

CHAPTER OUTLINE

- I. The Hellenistic World
 - A. Meaning of “Hellenistic”
 - B. The legacy of Alexander the Great
 - C. Brief summary of key Hellenistic concepts
 - D. Overview of Hellenistic politics, society, and economics
 1. The class system
 2. The role and status of women
- II. The Stages of Hellenistic History
 - A. The end of the empire and the rise of the states
 1. The shattering of Alexander’s dream, 323–307 B.C.
 2. The era of the successor states, 307–215 B.C.
 - a) Freedom of movement of Greeks and barbarians
 - b) Common *koiné* language
 - c) The Macedonian kingdom
 - d) The Seleucid kingdom
 - (1) Parthia and Bactria
 - (2) Pergamum
 - e) The Ptolemaic kingdom
 - (1) Alexandria as the capital
 - (2) Its agricultural and commercial riches
 3. The arrival and triumph of Rome
 - a) The fall of Macedonia, 146 B.C.
 - b) The fall of the Seleucid kingdom, 65 B.C.
 - c) The gift of Pergamum
 - d) The fall of the Ptolemaic kingdom, 31 B.C.
- III. The Cities of Hellenistic Civilization
 - A. Alexander’s vision of the city
 - B. Pergamum
 1. The capital of the Pergamum kingdom
 2. Artistic and intellectual center
 - C. Alexandria in Egypt
 1. The capital of the Ptolemaic kingdom
 2. The largest city of the Hellenistic world
 3. An unmatched cultural center
 - a) The world’s first museum
 - b) The largest library of the ancient world
- IV. The Elaboration of the Greek Tradition: The Spread of Classicism to the Hellenistic World
 - A. Hellenistic cultural style and Classicism
 - B. Drama and literature
 1. New Comedy

- a) Definition
 - b) Menander, the leading exponent
 - (1) The comedy of manners
 - (2) *The Woman of Samos*
 - (3) His later influence
 - 2. Alexandrianism—the Hellenistic literary style
 - a) Important genres
 - b) Characteristics
 - 3. Theocritus
 - a) The pastoral
 - b) The idylls
- C. Philosophy and religion
- 1. Nature of Hellenistic society
 - a) Everyday life in the Hellenistic cities
 - b) The rise of contradictory points of view
 - 2. The four chief Hellenistic philosophies
 - a) Cynicism
 - (1) Definition
 - (2) Least impact on Hellenistic civilization
 - (3) The goal of *autarky*
 - (4) Diogenes
 - b) Skepticism
 - (1) Definition
 - (2) Later influence
 - (3) The goal of *autarky*
 - c) Epicureanism
 - (1) Definition
 - (2) Epicurus and his school
 - (3) Appeal to women and slaves
 - (4) Based on Democritus's atomism
 - (5) The goals of happiness and *ataraxia*
 - d) Stoicism
 - (1) Definition
 - (2) Key concepts
 - (3) The goal of *autarky*
 - (4) Similarity of Stoic ideals and Alexander the Great's dream
 - 3. Hellenistic religious alternatives and fatalistic beliefs
 - a) Fate, a Babylonian belief
 - (1) Astrology
 - (2) Magic
 - b) The mystery cults
 - (1) Greek chthonic religions

- (2) Egyptian cults of Serapis and Isis
- (3) Babylonian cult of Cybele, the Great Mother goddess
- (4) Persian Mithraism
- (5) Contributions to the atmosphere in which Christianity was born

D. Architecture

- 1. The defining role of religion
 - a) The altar
 - b) The temple
- 2. The Corinthian temple
 - a) Characteristics of the Corinthian column and temple
 - b) The Corinthian column as a symbol of Hellenistic influence
 - c) The Olympieum in Athens
 - (1) History
 - (2) Description
- 3. The altar
 - a) General changes to altars in the Hellenistic period
 - b) The altar of Zeus at Pergamum
 - (1) Description
 - (2) Its role in the beautification of Pergamum
 - (3) The idea of a “new” Athens

E. Sculpture

- 1. Comparison with Hellenic style
- 2. *Boy Struggling with a Goose*
 - a) Description
 - b) A genre subject
- 3. *Dying Gaul*
 - a) Why it was created
 - b) Description
 - c) Characteristics
- 4. *Old Market Woman*
 - a) Description
 - b) A genre subject
- 5. Pergamum altar frieze
 - a) Subject and description
 - b) Characteristics
 - c) Moral purpose of the art
- 6. *Aphrodite of Melos*
 - a) Subject and description
 - b) Characteristics
- 7. *Borghese Gladiator*

- a) Style and description
 - b) Characteristics
 - 8. *Horse and Jockey*
 - a) Subject and description
 - b) Characteristics
 - c) Contrast with the Hellenic style
- F. Rhodes: Late Hellenistic style
 - 1. The persistence of Rhodes as a center of Hellenistic culture, until the early Christian era
 - 2. The Rhodian style
 - a) *Melpomene, or Polyhymnia*
 - (1) Subject and description
 - (2) Characteristics
 - (3) Hellenistic representation of women
 - b) *The Laocoön Group*
 - (1) Subject and description
 - (2) Characteristics
 - (3) Later influence of this sculptural group
- V. The Legacy of the Hellenistic World