Contact Information and Office Hours (Please attend office hours for in-depth questions)
Koh (akoh@brandeis.edu, Digital Humanities Lab – Goldfarb 69-225); T,F 2-3 PM or by appointment
Graff (kperry@brandeis.edu, Rabb 359); T,F 9-10 AM or at Writing Center
Manoilova (lmanoilova@brandeis.edu, Rabb 359); T 3-4 PM, Th 1-2 PM

Course Description
This course is a survey of the art, archaeology, and architecture of ancient Egypt and how scholars from various traditions have approached its study through the centuries. The first unit will familiarize students with the history and motivations of Egyptology, including the first “Egyptologist” (Tutmosis IV, restorer of the Great Sphinx), Greco-Roman and Muslim historians, European explorers, and modern Egyptian Egyptologists, who in recent decades have served as the discipline’s principal stewards in a post-colonial context. The class will examine how modern Egyptology was crafted by the West during the 19th century as part of an overarching effort to define the non-West, and what changes have been made in the century since to reimagine the discipline, particularly by Egyptian Egyptologists who reside in a fluid Islamic nation bridging Africa and the Middle East.

After this introduction, the class will discuss the unique climate, geography, and natural resources of northeast Africa that precipitated the migrations of North Africans to the Nile Valley during the increasingly arid Neolithic, allowing the rise of one of the world’s most remarkable civilizations. The bulk of the class will focus on the achievements of Pharaonic Egypt, but conclude with the tumultuous 1st millennium BCE when foreigners from Libya, Nubia, Persia, Macedon, and Rome played an increasing role in the co-opting of Egypt’s glorious past, something that will help us evaluate more recent discussions about Egypt’s cultural heritage.

Learning Goals
The primary goal of this course is for students to gain an overview of how ancient Egypt’s material culture developed over the millennia, and how scholars have approached its study from a multitude of perspectives. Students will acquire a basic understanding of the objects and buildings ancient Egyptians (and foreign overlords) utilized on a daily basis to establish a civilization. In the process, students will place ancient Egypt in its proper context by understanding its basic chronological framework, its interaction with surrounding cultures (Africa, Asia, and Mediterranean), and how to approach the study of ancient art and archaeology. One of the essays will be based on a visit to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Graduate students will meet for an additional hour each week for a discussion section starting in Week 2.

Main Texts
Bard, K. An Introduction to the Archaeology of Ancient Egypt (Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2007)

Course Website *IMPORTANT* (http://www.brandeis.edu/latte/)
Please check periodically for announcements, reading assignments, and class slides. Supplementary readings will be posted on LATTE as well.

Policies and Expectations
The genuine success of this class depends on sincere, informed participation by its individual members. Therefore, your individual success in this class (as it is measured by a final grade) will depend largely on your attendance, participation, and preparation. Absences will make it much more difficult for you to understand the material presented in the readings and the slides presented in class. Conversely, you cannot engage yourself with the class effectively if you have not carefully read the assigned material before class. Lectures, discussions, and readings go hand in hand and a solid knowledge of all three is needed to succeed.

*If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please see me immediately.*

Class Assessment
Grades will be determined according to one of two formulas (choose one by end of Week 3 – most grad students and advanced majors should choose Formula 2):

**Formula 1**  
20% Participation (based on attendance and participation in class and on LATTE)  
15% Six Quizzes (top five quizzes count at 3% each – no makeups due to unexcused absences)  
40% Two Short Essays (20% each, 5-6 pages) – essay 2 will require a class visit to the MFA  
25% Final Exam (slide IDs, matching, topical essay)

**Formula 2**  
20% Participation (based on attendance and participation in class and on LATTE)  
15% Six Quizzes (top five quizzes count at 3% each – no makeups due to unexcused absences)  
10% Research Paper Proposal (1-2 pages, 1” margins, double-spaced)  
15% Class Research Presentation (5-10 minutes using MS PowerPoint, up to 15 minutes for graduate students)  
40% Research Paper (10-15 pages, 1” margins, double-spaced, up to 20 pages for graduate students)
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (readings in bold, please check LATTE regularly for updated schedule, slides, and readings)

