



# Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations: From Prehistory to 640 CE

*Ralph W. Mathisen*

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## **Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations: From Prehistory to 640 CE** Ralph W. Mathisen

Challenging the stereotypes and myths that typically characterize students' understanding of antiquity, *Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations: From Prehistory to 640 CE*, Second Edition, focuses on continuity and connections, along with cultural diffusion and cultural diversity, to show how history is a cumulative process and that numerous similar themes recur in different times and places. The text also explores sensitive issues and debates including attitudes toward race, ethnicity, and tolerance; gender issues and roles; slavery; social mobility; religion; political evolution; the nature of government; and imperialism.

## **FEATURES**

**New! Chapter 9:** "Civilization beyond the Near East, Greece, and Rome (2300-31 BCE)"

**New! "Digging Antiquity":** Illustrated features that discuss specific archaeological sites, many of which can still be visited today

**New!: "Looking Back":** Chapter summaries, followed by "Looking Ahead" sections that preview the following chapters

**"History Laboratory":** Concise observations on how historians use different methodologies to interpret historical evidence and to debunk pseudoscience

**"Historical Controversy":** Reflections that explore conflicting modern interpretations of ancient phenomena

**"A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words":** Illustrations of distinctive material artifacts, accompanied by brief essays

**"Mysteries of History":** Selections that address puzzling and intriguing aspects of the past

**"In Their Own Words":** Extended quotations that exemplify each chapter's main themes

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