

The City of Carthage: From Dido to the Arab Conquest

Level 10, 20 credits

A) Rationale

Carthage was the centre of one of the major cultures of the ancient Mediterranean and after the destruction of the Punic city in 146 BCE, it rose again to become one of the major urban centres of the Roman Empire. There are no courses offered in Classics dedicated specifically to Carthage in the ancient world and this course would fill that gap. The course would be suitable for many degree programmes (Ancient History; Classical Archaeology, Classical Studies), and would complement courses already on offer in Classics (e.g. 'The Severans'; 'Africa in the Classical World'; 'The World of St Augustine'); these courses have proved popular with students and there is further demand for such courses. There is, however, no significant overlap with any other course. The course organiser has excavated in Carthage and is currently working on two publications concerning the city: one, a contribution to the archaeological report of a Roman bath building, the other a co-authored book on the rediscovery of the ancient city.

B1) Course Aims and Objectives

This course explores the history and archaeology of the city of Carthage from its Phoenician foundation in the 9th century BCE through to the end of Roman Carthage in the late 7th century CE. The course will explore some of the current areas of research related to Punic and Roman Carthage including the rise of the Phoenicians in the Western Mediterranean, comparative colonization between Greeks and Phoenicians, Punic identity, the rise of a Carthaginian Empire, and the conflict and contact between Carthage and Rome. The Punic wars, the fall of Carthage, and the rise of the Roman city will also be covered. We will also look at evidence for the Punic diaspora and for the survival of Punic culture into the Roman period, specifically in the areas of language and religion. The course will explore the sources for the study of Carthage, both Greek and Roman, and where possible Punic, including literary evidence, inscriptions, burials, statuary and temples. Focus will be given to an understanding of the city in its many incarnations and the transformations that have shaped its history. As well, students will become aware of the historiography of the study of Carthage over the last 200 years and the development of Punic studies as an academic discipline.

B2) Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course the student will be able, through written examination, coursework and seminar participation (demonstrated through the keeping of a course journal), to show:

- an understanding of the varied complexity of the large body of evidence for Carthage and Carthaginian history in both a literary and a material context;
- an understanding of how the study of Carthage and Punic culture has advanced in recent scholarship;
- an understanding of the history of Carthage and its importance for the political, social and cultural historian of the ancient Mediterranean, as well as the theoretical implications for the study of ancient concepts of identity and ethnicities;
- an ability to use critically a variety of different methodologies and approaches to this body of material gained from a thorough interaction with scholarship and primary materials;

- a familiarity with material evidence (inscriptions and coins etc.) and the applications of that evidence;
- bibliographical research skills to enable students to find independently additional information relating to the study of Carthage in the Ancient World.

Students will also demonstrate the following transferable skills

- written skills and oral communication skills;
- presentation skills;
- analytical skills;
- ability to recognise and focus on important aspects of a wide-ranging subject and to select specific examples;
- ability to produce a concise summary.

C. Student intake

The course is intended for third and fourth year undergraduates who have done any of the second year courses in Ancient History, Classical Archaeology or Classical Literature. There is a degree of flexibility as to the minimum number of students to make the course viable or the maximum which can be accommodated, but it is expected that the nature of the course will prove appealing to students. The maximum number of students will be in keeping with the quotas established by the Classics section.

D. Contents of the course

The course will explore the history of Carthage and the culture of the Carthaginian and Roman city as well as highlight the significant source problems for the study of the site. The course will follow a roughly chronological study of Carthage, but will explore some of the following themes:

Mediterranean Colonialism: Phoenicians and Greeks
 Carthaginian culture and identity: what is Punic?
 Carthaginian Religious practice
 Carthaginian/Punic Art and iconography
 Carthaginian Imperialism
 The Punic Wars
 The Punic diaspora
 Carthage: a Roman City
 Carthage: a Christian City
 Provincial life in Roman Carthage
 The End of Roman Carthage
 Reception

Seminars will be based around the lectures, focusing on specific problems and issues within those topics.

