

Hellenistic Art and Archaeology I: 330-30 BCE

The Macedonian conquest of Asia brought a forced expansion of the Greek imagination and environment that has left an abundant and varied trace in the visual and material culture of the period.

The paper studies major themes, contexts, and media of Hellenistic art, set against the archaeology of the best-preserved cities and sites of the period – from Macedonia to Bactria, from the Aegean to central Italy.

Major subjects include: the art and cities of the kings at the height of their power in the late fourth and third centuries BC; the visual remains of Greek-local interaction in Egypt and Iran; the monuments of the old city-states that flourished within and between the Macedonian kingdoms, and the complex process of acculturation by which the apparatus and technology of Hellenistic art and material culture were adopted in Italy.

The eight lectures will examine:

- Week 1: Royal image and royal culture: Kings, Kingship and Macedonia
- Week 2: Polis and Demos: Priene
- Week 3: Ptolemies: Alexandria and Egypt
- Week 4: Seleukid Asia
- Week 5: Parthia and Bactria
- Week 6 Attalids and Pergamon
- Week 7: Delos to Italy
- Week 8: Hellenistic Rome