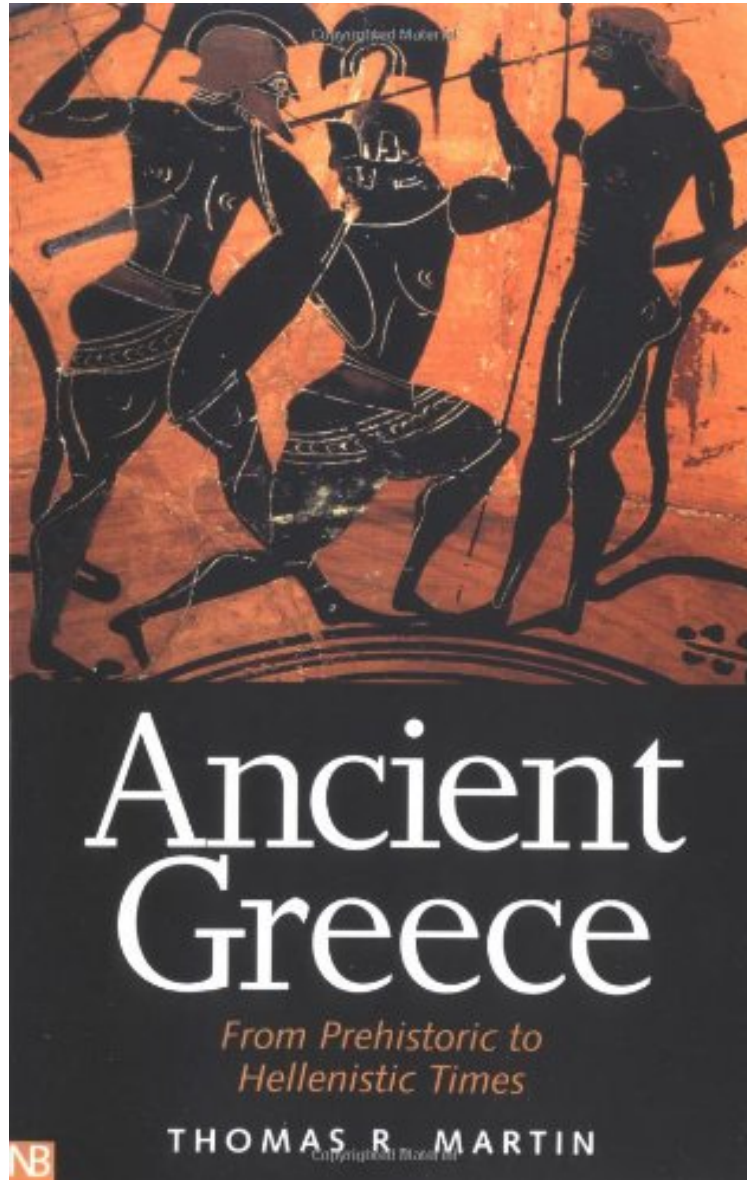


(Read download) Ancient Greece: From Prehistoric to Hellenistic Times (Yale Nota Bene)

Ancient Greece: From Prehistoric to Hellenistic Times (Yale Nota Bene)

Thomas R. Martin

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#513602 in Books 2000-08-11 Original language: English PDF # 1 .70 x 5.00 x 7.70l, .65 #File Name: 0300084935254 pages | File size: 65.Mb

Thomas R. Martin : Ancient Greece: From Prehistoric to Hellenistic Times (Yale Nota Bene) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ancient Greece: From Prehistoric to Hellenistic Times (Yale Nota Bene):

