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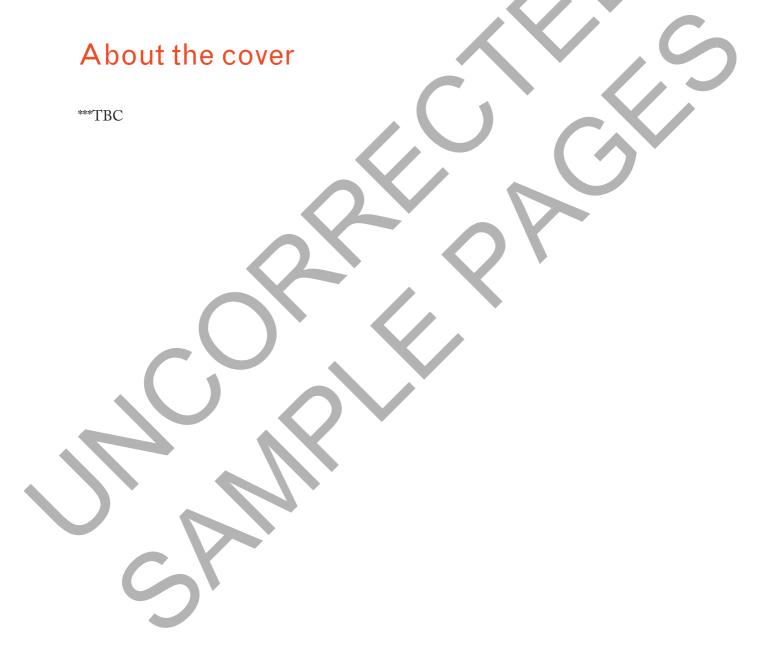
Contents

About the author	V
About the cover	٧
Permissions acknowledgements	vi
Introduction	vii
Part 1 Ancient societies	2
Chapter 1 Society in New Kingdom Egypt to the death of Amenhotep III	4
1.1 The historical and geographical context	8
1.2 Social structure and political organisation	13
1.3 The economy	29
1.4 Religion, death and burial	37
1.5 Cultural and everyday life	48
Chapter 2 The Bronze Age: Society in Minoan Crete	58
2.1 The historical and geographical context	62
2.2 Social structure and political organisation	67
2.3 The economy	71
2.4 Religion, death and burial	80
2.5 Cultural and everyday life	91
Chapter 3 Spartan society to the Battle of Leuctra 371 BC	106
3.1 The historical and geographical context	110
3.2 Social structure and political organisation	116
3.3 The economy	136
3.4 Religion, death and burial	139
3.5 Cultural and everyday life	143
Chapter 4 Persian society in the time of Darius and Xerxes (digital chapter)	
Part 2 Personalities in their time	156
Chapter 5 Hatshepsut	158
5.1 Historical context	162
5.2 Hatshepsut's background and rise to prominence	166
5.3 Key features of Hatshepsut's reign	169
5.4 Evaluation	193
5.5 The value and limitations of the divine birth and coronation Inscriptions	196
Chapter 6 Akhenaten (digital chapter)	
Chapter 7 Qin Shi Huangdi (digital chapter)	

Chapter 8 Alexander the Great	204
8.1 Historical context	208
8.2 Background and rise to prominence of Alexander	213
8.3 Key features and developments in the career of Alexander	218
8.4 Evaluation	243
8.5 The value and limitations of Arrian's Book 4	253
Chapter 9 Julius Caesar	260
9.1 Historical context	264
9.2 Background and rise to prominence	269
9.3 Key features and developments in the career of Caesar	276
9.4 Evaluation	301
9.5 The value and limitations of Plutarch's Life of Caesar as a source	307
Chapter 10 Agrippina the Younger	314
10.1 Historical context	319
10.2 Agrippina's background and rise to prominence	323
10.3 Key features and developments of Agrippina's life and career	330
10.4 Evaluation	350
10.5 The value and limitations of visual sources in understanding Agrippina	356
Part 3 Historical periods	362
Chapter 11 New Kingdom Egypt to the Death of Thutmose IV	364
11.1 The chronological and geographical context	369
11.2 Internal developments	372
11.3 Expansion of Egypt's boundaries	399
Chapter 12 The Greek World 500–440 BC	424
12.1 The chronological and geographical context	428
12.2 The Persian Wars	436
12.3 The development of Athens and the Athenian Empire 478–440 BC	468
12.4 Athens and Sparta	484
Chapter 13 The Augustan Age 44 BC – 14 AD (digital chapter)	
Chapter 14 The Julio-Claudians and the Roman Empire 14–69 AD	494
14.1 The chronological and geographical context	500
14.2 The principate of the Julio-Claudians	504
14.3 The empire	541
Glossary	559
End notes	565
Index	580

About the author

Pamela Bradley has over 40 years' experience in teaching history. She is the author of 13 books on ancient cultures, including 6 popular secondary history textbooks, including Ancient Egypt: Reconstructing the Past; Ancient Greece: Using Evidence; Ancient Rome: Using Evidence; Cities of Vesuvius: Pompeii and Herculaneum (3rd edition); The Ancient World: a historical investigation into the past, Year 11; and the present book, which is the 2nd edition of Ancient World Transformed: Societies, Personalities and Historical Periods.



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Introduction

This course is designed to:

- 1 introduce some of the methods and issues involved in investigating the past
- 2 show the process involved in a historical investigation
- 3 present a number of in-depth case studies that provide a historical context within which to investigate relevant sources, methods and issues
- 4 focus on a number of key features of selected ancient societies.

The processes involved in carrying out a historical investigation are addressed, reviewed and integrated throughout the text. Suggested topics for a historical investigation associated with material treated in the book can be found on page 392.

Throughout the text there are also many opportunities for students to analyse ancient and modern texts and material remains; to recognise bias – particularly gender bias – and perspective; to express empathy and use their imaginations; to discuss such things as the use of film in history and the way ancient individuals and events are depicted in popular culture; to research; to consider and discuss controversial questions; and of course to communicate information in extended answers (essays) as well as in diagrammatic and digital formats.

The process of a historical investigation

This involves:

- planning and conducting historical investigations using historical concepts
- · formulating historical questions and hypotheses relevant to the investigation
- · locating and interrogating a range of sources
- identifying different perspectives evident in sources
- analysing sources for their usefulness and reliability for the question(s) asked
- developing and/or examining historical interpretations
- using sources to develop a view about a historical issue
- selecting and organising relevant information
- synthesising evidence from a range of sources to develop and support a reasoned historical account or argument
- using historical concepts and terms appropriately
- presenting and communicating the findings of a historical investigation using appropriate and well-structured oral, written and/or multimedia forms, including ICT.