Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology

Overview

UC Berkeley offers an interdisciplinary program of graduate study in Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern and Mediterranean Archaeology (AHMA). The program is conducted by an interdisciplinary group that includes more than 20 faculty members affiliated with 7 different Berkeley departments and the Graduate Theological Union. A chair, a graduate adviser, and student affairs officers administer the program.

The AHMA program offers MA and PhD degrees in areas that combine work in archaeology and history and related disciplines of ancient studies. Most of its graduates have successfully secured teaching positions in Departments of Classics, Art History, History, Anthropology or Near Eastern Studies in colleges and universities in the United States or abroad including Bar-Ilan, Haifa, Volos, Oxford, Toronto, Columbia, Madison, Austin, and Penn.

Research

The mission of the Archaeological Research Facility (http://arf.berkeley.edu/) (ARF) is to support archaeological field and laboratory research undertaken by UC Berkeley archaeologists and related specialists. Currently, 36 UC Berkeley faculty members from 10 departments and Organized Research Units are active participants in the ARF. The ARF operates some laboratory facilities and offers equipment and funding support to campus archaeologists (including graduate students). The ARF also publishes a newsletter and a publication series, oversees over $1 million in endowments, sponsors a lecture series that attracts scholars of international repute, and operates an undergraduate teaching laboratory in cooperation with the Department of Anthropology as well as an educational outreach program.

The Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology (http://hearnsmuseum.berkeley.edu/) has extensive holdings of ancient artifacts, including Classical material, cuneiform tablets, and an ancient Egyptian collection of more than 17,000 objects.

The Nemea Center for Classical Archaeology (http://nemeacenter.berkeley.edu/) is a research unit within the Department of Classics that promotes teaching, research, and public service centered on the University of California's excavations in Nemea, Greece and its surrounding region. The Center is composed of the Nemea Excavation Archives, housed in 7125 Dwinelle Hall, and the Nemea Center facilities at the archaeological site of Nemea (Bowker House residence and the Thomas J. Long Study Room). The central activity of the Nemea Center is the excavation, study, conservation, and public presentation of the panhellenic Sanctuary of Zeus and its environs. The Center also promotes research in the region of the eastern Peloponnese including conducting ongoing excavation and museum study at Mycenae.
Colloquia, Seminars, and Lectures

The AHMA Noon Colloquium ([http://ahma.berkeley.edu/ahma-noon-colloquium/](http://ahma.berkeley.edu/ahma-noon-colloquium/)) is a series of informal papers presented at noon in 7205 Dwinelle Hall.

The Pritchett Lecture ([http://ahma.berkeley.edu/pritchett-lecture/](http://ahma.berkeley.edu/pritchett-lecture/)), generously funded by an anonymous donor in honor of W. Kendrick Pritchett, the founding father of AHMA, is an annual event that brings to campus a distinguished scholar for an evening lecture and, frequently, an afternoon seminar.

The Sara B. Aleshire Center for the Study of Greek Epigraphy ([http://ahma.berkeley.edu/Aleshire/](http://ahma.berkeley.edu/Aleshire/)) organizes and hosts annual (formerly biannual) lectures and seminars in Greek epigraphy.

The Nemea Center ([http://ahma.berkeley.edu/nemea-center-seminar/](http://ahma.berkeley.edu/nemea-center-seminar/)) regularly invites distinguished archaeologists to give lectures to, lead seminars for, and work with AHMA students.

Each year, the Center for the Tebtunis Papyri ([http://tebtunis.berkeley.edu/](http://tebtunis.berkeley.edu/)) invites a distinguished scholar to present a public lecture, lead a seminar, and work with graduate students.

The Berkeley Ancient Italy Roundtable (BAIR) ([http://ahma.berkeley.edu/berkeley-ancient-italy-roundtable/](http://ahma.berkeley.edu/berkeley-ancient-italy-roundtable/)) is a biennial (formerly annual) event that brings together students of the archaeology, history, and art history of ancient Italy (broadly defined both geographically and chronologically) based in the Bay Area and further afield in the western United States. Our aim is to promote interaction among this group of scholars with a view to advancing the development of a more cohesive professional community.

Graduate Program

Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology ([http://guide.berkeley.edu/graduate/degree-programs/ancient-history-mediterranean-archaeology/](http://guide.berkeley.edu/graduate/degree-programs/ancient-history-mediterranean-archaeology/)): PhD

AHMA R1B Reading and Composition on Topics in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology 4 Units

Terms offered: Not yet offered

This seminar-style course introduces students to the ecology of the ancient Mediterranean basin and to the high degree of mobility that was the human response to that ecology. Against this background we will develop an understanding of the Mediterranean Sea itself as a conduit for trade and human interactions. Moving both chronologically and geographically, we will explore the interactions between the various populations that lived, in Plato’s words, “like frogs around a pond.” We will consider the contexts and motivations for those interactions (trade, resources, religion, exploration) and the results of them (cultural, religious, economic, political).

Reading and Composition on Topics in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Ancient History and Med. Arch./Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Alternative to final exam.

Reading and Composition on Topics in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology: Read Less [-]

AHMA 210 Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology Interdisciplinary Seminar 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2021, Spring 2020, Fall 2018

Team-taught by faculty from two different departments. The purpose is not only to expose students to a discipline other than their own, but to engage them directly in the application of that discipline to their own research interests. The topic and instructors will vary from year to year.

Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology Interdisciplinary Seminar: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate standing

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Ancient History and Med. Arch./Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology Interdisciplinary Seminar: Read Less [-]
AHMA 298 Special Study 2 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Spring 2021
Normally reserved for students writing the doctoral dissertation.
Special Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring:
15 weeks - 6-36 hours of independent study per week
15 weeks - 6-36 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 12 weeks - 7.5-45 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Ancient History and Med. Arch./Graduate
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Special Study: Read Less [-]

AHMA 299 Special Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Spring 2020, Summer 2019
Topics and instructors will vary from year to year. Special individual study for qualified graduate students. Individual study and research, including archaeological fieldwork or laboratory projects, in consultation with instructor on subject matter not covered in scheduled course offerings. Special Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Graduate standing or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4-16 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 7.5-30 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Ancient History and Med. Arch./Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Special Study: Read Less [-]

AHMA 601 Individual Study for Masters Candidates 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Not yet offered
Individual study for the comprehensive or language requirements in consultation with the graduate adviser or personal adviser. Units may not be used to meet either unit or residence requirements for a master's degree.
Individual Study for Masters Candidates: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring:
15 weeks - 3-36 hours of independent study per week
15 weeks - 3-36 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 12 weeks - 3.7-45 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Ancient History and Med. Arch./Graduate examination preparation
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Individual Study for Masters Candidates: Read Less [-]

AHMA 602 Individual Study for Doctoral Candidates 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021
Individual study in consultation with the graduate adviser or personal adviser, intended to provide an opportunity for qualified students to prepare themselves for the various examinations required of candidates for the Ph.D. May not be used for unit or residence requirements for the doctoral degree.
Individual Study for Doctoral Candidates: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring:
15 weeks - 3-36 hours of independent study per week
15 weeks - 3-36 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 12 weeks - 3.7-45 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Ancient History and Med. Arch./Graduate examination preparation
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Individual Study for Doctoral Candidates: Read Less [-]