



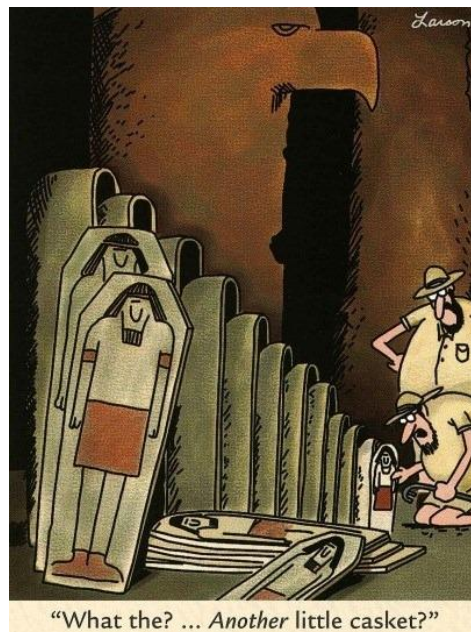
Institute of Education and Humanities, UWTSD

HPAH5076/6076

Funerary Beliefs in Ancient Egypt **updated**

2022-2023, BLOCK 4 (Preparation week 09/01-13/01;taught 16/01-10/02/ 2023)

UNWRAPPING LAYERS OF MEANING



HPAH5011/6011 – Funerary Beliefs of Ancient Egypt

This module introduces students to the key elements and concepts of ancient Egyptian funerary beliefs as part of their religious thinking. The course is structured systematically and covers all periods of the Egyptian history with emphasis on the New Kingdom and Ptolemaic Egypt (c. 1550–1069 BC and 332–30 BC respectively) as periods with the most material evidence for these beliefs.

This module will incorporate lectures, seminars as well as practical sessions and movie viewings.

Credits: 20

Lecturer: Dr. Katharina Zinn, k.zinn@uwtsd.ac.uk, Arts Building A110

AIM(S)

- To critically examine the nature of ancient Egyptian religious funerary practice and beliefs by application of combined use of archaeological, artistic and textual sources
- To crucially evaluate unpublished archaeological materials, place them within the belief system and construct narratives of ancient funerary practices.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate an ability to critically evaluate the application of the key theoretical concepts and archaeological methodologies associated with the analysis of funerary practices in complex societies using ancient Egypt as the case study;
- Critically appraise the various difficulties inherent in interpreting the archaeological, textual and artistic record as part of ancient Egyptian material culture, and have developed strategies to deal with these;
- Research and critically analyse previously un-researched primary archaeological source material relevant to the religious and funerary record of ancient Egypt.

ASSESSMENT

➔ **Find all remarks, help and advice etc on MOODLE under section ASSESSMENTS**

- A. **Primary research portfolio** (100% of the module mark), consisting of THREE sub-parts:
- If a student cannot be on campus / in class due to Covid19, they will have to work from the 3D models generated instead of handling the objects. The assessments would be the same, except the physical scrapbook which could be designed alternatively online (PPTX, blog, wiki, ...). Students who wish to choose this option, need to discuss and agree this with the module convener.
- **A Reflective Journal / Scrapbook** outlining your research process by including your ideas, sketches, photos, searches, comparative objects, notes etc. (30%) – to be submitted to a box outside Katharina's office (Arts Building A110) **latest by 10/02/2023 – in class.**
 - One of the following (assessment will be chosen will be decided in workshop sessions) – to be submitted via **Turnitin on 08/02/2023, presented in class on 10/02/2023**

- A **PowerPoint presentation** about your object and its relatedness to the field of Egyptian funerary beliefs (30%), including a handout of used slides including notes as well as a bibliography of used material (worth 1000 words)

OR

- A **Poster presentation** of your object and its relatedness to the field of Egyptian funerary beliefs (30%), including a bibliography of used material (worth 1000 words)
- A **written catalogue entry** of 1000 words (40%) on one object chosen out of the available ones for catalogue of the upcoming annual exhibition in the Roderic Bowen Library and Archives – to be submitted via **Turnitin by 15/02/2023**
All three parts are contributing towards ONE research project: the investigation of one previously un-researched and unpublished artefact belonging to the collection of Cyfarthfa Castle Museum and Art Gallery, Merthyr Tydfil. Your research project has to be seen as preparation for the exhibition **Personal artefacts for the afterlife?** including the *Museum of Lies* project. This is a joint event of University of Wales Trinity Saint David and Cyfarthfa Castle, Merthyr Tydfil, prepared by volunteer students of UWTSD, under my direction from May/June 2023 in the Roderick Bowen Library and Archives.

