

# ARC 423 Hellenistic and Roman Architectural Culture in the Eastern Mediterranean

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What is **Hellenism**, how this idea changed the cultural interactions in the Eastern Mediterranean and how it affected architecture?

This course will investigate the concept of Hellenism and how changed the Greek culture and continued its metamorphosis into the Roman one.

Alexander the Great destroyed the monolithic vision which divided the classical world into Greeks against Barbarians, opening a new season of cultural synthesis. When Romans entered in contact with the multiplicity and hedonism of Eastern Mediterranean they became a multicultural empire, a supranational entity. New architectural types and urban spaces became typical of this area of the Mediterranean Sea and some of them where spread to the Western regions too.

During lessons, we are going to explore different architectural types and open spaces developed in this area from the V cent. BC to the III cent AD. The goal is to understand how multiculturalism, complex cultural connections, hybridity, regional traditions and supranational powers created a very rich architectural environment, from the street to the interior spaces of buildings. After the presentation of architectural types, students will choose one of these, creating graphical comparisons and tridimensional models. The class will be finalized with a common work to put in connection every single research. Most of the architectures analysed are in Turkey, it can be organized as conclusion of the class a visit of some archeological sites.