E. Organisation of teaching

The course organiser is Dr Sandra Bingham. There will be two 1-hour class meetings per week consisting of lectures and seminars. The students will be split into

smaller groups (maximum of 12 students) for seminar sessions. Total student contact time will be 22 hours. Course materials and extra exercises will be placed on the course website.

Teachability: All reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that this course is accessible to students with identified special requirements, as specified in their individual Adjustment Schedules.

F. Student Assessment and Guidance

Students will submit a course journal (worth 20% of the overall mark), a research project (worth 30% of the overall mark) and sit a two-hour degree examination (worth 50% of the overall mark). The research project will allow students to engage with a specific aspect of Carthage of their choosing (with the approval by course organiser); the medium will also be varied. For example, they may choose to write an essay in the traditional format (maximum of 3000 words) on the Phoenicians and Carthaginians in Herodotus, or they may choose to work on a poster presentation on the Tophet and the issue of child sacrifice. The course organiser will provide feedback on submitted work in line with School policy relating to timescales and content. The external examiner for Classics will be responsible for this course.

G. Feedback and Evaluation

The usual procedures in the Classics department concerning student feedback and evaluation will be followed.

H. Resource Requirement

Students will receive a course flyer in hard copy form at the first class meeting, detailing all important aspects of the teaching programme for this course, and course materials will be available on a specific course website. Lectures will be supported by PowerPoint presentations. The availability of books in the University Library or the National Library of Scotland has been checked. The University Library is adequately stocked (though some of the materials will have to come from the NLS and from my own collection) but the acquisition of additional recent publications will be done in time for the course becoming live, and subject to the annual updating of library stock.

I. Documentation

The following is a sample bibliography. Please note that the course will be designed in a flexible manner to enable students to focus on a wide range of subjects thus minimising the risk that access to books will constitute a problem.

Lancel, S., 1995, *Carthage*, Blackwell - Will be assigned as a text for all students

Aubert, M.E., 2001, 2nd ed, *The Phoenicians and the West*, Cambridge

Bomgardner, D., 1989, 'The Carthage Amphitheatre: A Reappraisal', *AJA*, Vol. 93.1: 85-103

Clay, Diskin, 1988, 'The Archaeology of the Temple of Juno in Carthage (*Aen.* 1. 446-93)', *Classical Philology*, Vol. 83.3: 195-205

Cornell, T., B. Rankov, D., and Sabin, P., (eds), 1996, *The Second Punic War: A Reappraisal*, London

Daly, G., 2002, *Cannae: The Experience of Battle in the Second Punic War*, Routledge

Devijver, H and Lipinski, E., (eds), 1989, *Studia Phoenicia X: Punic Wars*, Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta 33, Leuven