B. **progress checks** – you need to have sat TWO out of these THREE formative assessments in order to pass the module

- | | |
|--------------------|------------|
| 1. Quiz | Thu, 19/01 |
| 2. In-class review | Thu, 26/01 |
| 3. Quiz | Mon, 06/02 |

It is also necessary to read all session readings in order to achieve a successful outcome of the in-class tests and the module overall.

Syllabus:

Attendance is vital, especially in the handling sessions as you otherwise will have difficulties to attempt your assessments.

Date	Title	Readings
PW	You are asked to prepare the main readings for the module which are the two “quasi textbooks” (see bibliography) – I added the appropriate chapters to the sessions below. You also already can start with the compulsory reading for the particular sessions (marked in red)	
Week 1	16/01-20/01/2023	
F1 Mo 16/01	Welcome to the course and Administrative	You will be asked to choose your object (first come, first served)
	Death, religion and culture: Concepts of the afterlife	Taylor: Death. 10-45. Taylor. BoD. 16-23.
F2 Tue 17/01	Seminar: Discussion Harrington	Harrington: <i>Living with the Dead</i> . pp. 3-15
	The materiality of death / afterlife and Introduction to your objects	Fahlander, Fredrik; Oestigaard, Terje. 2008 Ingold: Making
	Workshop: what would I take with me, how can I make that?	
F3 Thu 19/01	Seminar to Concepts of the afterlife	As compulsory reading you have a choice between: 1. Andreeva. 2020 2. Streb / Kolb. 2019. 3. Baines / Lacovara. 2002

		4. Assmann. 2005. pp. 87-112
	Progress Check 1: Quiz	
F4 Fri 20/01	Religion and Magic	Zinn: Magic Pinch: Magic
	The eternal body: mummification and religious ideas	Taylor: Death. 46-91. Ikram. Death. 47-76. Taylor, J. 2014. <i>Ancient lives: new discoveries</i> Ikram: Mummification Lacovara, Baines: Mummification
Week 2	23/01-27/01/2023	
F5 Mo 23/01	Equipping the dead: royal and private funerary equipment	Taylor: Death. 112-135. 162-170. 214-243. Snape. Tombs.136-147. Zinn: Magic. Exell: Ancestor Bust. Stewart. Note on an enigmatic shabti form Schneider: <i>Shabtis</i> .
	Afternoon: Objects will arrive on campus	
F6 Tue 24/01	RBLA: Handling session	Introduction to your objects and work in break-out groups
F7 Thu 26/01	Funerary Beliefs and Material Culture: Provisioning the Dead	Taylor: Death. 92-111. 174-178. Taylor. BoD. 160-183. Zinn. 2017 Smith: Democratization of the Afterlife.
	Progress Check 2: writing review of Ikram: Food Offerings	Allen: Some aspects of the non-royal afterlife in the Old Kingdom Zinn: Cult. Ikram: Food Offerings
F8 Fri 27/01	The tomb: architecture and archaeology: Royal and Private tombs Watch for discussion Meresankh III https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=d42fuVA21To (3D reconstruction) AND https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdez5p41_g&feature=youtu.be more material http://giza.fas.harvard.edu/search-results/?q=meresankh+III	Taylor: Death. 136-185. Taylor. BoD. 104-111. Snape. Tombs. → You will be assigned a chapter from this book as compulsory Ikram. Death. 139-181. http://www.griffith.ox.ac.uk/gri/4daviest.html osirisnet http://www.britishmuseum.org/visiting/galleries/ancient_egypt/room_61_tomb-chapel_nebamun/nebamon_animation.aspx
Week 3	30/01-03/02/2023	
F9 Mo 30/01	Performing rituals: Introduction and Performance	Hays: Funerary Rituals (Pharaonic Period). Routledge, Caroline D. <i>Ancient Egyptian Ritual Practice</i> . 4-7. 13-17. 368-377. Read is and prepare the script for performance
F10 Tue 31/01	RBLA: Handling session	• Ho to write an exhibition catalogue • Consultation time and peer review in your object groups (separate link)