1 (Sept. 1 & 5)  
Introduction to Class, Mini-bio, and History of Egyptology  
**NB: finish readings by next unit**  
  - **Bard**: Preface; chapters 1-2, 11  
  - **Manley**: Foreword and pp. 12-13  
  - **Robins**: Chapter 1

2 (Sept. 8 & 12)  
Background: Climate, Geography, and Natural Resources of Northeast Africa  
  - **Bard**: Chapters 3  
  - **Manley**: pp. 12-20  
Prehistoric Origins: Egypt before the Pharaohs  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 4  
  - **Manley**: pp. 20-22

3 (Sept. 15 & 19)  
Unification: Predynastic and Early Dynastic Egypt  
  - **Robins**: Chapter 2  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 5  
  - **Manley**: pp. 22-24

4 (Sept. 26 & 29)  
Old Kingdom (*Discussion of Giza and Great Pyramids*)  
  - **Robins**: Chapters 3-4  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 6.1-6.8  
  - **Manley**: pp. 24-30

5 (Oct. 6 & 10)  
Late Old Kingdom and First Intermediate Period  
  - **Robins**: Chapter 5  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 6.9-6.13  
  - **Manley**: pp. 30-34

6 (Oct. 13 & 17)  
Middle Kingdom: Pharaonic Renaissance (*Discussion of Nubia and MK Egyptian fortresses*)  
  - **Robins**: Chapter 6  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 7.1-7.10  
  - **Manley**: pp. 34-48

7 (Oct. 20 & 27)  
Middle Kingdom: Decline & Collapse, Second Inter. Period (*Discussion of “Asiatic” Hyksos*)  
  - **Robins**: Chapter 7  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 7.11-8.2  
  - **Manley**: pp. 48-58

  *No class 10/24 (MFA Tour 10/26)*

Formula 1 student: Essay 1 due on October 20 (hardcopy in class, softcopy on LATTE)  
Formula 2 students: Research Paper Proposal due on October 20

8 (Oct. 31 & Nov 3)  
New Kingdom: Rise of an Empire (*Discussion of West Asia and NK Egyptian fortresses*)  
  - **Robins**: Chapter 8  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 8.3-8.5  
  - **Manley**: pp. 58-84

9 (Nov. 7 & 10)  
New Kingdom: Houses, Temples & Tombs (*Discussion of NK Workers Village at Deir el-Medina*)  
  - **Robins**: Chapters 9-10  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 8.6-8.12  
  - **Manley**: pp. 84-110

10 (Nov. 14 & 17)  
Libyans, Nubians, and Persians: Third Intermediate and Late Period  
  - **Robins**: Chapters 11-12  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 9  
  - **Manley**: pp. 110-128

11 (Nov. 21 & 28)  
Greco-Roman Egypt: From Alexander to Cleopatra (*Discussion of “Whose Past?”*)  
  - **Robins**: Chapter 13 and Epilogue  
  - **Bard**: Chapter 10  
  - **Manley**: pp. 128-132

Formula 1 students: Essay 2 due on December 1 (hardcopy in class, softcopy on LATTE)

12 & 13 (Dec. 1, 5, 8)  
10-minute PowerPoint Research Presentations by Formula 2 undergraduate students

Formula 2 undergraduate students: Research Paper due on Dec. 11 by 5 PM (hardcopy in mailbox, softcopy on LATTE)  
Formula 1 students: Final Exam (Dec. 12, 9:15 AM-12:15 PM)  
Formula 2 graduate students: 15-minute PowerPoint Research Presentations and Research Paper due on Dec. 12 (hardcopy during presentation session at 9:15 AM-12:15 PM, softcopy on LATTE)