

CLAS/ARTH 1509: Trash & Treasure, Temples & Tombs - Honors

College Professor of Distinction Beth Dusinger

Fall 2025, MW 10:00-10:50 and W 1:25-2:15

CLAS/ARTH 1509: Trash & Treasure, Temples & Tombs introduces the art and archaeology of ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, and Rome, exploring different approaches to identity, power, religion, death, and the human body. Different types of evidence offer information about different aspects of ancient societies: trash, the stuff of archaeology, shows us as much about how people really lived as monumental architecture or public art does about how they wished to portray themselves.

This class is engaged with cultural issues and sources of evidence that involve history, art history and archaeology, religion, philosophy, and ancient languages and literatures. By delving into the ancient past, Trash & Treasure offers essential approaches to addressing pressing questions of our times.

This is my favorite class!!! The Honors version of it means you will come to lecture twice a week along with everyone else, and then on Wednesday afternoons we get to meet separately in a small discussion group to dive deeply into the questions and issues the class is exploring overall. It means I get to know you as people as well as scholars, and we get to work together to reach new levels of understanding and inquiry. This is the most fun and most challenging class I get to teach, and working with Honors students in our proseminar is regularly among the most rewarding teaching and learning experiences I have at CU. It allows for robust and exciting discussion, energetic game-playing and skills acquisition, searching inquiry and development, and one-on-one advising and mentoring. I look forward to meeting you and working together in the fall!