F11 Thu 02/02	Funerary Texts or the magical way to survive	Taylor: Death. 186-213. Taylor. BoD. 28-37. 54-63. Stadler: Judgment after Death (Negative Confession).
F12 Fri 03/02	CASE STUDY: Osiris and the sacred landscape of Abydos	O'Connor, D. <i>Abydos: Egypt's First Pharaohs and the Cult of Osiris</i> . → You will be assigned a chapter from this book as compulsory reading Snape. Tombs. 117-135. Smith.2017.
Week 4	06/02-10/02/2023	
F13 Mo 06/02	Exhibiting Egypt: exhibition workshop	Zinn 2019
	Progress Check 3: Quiz on knowledge of week 2 and 3	
F14 Tue 07/02	RBLA: Handling session	Work in break-out groups, finalising ideas
Wed 08/02	PPTX presentations, Poster Presentations – moved session from Friday 10/02	
F15 Thu 09/02	Funerary culture in the modern reception: I hate mummies! Recorded lecture, engagement via FORUM	Nielsen. 2020 (especially chapter 7) Edgar Allen Poe: A word with a mummy
F16 Fri 10/02	Session will be taught Wed 08/02	
	Submission PPTX handout/ poster	
Mon 13/02	Submission Reflective Journal / Scrapbook in box in staff room first flkoor or to Katharina	
Wed 15/02	Submission Catalogue Entry	

BIBLIOGRAPHY

As “nearly” textbooks:

Taylor, J. 2001. *Death and Afterlife in Ancient Egypt*. London: British Museum Pr. = **Taylor. Death.**

Taylor, J. 2010. *Journey through the Afterlife: Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead*. London: British Museum Pr. = **Taylor. BoD.**

Essential

Assmann, J. 2005. *Death and Salvation in Ancient Egypt*. Ithaca and London: Cornell Univ. Pr.

Grajetzki, W. 2003. *Burial customs in ancient Egypt: life in death for rich and poor*. London; Duckworth.

Harrington, N. 2013. *Living with the dead: Ancestor worship and mortuary ritual in Ancient Egypt*. Oxford: Oxbow.

Ikram, S. 2003. *Death and Burial in Ancient Egypt*. Harlow: Longman.

Kemp, B. 1989. *Ancient Egypt. Anatomy of a Civilization*. London: Routledge. (or any other edition)

Snape, S. 2011. *Ancient Egyptian Tombs: the Culture of Life and Death*. Wiley-Blackwell.

Essential Reading for some sessions

- Allen, James P. 2006. Some aspects of the non-royal afterlife in the Old Kingdom. In: M. Barta (ed.), *The Old Kingdom Art and Archaeology*. Prague.
- Andreeva, P. 2020. Some notes on methodology in studies of ancient funerary cultures. *Academia Letters*, Article 9. <https://doi.org/10.20935/AL9>
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- Ikram, Salima. 2010. Victual, Ritual or Both? Food Offerings from the Funerary Assemblage of Isitemkhet. In: *Studi die Egittologia e di Papirologia: Rivista Internazionale* 1(2004), 87-92.
- Lacovara, Peter; Baines, John. 2003. Mummification and Mummies in Ancient Egypt. In: Clifton Bryant (ed.), *Handbook of Death and Dying*. Vol.2. Thousand Oaks.
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- O'Connor, D. 2009. *Abydos: Egypt's First Pharaohs and the Cult of Osiris*. London: Thames & Hudson.
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- Zinn, Katharina. 2019. The Museum of Lies: Incorrect facts or advancing knowledge of ancient Egypt? *Journal of History and Cultures* – Special Issue 10(2019): Myth and Magic: Interdisciplinary Readings of the Reception of Ancient Egypt. 165-190. Available online
<https://historyandcultures.files.wordpress.com/2019/11/journal-of-history-and-cultures-issue-10-nov-2019.pdf>

Molecular analysis of black coatings and anointing fluids from ancient Egyptian coffins, mummy cases, and funerary objects

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Recommended

- Barta, M. 2011. *Journey to the west: The world of the Old Kingdom tombs in Ancient Egypt*. Prague: Charles Univ.
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And... done!

(Anubis, God of Embalming and Burial. Jackal head detail from Tutankhamun collection, Cairo Museum, 1949)

Dr Katharina Zinn