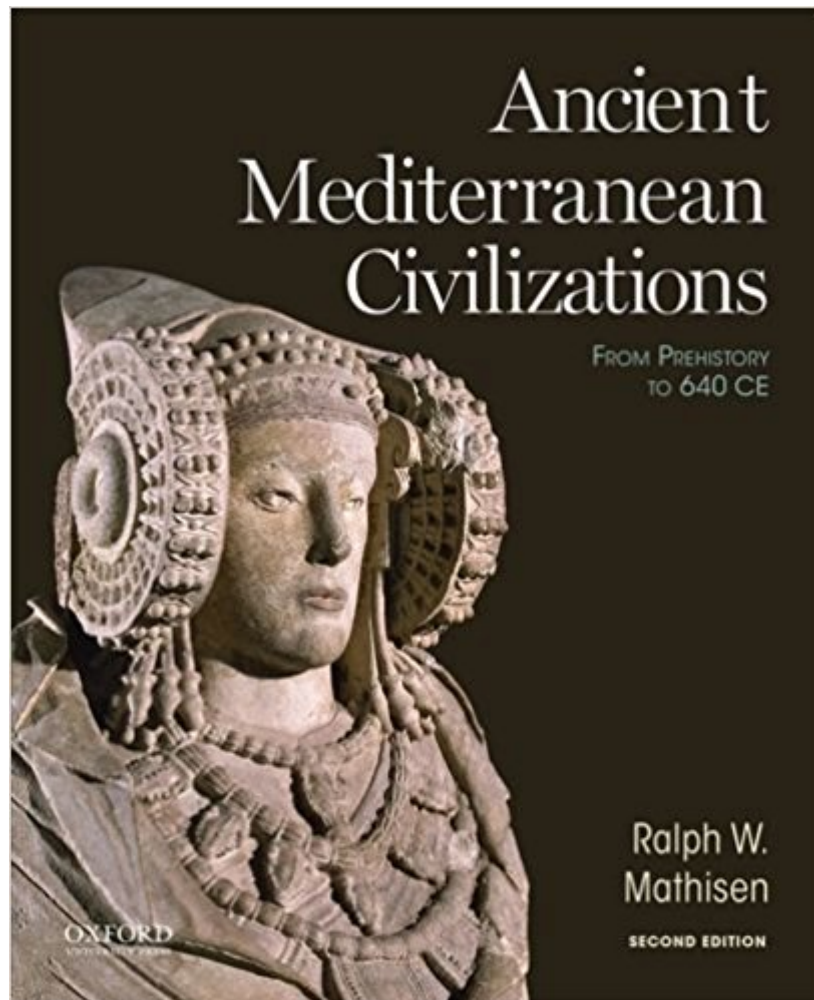




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# Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations: From Prehistory To 640 CE



## Synopsis

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

**Stunning Interior Design:** More than 200 maps and illustrations, including an eight-page color portfolio

**An Image Bank** containing more than 100 PowerPoint-based slides and approximately forty maps, available to adopters

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations is beautifully produced, has excellent maps and well-chosen images, and is up to date from a scholarly perspective. It is easily the best general work currently available, covering the Ancient Mediterranean through Late Antiquity in a relatively brief format."--Kenneth G. Holum, University of Maryland, College Park

"Mathisen's focus on multiculturalism, scientific literacy, and visual reasoning make the book far more up to date than any of its competitors."--Andrew J. Bonnell, Ball State University

Ralph W. Mathisen is Professor of History, Classics, and Medieval Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has authored, edited, or coedited thirteen books and has published 100 scholarly articles. He is a Fellow of the American Numismatic Society, founding editor of the Journal of Late Antiquity, and Director of the Biographical Database for Late Antiquity Project.

arrived as described

Corect book I needed for class, very good conditon.

great book

I'm about 4 weeks into using it for class and already a total of about 30 pages is torn out from it

Just a basic text book, nothing fancy about it at all so if it is for a class just get it. Nothing else to say.

The book arrived in a timely fashion and was what I required.

Well, perhaps the blurb on the back cover is a little overblown. I would not really characterise this as 'the most thought-provoking, contemporary and engaging survey of the ancient world'. But the text is certainly gracefully written. Entirely accessible to a reader with a high school education. The task is grand - to summarise the salient aspects of the societies that arose around the Mediterranean over several millennia. From the Hebrews to the Aegean polities and others. The discussion is necessarily limited by space considerations. However, you should be able to quickly understand the main historical events. Much care has also gone into the choices of the many illustrations that

supplement the text. The few colour plates are quite vivid. Especially when several of these are of ruins, as they now exist. The reader is left to contemplate how even more impressive they would have looked year earlier.

Exactly as described, used for school

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