



A Companion to Ethnicity in the Ancient Mediterranean (Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World)

By Jeremy McInerney

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A Companion to Ethnicity in the Ancient Mediterranean presents a comprehensive collection of essays contributed by Classical Studies scholars that explore questions relating to ethnicity in the ancient Mediterranean world.

- Covers topics of ethnicity in civilizations ranging from ancient Egypt and Israel, to Greece and Rome, and into Late Antiquity
- Features cutting-edge research on ethnicity relating to Philistine, Etruscan, and Phoenician identities
- Reveals the explicit relationships between ancient and modern ethnicities
- Introduces an interpretation of ethnicity as an active component of social identity
- Represents a fundamental questioning of formally accepted and fixed categories in the field

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From the Back Cover

In recent years, ethnic conflicts and “ethnic cleansing” are all-too familiar topics in the news and have focused renewed academic attention on the subject of ethnic identity. *A Companion to Ethnicity in the Ancient Mediterranean* presents a comprehensive collection of essays that explore questions relating to ethnicity and cultural identity in the societies of the ancient Mediterranean world. Featuring contributions from a wide range of Classical Studies scholars and specialists from around the world, chapters span the diverse civilizations ranging from ancient Egypt and Israel, through Greece and Rome, and into Late Antiquity. Essays explore modern theories of ethnic identity formation and reveal the timeless complexity of questions relating to ethnicity. A discussion of ethnicity by ancient and modern writers also offers a vector of interpretation vital to the understanding of many foundational cultures. Scholarly and thought-provoking, *A Companion to Ethnicity in the Ancient Mediterranean* offers extraordinary insights into the roots of ancient ethnic identity and its links to the modern world.

About the Author

Jeremy McInerney is the Davidson Kennedy Professor of Classical Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of *The Folds of Parnassos* (1999) and *The Cattle of the Sun* (2010).

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