

## **From Cycladic figurines to Mycenaean Palaces: navigating the archaeology of the Bronze Age Aegean**

**Start date** 7<sup>th</sup> October 2016 **End date** 9<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**Venue** Madingley Hall  
Madingley  
Cambridge

**Tutor** Dr. Anna Simandiraki-Grimshaw **Course code** 1617NRX025

**Director of Programmes** Emma Jennings

**For further information on this course, please contact** Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr  
[clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk) or 01223 746237

**To book** See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

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### **Tutor biography**

Dr. Anna Simandiraki-Grimshaw is trained in Greek (Prehistoric, Classical and Byzantine) Archaeology. She specialises in the Aegean Bronze Age, particularly Minoan Crete. She has been practising archaeology for over twenty years and has diverse research interests including archaeologies of the body, ceramics, religion, artefact databases and reception studies. Anna is an International Research Fellow at Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany; an Assistant Lecturer at Classical and Archaeological Studies, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK; and an Honorary Research Fellow at the Department of Archaeology, Durham University, Durham, UK. She also lectures in Archaeology at the Continuing Education Departments of the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, UK.

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## Course programme

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### Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	<b><i>Introduction to the geography, chronology and archaeology of the Bronze Age Aegean</i></b>
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	<b><i>The Cyclades</i></b>
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	<b><i>Minoan Crete part 1</i></b>
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	<b><i>Optional documentary screening (1hr)</i></b>
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	<b><i>Minoan Crete part 2</i></b>
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	<b><i>Mycenaean Greece part 1</i></b>
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	<b><i>Mycenaean Greece part 2</i></b>
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	<b><i>Composition: interactions, significance, legacy</i></b>
12:45	Lunch

**The course will disperse after lunch**

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## Course syllabus

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### Aims:

This course aims to give students:

1. A familiarisation with the material culture of the Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean Civilisations;
2. An understanding of the complex processes governing the operation and interaction of Bronze Age societies in the Eastern Mediterranean;
3. A Critical approach to the evidence and interpretation of past civilisations.

### Content:

The Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean civilisations developed and flourished in the Aegean during the Greek Bronze Age (3rd - 2nd millennia BC). This course will begin with a general introduction, which will cover basic archaeological principles, as well as the geography, chronology and archaeology of the area. At this first stage, we will look at how the combination of archaeological, philological and interdisciplinary studies can and does reveal a wealth of information. We will also contextualise such research in its current setting and assess its scholarly and socio-political limitations. At the next stage, we shall explore consecutively the Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean civilisations. We shall also look at the dynamics of the prehistoric Aegean, including the forms and role of social differentiation, economic shifts and ideological expression. We will conclude with a composition of the interaction between the three through the navigation of people, goods and ideas, and consequently explore the importance of these civilisations in the prehistoric Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean, as well as their legacy for later Classical Greece and Europe.

### Presentation of the course:

During the course, the tutor will use an abundance of visual materials, hand-outs and props. Group discussions, problem solving exercises and interpretations will also be a frequent feature of the sessions, in order to promote collaborative learning. No prior knowledge is required, but students may wish to consult some of the suggested bibliography before joining the course.

### As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

1. recognise and effectively describe aspects of the material culture of the Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean civilisations (e.g. pottery, architecture, frescoes etc);
2. analyse specific examples of Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean material culture and contextualise these in their wider social, political, economic and cultic milieux;
3. critically evaluate different datasets and interpretations about the Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean civilisations, using acquired knowledge, observation and critical skills.

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## Reading and resources list

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Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

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Author	Title	Publisher and date
Broodbank C.,	<i>An Island Archaeology of the Early Cyclades</i> ,	Cambridge University Press, 2002.
Duhoux Y, Morpurgo Davies A. (eds.).	<i>A Companion to Linear B: Mycenaean Greek Texts and their World</i> . Volumes 1-3, Bibliothèque des cahiers de l'Institut de Linguistique de Louvain 120,	Leuven: Peeters, 2008-2014.
Fitton L.	<i>Minoans</i> .	London, British Museum Press, 2002.
Hamilakis Y., Momigliano N. (eds.).	<i>Archaeology and European Modernity: Producing and Consuming the 'Minoans'</i> .	Padova, Bottega d'Erasmus, Creta Antica 7, 2006.
Krzyszowska O.	<i>Aegean Seals: An Introduction</i> .	London: Institute of Classical Studies, 2005.
Morgan L. (ed.).	<i>Aegean Wall Painting: A Tribute to Mark Cameron</i> .	British School at Athens Studies vol.no.13, London, British School at Athens, 2005: <a href="http://www.jstor.org/stable/i40043010">http://www.jstor.org/stable/i40043010</a>
Rutkowski B.	<i>The Cult Places of the Aegean</i> .	New Haven: Yale University Press, 1986.
Schofield L.	<i>The Mycenaeans</i> ,	J.Paul Getty Trust Publications, 2007.
Shelmerdine C.W. (ed.).	<i>The Cambridge Companion to the Aegean Bronze Age</i> .	Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.
Tzedakis Y., Martlew H. (eds.).	<i>Minoans and Mycenaeans. Flavours of Their Time. National Archaeological Museum 12 July - 27 November 1999</i> .	Athens: Greek Ministry of Culture, General Directorate of Antiquities, 1999.

## Electronic Resources

Demopoulou-Rethemiotaki N., *The Archaeological Museum of Herakleion*. Athens: Latsis Foundation, 2005.

<http://www.latsis-foundation.org/eng/electronic-library/the-museum-cycle/the-archaeological-museum-of-herakleion>

Kaltsas N., *The National Archaeological Museum*. Athens: Latsis Foundation, 2007.

<http://www.latsis-foundation.org/eng/electronic-library/the-museum-cycle/the-national-archaeological-museum>

Papadimitriou A., *Mycenae*, Athens: Latsis Foundation, 2015.

<http://www.latsis-foundation.org/eng/electronic-library/the-museum-cycle/mycenae>

Prof. Jeremy Rutter's Introduction to the Prehistoric Aegean:

[http://www.dartmouth.edu/~prehistory/aegean/?page\\_id=104](http://www.dartmouth.edu/~prehistory/aegean/?page_id=104)

**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

*Information correct as of:* 26 September 2016