

# Great Migrations

## Mobility, Displacement and Material Culture in the Ancient World

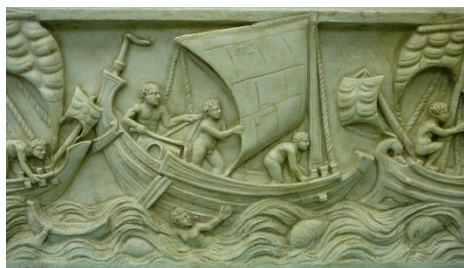
- ARCH 0725 S01 (CRN 16330)
- MWF 10.00-10.50
- Rhode Island Hall room 008
- Canvas website: <https://canvas.brown.edu/courses/880845>

Migrations are the stuff that (pre)history was made of, because people have moved over shorter and longer distances since early prehistory, and they continue to do so today. While migrations are often associated with marauding hordes, in reality a very broad range of different types of migrations may have existed and in this course we examine a wide variety of mobility and migration.



The Mediterranean is no exception in this respect and similarities in material culture between distant regions have long been seized upon as evidence of prehistoric migrations. For classical and later times, written sources bear direct witness to migrations from for instance mainland Greece to the South Italian and Sicilian shores, and thus leave us in no doubt whether migrations took place. They clearly did.

This course will track some of the largest and most momentous displacements and movements around the Mediterranean, from earliest prehistory to the Middle Ages, exploring not only 'famous' migrations like the Phoenician diaspora, Greek colonization, Roman veteran settlement, the 'Sea Peoples' and Visigoth invasions, but also pastoral mobility, the Assyrian trade diaspora and the 'port Jews'.



It is therefore surely no exaggeration to claim that migrations were the stuff that (pre)history was made of; it is also all the more reason to examine migration in more detail across time and across space and explore how we may approach migration in the archaeological record. In some cases, classical texts and ancient inscriptions may simply tell us that people have moved and in other scientific skeletal analysis can demonstrate the people had grown up in other places than where they were buried. Overall, we will explore the consequences of migration for both migrant and host societies.

In short, this course about exploring the diversity and complexity of connectivity, mobility and migration in the past, both recent and distant, and about investigating the many dimensions of these broad processes. We will survey a wide range of migrations and social and economic situations in order to highlight the social and economic dimensions of migration and mobility of, within and between communities.

**Practical Information**

- Instructor: Peter van Dommelen ([peter\\_van\\_dommelen@brown.edu](mailto:peter_van_dommelen@brown.edu))
- Office hours: Wed-Fri, 11-12 - Rhode Island Hall, room 009 (basement)
- Canvas site: <https://canvas.brown.edu/courses/880845>
- Course blog: <http://blogs.brown.edu/anth-1126-s01/>

**Course Organization**

This course is built up of week-long modules that mostly focus on major and/or remarkable migration events in the ancient world. While the focus is firmly on the ancient Mediterranean, these regional case studies are interspersed with significant migration instances from other periods and regions. Comparing and contrasting migration process across time and place will eventually make it possible to take a broader view of migration.

Each week is in principle made up of two lectures and one session dedicated to discussion of the lectures and assigned readings. These sessions will be opened by short comments made by student taking (assigned) turns writing on the course blog.

The course will be assessed through a combination of short written assignments and quizzes. A final examination concludes the assessment at the end of the course. Class participation will be monitored and assessed through contributions to class discussion and course blog.

**Course Requirements and Assessment:**

- 20% two one-hour quizzes;
- 20% two short writing assignments (see below);
- 20% final essay (see below);
- 25% final exam;
- 15% class participation and course blog: this combines provisional and informal grades given for class participation and entries on the course blog.

**Writing Assignments**

1. short paper (10%): due September 19 (10 am, online submission through Canvas).  
Choose a well-known migration event and outline its historical-archaeological importance (500 words)
2. short paper (10%): due October 29 (10 am, online submission through Canvas).  
Select one archaeological site in the Mediterranean and describe its role in ancient migration processes (750 words).
3. final essay (20%): due November 26 (10 am, online submission through Canvas).  
Watch the entire documentary 'The Other Side of Migration' and argue in an essay of ca 1,500 words why and how this documentary is relevant for understanding migration in the past. Elaborate on at least one archaeological case study in some depth.

**Reading and Text Books**

You are required to read two to three chapters and articles every week as listed (below and in Canvas). Journal articles and book chapters that will be made available as pdfs but you are expected to buy the Howard 2012 volume; Bellwood 2013 is highly recommended.

- Howard, C. 2012: *Transnationalism in Ancient and Medieval Societies: The Role of Cross-Border Trade and Travel*. MacFarland & Co: Jefferson, NC and London.
- Bellwood, P. 2013: *First Migrants: Ancient Migration in Global Perspective*. Chichester and Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell.

