



# Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations: From Prehistory to 640 CE

By Ralph W. Mathisen



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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.

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### Review

"*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*

### About the Author

**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.

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