

ARISTOCRACY AND DEMOCRACY, 550–450 BC: ARCHAEOLOGY

**MT 2025, weeks 1–8, Friday 9 am
Ioannou Centre, Lecture Theatre**

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This lecture series aims to offer a richly illustrated introduction to the archaeology of the Greek world between c. 550 and 450 BC. The individual lectures are organized thematically, each focusing on the material evidence for a particular aspect of Greek culture and society within the examined timeframe. At the same time, the individual lectures aim to introduce different types of materials and various case studies, as well as different methodological approaches.

The lecture series is compulsory for all 1st-year students in CAAH. Students from other courses are also welcome to attend. For example, selected weeks might be a useful addition for undergraduate students taking the paper "Greek Art and Archaeology, c. 500–300 BC" or for any student wishing to enrich their knowledge of the period in question with some insights into its material culture.

Handouts for this lecture series will be available each week on Canvas. Please note that the lectures will not be recorded.

Lecture 1: Introduction: Where, when, how, and why?

Lecture 2: Cities: buildings, public spaces and tyranny

Lecture 3: Sanctuaries

Lecture 4: Pots, parties and life in the polis

Lecture 5: The world of the dead: funerals and grave monuments

Lecture 6: The archaeology of Sparta

Lecture 7: The archaeology of democracy?

Lecture 8: Greece and its eastern neighbours