## Course Outline

1. Sept. 3-5 Famous Migrations
2. Sept. 8-10-12 Cultural Contacts and Transnationalism
3. Sept. 15-17-19 Approaches to Migration

***Sept. 19: short paper 1 due***

4. Sept. 22-24 The Sea Peoples

***Sept. 26: quiz***

5. Sept. 29-Oct. 1-3 Merchants in the Phoenician Far West
6. Oct. 6-8-10 Greek Settlers around the Mediterranean Pond
7. Oct. 15-17 Viking pioneers in the North Atlantic
8. Oct. 20-22-24 Migration and Mobility in the Roman World
9. Oct. 27-29-31 Settling the New World

***Oct. 29: short paper 2 due***

10. Nov. 3-5 Modes of Migration: Forced Displacement

***Nov. 7: quiz***

11. Nov. 10-12-14 Modes of Migration: Trade and Diaspora
12. Nov. 17-19-21 Modes of Migration: Settler Colonies
13. Nov. 24-26 Comparing Migration

***Nov. 26: final essay due***

14. Dec. 1-3-5 Conclusions: Mobility & Connectivity

***Dec. 12: final exam***

**Reading List** (per week)

- Week 1**      Howard 2012, ch. 10, pp. 226-249
- Week 2**      Howard 2012, ch. 1, pp. 7-26  
 Bellwood 2013, ch. 1, pp. 1-16 (ch.4 , pp. 71-95 is optional)  
 Howard, C. 2011: *Transnationalism and Society. An Introduction*. Jefferson, NC and London: MacFarland & Co, ch.1, pp.3-32.
- Week 3**      Howard 2012, ch.5, pp. 102-127  
 Cabana, G. and J. Clark 2011: Introduction. Migration in anthropology: where we stand, in G. Cabana and J. Clark (eds), *Rethinking Anthropological Perspectives on Migration*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 3-15.  
 Eckardt, H., G. Müldner and M. Lewis 2014: People on the move in Roman Britain, *World Archaeology* 46.4: 534-550.
- Week 4**      Howard 2012, ch. 2, pp. 27-69  
 Russell, A. 2009: Deconstructing Ashdoda: migration, hybridisation, and the Philistine identity, *BABesch* 84: 1-15.  
 Yasur-Landau, A. 2012: The role of the Canaanite population in the Aegean migration to the southern Levant in the late 2nd Millennium BCE, in J. Maran and P. Stockhammer (eds), *Materiality and Practice. Transformative Capacities of Intercultural Encounters*. Oxford: Oxbow, 51-73.
- Week 5**      Howard 2012, ch. 6, pp. 128-156  
 Aubet, M.E. 2006: On the organization of the Phoenician colonial system in Iberia, in C. Riva and N. Vella (eds), *Debating Orientalization. Multidisciplinary Approaches to Processes of Change in the Ancient Mediterranean*. (Monographs in Mediterranean archaeology 10). London: Equinox, 94-109.  
 López Castro, J.L. 2006: Colonials, merchants and alabaster vases: the western Phoenician aristocracy, *Antiquity* 80.307: 74-88.
- Week 6**      Howard 2012, ch. 8 & 4, pp. 169-205 & 88-101  
 De Angelis, F. 2009: Colonies and colonization, in G. Boys-Stones, B. Graziosi and P. Vasunia (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Hellenic Studies*. (Oxford Handbooks). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 48-64.
- Week 7**      Howard 2012, ch. 7, pp. 157-168  
 Randsborg, K. 2000: Colonization: Greek & Viking, *Acta Archaeologica* 71.1: 171-182.  
 Smith, K. 1995: *Landnám*: The settlement of Iceland in archaeological and historical perspective, *World Archaeology* 26.3: 319-347.
- Week 8**      Howard 2012, ch. 3 & 9, pp. 58-87 & 206-225  
 Moatti, C. 2013: Immigration and cosmopolitanization, in P. Erdkamp (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Rome*. (Cambridge Companions Online). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 77-92.
- Week 9**      Armstrong, D. and M. Reilly 2014: The archaeology of settler farms and early plantation life in seventeenth-century Barbados, *Slavery & Abolition* 35: (forthcoming).  
 Lightfoot, K. 2005: The archaeology of colonization: California in cross-cultural perspective, in G. Stein (ed.), *The Archaeology of Colonies in Cross-cultural Perspective*. (School of American research advanced research seminar series). Santa Fe: School of American Research, 207-235.  
 Silliman, S. 2010: Indigenous traces in colonial spaces: archaeologies of ambiguity, origin, and practice, *Journal of Social Archaeology* 10.1: 28-58.
- Week 10**      Cameron, C. 2011: Captives and culture change: implications for archaeology, *Current Anthropology* 52.5: 169-209.  
 Hedeager, L. 2007: Scandinavia and the Huns: an interdisciplinary approach to the Migration Era, *Norwegian Archaeological Review* 40.1: 42-58.

