Title: History and Archaeology of the Bronze Age Minoan and Mycenaean Settlements in Crete

The class will examine Bronze Age settlements of the Minoan Civilization and its consequent defeat and occupation by the Mycenaean Greeks. Students will be exposed to monumental remnants and sites of the Minoan Civilization such as Knossos, Phaestos, Malia, Gournia, Zakros, Acharnes, Gortys, Hagia Triada, Kritsa, Toplou, Spinalonga and Herakleion Museum. The focus of the class will be a composite examination of history, archaeology, religion and mythology, society and culture, politics, trade routes and thalassocracy, art and architecture. Since this class will take place abroad in Crete, Greece, Students will be given an overview of the general Greek language and culture both ancient and modern and the class will trace the evolution of Crete from the Minoans and the Mycenaeans to its state of being during Classical and Hellenist Greece, the Roman occupation to more contemporary influences.

Required Textbooks:


All assignments listed below are in Preziosi and Hitchcock. The assignments in Shelmerdine are so indicated. Students are expected to have read all assignments in advance so we can discuss and be prepared to understand the viewing and mental reconstruction of the sites.

Class schedule:

**Week 1: Introduction: Aegean Art and Architecture**

Chapter 1

- The Environment
- Discovering the Aegean World
- Art and History

**The Neolithic Period and the Prepalatial Early Bronze Age**

Chapter 2

- Settlements
- Burial Practices


**Week 2: The First Palace Period**

Chapter 3

Middle Bronze Age Palaces and Villas
The Vernacular tradition in Greece and Crete
Ritual Practices


**The Second Palace Period**

Chapter 4

Public art, private art, and the palatial architectural style
The Second Palaces: Knossos, Phaestos, Gournia, and Kato Zakro
Minoan Villas: function and design
The terminology and typology of Minoan palatial buildings
The Minoan and Mycenaean spheres of influence
Religious practices
Burial practices

Week 3: **Mycenaean Domination and Minoan Tradition**

The Mycenaean Palace of Pylos
The Mycenaean Palace of Knossos
Haghia Triada and Kommos
The continuation of Minoan building techniques in the third palace period

Burial practices
The Mycenaean shrine at Phylakopi
The Circuit walls at Mycenae and Tiryns


**Week 4. Conclusion: Disruption, (Dis)Continuities, and the Bronze Age**

The eastward migration of Aegean traditions
The international style
Cyprus, Palestine and the Peoples of the Sea
Tradition and transformation
What goes around comes around: Daedalus returns to Crete


**PAPER DUE!!!!!!**

**PAPERS:**

All students have to write a final paper. You are asked to write a research paper on any aspect of ancient Greek History, Art and Archaeology. The paper may explore a subject that you like to work on more profoundly or it can be a comparative investigation of any themes of your choice. You may choose any topic that you should clear with me first. I prefer it written on the MLA style complying with all rules and stylistic requirements of a well-presented research outcome.
ORAL REPORTS:

All students are responsible for having read the weekly assignment so that we can discuss its content. Each week, in addition, one or two students will present articles from secondary sources about the particular subject, work and author.

GRADING/CLASS REQUIREMENTS:

90-100=A  80-89=B  70-79=C  60-69=D  0-59=F

oral report    25%
paper 25%
attendance/participation 50%

Absences are not recommended. Verbal and physical participation is required. I do not give extra credit projects. I do not accept late papers. I look forward to having an enjoyable and cooperative summer semester in Crete with all of you!!!!!!!