

# Molloy University

## Graduate Education

### EDU 5900 – The History of Ancient Civilizations

- November 10<sup>th</sup> – November 21<sup>st</sup>
- Asynchronous(Online)

Instructor:

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### Course Description:

In The History of Ancient Civilizations, students will explore the foundations of human society through a comprehensive examination of early civilizations across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. This course delves into the political, economic, social, religious, and technological developments that defined ancient societies and laid the groundwork for the modern world. Key civilizations studied will include Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, the Indus Valley, Ancient China, Mesoamerica, Ancient Greece, and Rome. Emphasis will be placed on the interconnectedness of early societies through trade, warfare, migration, and cultural diffusion. Students will critically analyze primary sources, artifacts, and scholarly interpretations to understand the enduring legacies of ancient civilizations. Designed for K-12 educators, the course includes adaptable resources and activities that align with SS.E.2.2: World History and support the integration of ancient history into cross-curricular instruction.

### Course Learning Objectives:

1. Identify and describe major ancient civilizations and their geographic, cultural, and historical contexts.
2. Analyze the social, political, and economic structures of ancient societies.
3. Examine the religious beliefs, mythologies, and philosophical systems of early civilizations.
4. Explore the technological innovations and artistic achievements of ancient cultures.
5. Understand the causes and consequences of the rise and fall of ancient empires.
6. Evaluate the interactions between ancient civilizations through trade, conflict, and cultural exchange.
7. Integrate ancient history into K-12 curriculum development to enhance student engagement and historical literacy.
8. Create a standards-aligned lesson plan or activity focused on the history of ancient civilizations.

### Course Grading:

- Discussion #1: Why Study Ancient Civilizations? (5 pts)
- Module #1: The Birth of Civilization – Mesopotamia and the Fertile Crescent (10 pts)
- Module #2: The Nile River Valley – Ancient Egypt and Nubia (10 pts)
- Module #3: South Asia – The Indus Valley and Vedic Traditions (10 pts)
- Discussion #2: Comparing Ancient Belief Systems and Philosophies (5 pts)
- Module #4: East Asia – Ancient China and Dynastic Rule (10 pts)
- Module #5: Mesoamerica and the Andes – Olmec, Maya, Aztec, and Inca Civilizations (10 pts)
- Module #6: The Mediterranean World – Greece and Rome (10 pts)
- Module #7: Teaching Ancient Civilizations in the K-12 Classroom (10 pts)
- Module #8: Final Project – Create a Lesson Plan or Activity on Ancient Civilizations (20 pts)