### **Great Migrations - syllabus**

- Week 11** Stein, G. 2002: Colonies without colonialism: a trade diaspora model of 4th millennium BC Mesopotamian enclaves in Anatolia, in C. Lyons and J. Papadopoulos (eds), *The Archaeology of Colonialism*. (Issues & Debates). Los Angeles: Getty Research Institute, 26-64.
- Riva, C. 2010: Trading settlements and the materiality of wine consumption in the North Tyrrhenian Sea region, in P. van Dommelen and A. B. Knapp (eds), *Material Connections in the Ancient Mediterranean: Mobility, Materiality and Mediterranean Identities*. London: Routledge, 210-232.
- Trivellato, F. 2004: The Port Jews of Livorno and their global networks of trade in the Early Modern Period, *Jewish Culture and History* 7.1-2: 31-48.
- Week 12** Gosden, C. 2004: *Archaeology and Colonialism. Cultural Contact from 5000 BC to the Present*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Smith, M.E. 2014: Peasant mobility, local migration and premodern urbanization, *World Archaeology* 46.4: 516-533.
- Vives-Ferrándiz, J. 2010: Mobility, materiality and identities in Iron Age east Iberia: on the appropriation of material culture and the question of judgement, in P. van Dommelen and A. B. Knapp (eds), *Material Connections in the Ancient Mediterranean: Mobility, Materiality and Mediterranean Identities*. London: Routledge, 190-209.
- Week 13** Brettell, C. 2008: Theorizing migration in anthropology. The social construction of networks, identities, communities and globalscapes, in C. Brettell and J. Hollifield (eds), *Migration Theory. Talking across Disciplines* London: Routledge (2nd edition), 113-159.
- Cameron, C. 2013: How people moved among ancient societies: broadening the view, *American Anthropologist* 115.2: 218-231.
- Week 14** Bellwood 2013, ch. 10, pp. 243-248
- Tsuda, T. 2011: Modern perspectives on ancient migrations, in G. Cabana and J. Clark (eds), *Rethinking Anthropological Perspectives on Migration*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 313-338.

## General Bibliography

The list below offers a starting-point for relevant publications from the fields Archaeology, History, Anthropology and Cultural Studies. It is reproduced on the blog, where it will be expanded during the course. Required weekly readings are listed above and posted in Canvas.

- Anthony, D. 1990: Migration in archaeology: the baby and the bathwater, *American Anthropologist* 92.4: 895-914.
- Brettell, C. 2003: *Anthropology and Migration: Essays on Transnationalism, Ethnicity and Identity*. Walnut Creek, CA: Altamira Press.
- Brettell, C. and J. Hollifield (eds) 2008: *Migration Theory. Talking across Disciplines* London: Routledge (2nd edition).
- Brubaker, R. 2005: The 'diaspora' diaspora, *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 28.1: 1-19.
- Brughmans, T. 2010: Connecting the dots: Towards archaeological network analysis. *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 29 (3):277-303.
- Burke, P. 2009: *Cultural Hybridity*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Cohen, R. 2008: *Global Diasporas. An Introduction*. (Global Diasporas). London: Routledge (2nd edition).
- Greenblatt, S. (ed.) 2010: *Cultural Mobility: a Manifesto*. Cambridge Cambridge University Press.
- Hicks, D. and M. Beaudry (eds) 2010: *The Oxford Handbook of Material Culture Studies*. (Oxford Handbooks). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Holleran, C. and A. Pudsey (eds) 2011: *Demography and the Graeco-Roman World: New Insights and Approaches*. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Kennedy, P. and V. Roudometof (eds) 2002: *Communities across Borders. New Immigrants and Transnational Cultures*. (Transnationalism). London: Routledge.
- Knappett, C. 2013: *Network Analysis in Archaeology: New Approaches to Regional Interaction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Knott, K. and S. McLoughlin (eds) 2012: *Diasporas: Concepts, Intersections, Identities*. London: Zed books.
- Malkin, I. 2011: *A Small Greek World. Networks in the Ancient Mediterranean*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Manning, P. 2005: *Migration in World History*. New York: Routledge.
- Miller, D. 2008: Migration, material culture and tragedy: four moments in Caribbean migration, *Mobilities* 3.3: 397-413.
- van Dommelen, P. (ed.) 2014: *Mobility & Migration*. (World Archaeology 46.4). London: Routledge.
- van Dommelen, P. and A.B. Knapp (eds) 2010: *Material Connections in the Ancient Mediterranean: Mobility, Materiality and Mediterranean Identities*. London: Routledge.
- Vertovec, S. 2009: *Transnationalism*. (Key Ideas). London: Routledge.
- Vertovec, S. 2011: The cultural politics of nation and migration, *Annual Review of Anthropology* 40: 241-256.