- Docter, Roald, 2002-2003, 'The Topography of archaic Carthage: preliminary results of recent excavations and some prospects', *Talanta* 34-35: 113-133
- Dunbabin, K.M.D., 1978, *The Mosaics of Roman North Africa*, Oxford
- Dunbabin, K.M.D., 1999, *Mosaics of the Greek and Roman World*, Cambridge
- Geus and Zimmerman (eds.), 2001, *Studia Phoencia XVI, Punica, Libyca, Ptolemaica, Festschrift für Werner Huß, zum 65. Geburtstag dargebracht von Schülern, Freunden und Kollegen*, Leuven
- Goldsworthy, A., 2004, *Cannae*, London
- Goldsworthy, A., 2003, *The Fall of Carthage*, London
- Gowing, A., 2005, *Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in Imperial Culture*, Cambridge
- Harden, D., 1939, 'The Topography of Punic Carthage', *Greece and Rome*, vol. 9.25: 1-12
- Hoyos, D., 2007, *Truceless War: Carthage's Fight for Survival, 241-237 BC*, Leiden
- Hoyos, D., 2003, *Hannibal's Dynasty: Power and Politics in the Western Mediterranean 247-183BC*, Routledge
- Hoyos, D., 1998, *Unplanned Wars, The Origins of the First and Second Punic Wars*
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- Hurst, H. 1983, 'The War Harbour at Carthage' *Atti i Congresso Internazionale di Studi Fenici e Punici*, 603-610, vol. 2, Rome.
- Hurst, H. (ed.), 1984, *Excavations at Carthage, the British Mission*, Sheffield.
- Hurst, H., 1994, *Excavations at Carthage, the British Mission 2*, Oxford.
- Hurst, H., 1999, *The Sanctuary of Tanit at Carthage in the Roman period*. JRA Suppl. 38, Portsmouth, R.I.
- Hurst, H., and Stager, L., 1978, 'A Metropolitan Landscape: The Late Punic Port of Carthage' *World Archaeology*, vol. 9.3: 334-346
- Jenkins, G., and Lewis, R., 1963, *Carthaginian Gold and Electrum Coins*, London
- Krings, V. (ed.), 1995, *La Civilization Phénicienne et Punique: Manuel de recherche*, Brill Leiden.
- Lancel, S., 1995, *Hannibal*, Blackwell
- Millar, F., 1968, 'Local Cultures in the Roman Empire: Libyan, Punic and Latin in Roman Africa,' *JRS* 58: 126-34
- Morgan, C., 1999, 'The archaeology of ethnicity in the colonial world of the eighth to sixth centuries BC: approaches and prospects'. In *Confini e frontiera nella grecita d'occidente* (Atti del trentasettesimo convegno di studi sulla Magna Grecia), Taranto: 85-145
- Moscatti, S. ed., 2001, *The Phoenicians*, I.B. Tauris, London
- Palmer, R.E., 1997, *Rome and Carthage at Peace*, Historia: Einzelschriften, H. 113, Stuttgart
- Pedley, J.G. (ed.), 1980, *New Light on ancient Carthage*, Ann Arbor
- Prag, J., 2006, 'Who Were the Punickes', in *Papers of the British School at Rome*, Vol. LXXIV.
- Ridley, R., 2000, 'Livy and the Hannibalic War' in *The Roman Middle Republic: Politics, Religion and Historiography, c. 400-133 B.C.*, Rome.
- Rives, J.B., 1995, *Religion and Authority in Roman Carthage from Augustus to Constantine*, Oxford
- Ros, Karen, 1996, 'The Roman theatre at Carthage', *AJA* 100.3: 448-489
- Shaw, B.D., 1995a, *Environment and society in Roman North Africa*, Aldershot
- Shaw, B.D., 1995b, *Rulers, Nomads and Christians in Roman North Africa*, Aldershot
- Starks, J.H. (Jr.), 1999, 'Fides Aeneia: The Transference of Punic Stereotypes in the Aeneid', *The Classical Journal*, 94.3: 255-283
- Stevens, S.T.S., 1993, *Bir el Knissa at Carthage: a rediscovered cemetery church*. JRA Suppl. 7, Ann Arbor.
- Stone, D., and Stirling, L., eds., 2007, *Mortuary Landscapes of North Africa*, Toronto

- Wagner, C.G., 1989, 'The Carthaginians in Ancient Spain: From Administrative Trade to Territorial Annexation' in Devijver, H and Lipinski, E., (eds): 145-156
- Walbank, F.W., (1957-1979), *A Historical Commentary on Polybius*, Oxford, vol. 1, 2, and 3
- Whittaker, C., 1974, 'The Western Phoenicians: colonization and assimilation', *Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society*, No. 200 (N.S. 20), 1974
- Whittaker, C., 1978, 'Carthaginian Imperialism in the Fifth and Fourth Centuries'. P. Garnsey and C. Whittaker (eds), *Imperialism in the Ancient World*, Cambridge