NMC 101H1 - 2017
Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations I: Land of the Pharaohs
INSTRUCTOR: Prof. R.J. Leprohon

CLASS: Monday and Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, room TBA
TUTORIALS (ONE OF THE FOLLOWING):
  Wednesday, 2-3 PM, room TBA - Teaching Assistant TBA
  Wednesday, 3-4 PM, room TBA - Teaching Assistant TBA
  Friday, 1-2 PM, room TBA - Teaching Assistant TBA
  Friday, 2-3 PM, room TBA - Teaching Assistant TBA

A COURSE WEBSITE will also be on the Blackboard site, under: http://portal.utoronto.ca/

Note: IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL THAT YOU SIGN INTO & USE THIS SITE, BECAUSE THAT’S HOW I’LL COMMUNICATE WITH YOU (so don’t forget to always check your utoronto.ca e-mailbox)

Course Description

The purpose of NMC 101H is to give students a preliminary acquaintance with the current state of knowledge about ancient Egypt – The Land of Pharaohs, pyramids, and mummies – covering broadly the period from the founding of the earliest state around 3,000 BCE up to Egypt’s incorporation into the Roman Empire under Augustus in 31 BCE. The course will focus on ancient Egyptian history as well as geography, art, architecture, writing, and literature. Besides offering a gateway to upper level courses on Egyptological topics, NMC 101H1 aims to promote student understanding of the sources and methods by which knowledge about an ancient civilization may be obtained, and to provide an appreciation of the complexity of human development over the three thousand years before the beginning of the Common Era, which will allow them to see the achievements of later ages in perspective. The weekly tutorials (attendance obligatory, btw) are designed to facilitate discussion of the materials covered in class, and, within the framework of the University’s WIT (“Writing initiative”) Program, provide step-by-step instruction on how to research and write academic essays.

EXCLUSION: NMC 343H1, 344H1 may not be taken in the same year.
**WORK LOAD / EVALUATION:**

(a) **Tutorial Attendance and Participation:** 15%

(b) **Complete three (3) research and writing related assignments:** 50%
    - the first two are worth 15%, while the third is worth 20%
    - due, respectively, on the 5th, 8th, and 11th weeks of term
      (dates in the Fall of 2017 TBA)
    * **Penalty for lateness:** 2 marks per day

(c) **Faculty Final Examination** (date TBA, in Examination Period) 35%

**INFORMATION ON THE THREE WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS**

These will build sequentially one upon the other (or be “scaffolded”, as the FAS likes to call this), in the sense that you will pick one ancient Egyptian text (I’ll post the various choices on the course Blackboard site) and write about it in the first Assignment; describe the text briefly and summarize it. The second Assignment is simple: you stay with the same text you examined for the first Assignment, but this time you go do some extra digging on the topic, by typing up an Annotated Bibliography. Five or six items – books, and/or articles – should do, but of course you can knock yourself out if the spirit moves you enough. The third Assignment is a continuation of the first two that you’ve already done. You’ll keep to the same text again, which you first examined carefully, then on which you’ve done research (the annotated Bibliography). At that point, you should be able to discuss its content with more knowledge as well as some cultural and historical background. Let’s call it a “mini-essay” since it’s still not going to be very long, but I suppose you could call it a research paper if you prefer.

Don’t think of these three Assignments negatively as “Yikes, three essays!”, but rather positively, in the sense that you have three shots at the same topic, with helpful feedback after the first two.

You should submit all three assignments electronically on the course Blackboard site, on the Portal.

**INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Ronald J. Leprohon**

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*E-mail: ronald.leprohon@utoronto.ca (preferable)*  
*Phone: 416-978-3182*  
*Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:30-11:00 AM*  
(or send me an e-mail and let’s figure it out)

**TEACHING ASSISTANTS (PHONE = 416-978-3306 (MESSAGES)):**

**TBA**

**NMC DEPARTMENTAL OFFICE:** 4 Bancroft Avenue (BF), Room 200  
*Phone: 416-978-3306*
READINGS:

REQUIRED
- M. van de Mieroop, *A History of Ancient Egypt* (Malden et al., 2011) (aka “the Textbook”)  
  (Used and new paperback copies available at Koffler Student Center Book Store)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
- R.J. Leprohon, *The Great Name: Ancient Egyptian Royal Titulary* (Atlanta, 203) (NB: the Introductory section is on-line)
  NB: this is available on-line through the U of T Library website:  
- W. Wendrich et al., *The UCLA Encyclopedia of Egyptology*  
  (NB: this is an electronic resource, entirely available on-line:  
  [https://escholarship.org/uc/nelc_ueue](https://escholarship.org/uc/nelc_ueue))

Primary Sources:
  NB that this is available as an E-book through the UofT Library website:  

I'll also post additional material on the Blackboard course website from time to time. But please note, however, that lecture slides will not be posted on Blackboard. You’re expected to attend class and tutorials, and to take notes (btw, preferably written long-hand; I’ll talk about that in class), as well as to refer to the assigned readings for deepening your understanding of a given topic.