forum«

9:35-9:45 | Short exchange

VI: Legacy of the Ancient City

9:45-10:00 | Videos

Video 8.2 »Reusing antiquity – Piazza del Popolo« Video 8.5 »Ancient remains in the modern city«

10:00-10:30 | Quiz

10:30-10:45 | Answering the questions

10:45-12:00 | Assignment: Have a look at your own city and discover the options to engage with cultural heritage

Questions to consider:

What is the (ancient) cultural heritage in your city/in your region? What initiatives are there to protect and to explore this heritage? Are you engaged in protecting cultural heritage in your area?

12:00-12:30 Lunch break

12:30–14:00 | Presentations of the assignment

14:00-14:15 | Final discussion/feedback

From 14:15 Digital Christmas drink

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Digital Workshop