

Statement of participation

Randal Oulton

has completed the free course including any mandatory tests for:

Library of Alexandria

This 7-hour free course explored the wide range of factors that shape what we know about antiquity.

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www.open.edu/openlearn

This statement does not imply the award of credit points nor the conferment of a University Qualification.
This statement confirms that this free course and all mandatory tests were passed by the learner.

Please go to the course on OpenLearn for full details:

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/library-alexandria/content-section-0>

COURSE CODE: **A863_1**

Library of Alexandria

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Course summary

One of the most important questions for any student of the ancient world to address is 'how do we know what we know about antiquity?' Whether we're thinking about urban architecture, or love poetry, or modern drama, a wide range of factors shape the picture of antiquity that we have today. This free course, Library of Alexandria, encourages you to reflect upon and critically assess those factors. Interpreting an ancient text, or a piece of material culture, or understanding an historical event, is never a straightforward process of 'discovery', but is always affected by things such as translation choices, the preservation (or loss) of an archaeological record, or the agendas of scholars.

Learning outcomes

By completing this course, the learner should be able to:

- understand the ancient and modern significance of the Library of Alexandria
- critically assess the evidence in the different accounts of its destruction
- understand the ways in which different modern contexts and ideologies shape our interpretations of historical events.

Completed study

The learner has completed the following:

Section 1

Approaching the Library of Alexandria

Section 2

The universal library?

Section 3

The destruction of the library

Section 4

Reimagining the library

Section 5

Conclusion

Section 6

Readings