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A wonderfully informative introduction to Ancient Greek history By J. Phillips Thomas R. Martin has quietly established himself as one of my favorite historians to read. My primary interest in history is Medieval Europe, but I felt that I needed to better understand the bookends that are the Classical and Modern periods of European history to complement my studies of Medieval history. Martin's books have been an incredible help to me in quickly gaining a grasp of the history and accomplishments of Ancient Greece. In a short amount of space, Martin covers the history of Greece from paleolithic through Hellenistic times. Despite the brevity of his work, he is able to weave together a satisfying narrative that meets the needs of anyone looking for an introduction to Ancient Greek history without having to read multiple volumes. It is a great branching off point for further study of individual periods of Greek history (Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic) if one is interested. What makes Martin's work a success is his ability to organize vast amounts of information and tell history in a way that is compelling while remaining objective, honest, and free from superfluous language. I particularly enjoyed Martin's discussion of the early history of Greece from the Paleolithic through the Bronze Age (including the Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations) and into Archaic Greece. The reader is truly able to see the development of Greek civilization and establishment of key features, such as the polis (city-state), that would come to dominate the Classical period. Even if one is primarily interested in Classical Greece, Martin's account remains interesting and informative from beginning to end and I highly recommend it. For those who are interested in the time periods covered towards the end of this book, I would also recommend Martin and Christopher Blackwell's "Alexander the Great: The Story of an Ancient Life" and Michael Grant's "From Alexander to Cleopatra: The Hellenistic World." It seems Martin has also published an account of Ancient Roman history recently entitled "Ancient Rome: From Romulus to Justinian" which I look forward to reading.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An absolutely fantastic overview of ancient Greece By Howard Schulman Thomas Martin's book "Ancient Greece" is an absolutely fantastic book if you're interested in getting an overview of ancient Greece, how it started and progressed and why people are interested in studying about it. At just over 200 pages of text, Martin somehow manages to cover a huge amount of information, yet keep it extremely interesting. The only shortcoming is that in my paperback edition the pictures are all crummy black and white and grainy. Additionally, all the images are grouped together, so the images aren't there when you read the associated section in the text. I'm not sure where you are coming from, but I had just read the Odyssey and the Iliad and wanted an overview in order to understand these texts better as well as snoop around for other texts to read. Mission accomplished, Herodotus' "Histories" and then Hesiod's "Works and Days", staying clear of Thucydides because it just seems too difficult to read. Included in the text, as the book begins, is a description of the geographic characteristics of Greece and how that led to the development of individual, strong Greek city-states. Additionally, we hear about the Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations. The Hellenistic period, which occurs after Alexander the Great unified much of the old Persian Empire (and probably more) with the Greek "homeland" seems like it gets short shrift compared with the Classical or Golden eras, though you get just enough information to a) get excited about those areas and b) get leads for other areas to investigate.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love Greek history and this book was a great read By Kyah Moore Love Greek history and this book was a great read! I only needed it for school but added it to my library anyways

Using primary sources the political, military, social, cultural and religious histories of Ancient Greece are covered. There are relevant time lines, maps, plans and photographs. Particular attention is also given to the society, literature and architecture in its golden age.

From Library Journal In this survey of ancient Greek history and civilization, Martin (classics, Coll. of Holy Cross) skillfully blends social, cultural, political, and military data to create a panoramic view of the Greek world. He moves chronologically from prehistory through the end of the Hellenistic era to 30 B.C. His work serves two purposes: it acts as a companion piece to the software database Perseus: Interactive Sources and Studies on Ancient Greece (Yale Univ., 1996, rev. ed.), to which the author contributed material, and it serves as an introductory text for anyone interested in classical studies. Novices will find the work both comprehensible and entertaining. For readers interested in pursuing topics such as the philosophy of Plato or the Peloponnesian War, Martin includes an annotated section of suggested readings that is quite helpful. This abundantly illustrated work is recommended for libraries housing the Perseus program and especially for public libraries whose classical sections consist of a handful of Michael Grant titles and dog-eared copies of Edith Hamilton's *The Greek Way*.?Rose M. Cichy, Osterhout Free Lib., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Free of suffocating scholasticism, this stolid narrative is well suited for a small library needing an overview of ancient Greece. Naturally, Martin writes most about the more fully researched periods, the fifth and fourth centuries B.C., encompassing the Persian Wars, the Peloponnesian War, and the subsequent Macedonian conquest of an enervated Greek civilization. But he starts with the earliest habitation of Hellas, as well as archaeology can discern it through Stone Age remnants. Cautiously noting how problematic interpreting fragmentary evidence can be, for example in inferring social structure, Martin proceeds to describe the earliest widespread Greek cultures, the Minoan and Mycenaean. Emerging from the dark time into

which they collapsed was the famous Homeric Age, when the two epic poems were put into writing. A summary of them, and of the other principal literary works of Greece, and the political developments Martin steadily recounts: Athenian democracy is capably introduced to new readers. Photographs and maps enhance this solid first lesson about the ancients. Gilbert Taylor

From Kirkus sA limpidly written, highly accessible, and comprehensive history of Greece and its civilizations from prehistory through the collapse of Alexander the Great's empire. In brisk fashion, Martin (Classics/Holy Cross Coll.) narrates the highlights of what little is known about the Stone Age in Greece, the prehistoric Minoan civilization on the island of Crete, the rise of Mycenaean culture, and the Dark Age that looms as a lacuna between approximately 1200 b.c., when Mycenae mysteriously collapsed, and about 750 b.c., when Greece's Archaic Age began. In the Archaic Age, Martin relates, the foundations of life during the classical period were laid: the institution of slavery, which spurred the growth of a leisure class; the emergence of city-states; the establishment of laws; and the development of various types of polity all contributed to both the creative culture and the political tensions that characterized Greece during later eras. Although broadly discussing political, military, and social history, Martin emphasizes the cultural achievements of Athenian civilization during the Golden Age and the impact of the horrendous 27-year Peloponnesian War, which sapped the military strength of Athens and effectively finished the city as a power. Martin also traces the rise of the mercurial Alexander the Great and the rapid creation of his magnificent, far-flung, and ephemeral empire and its disintegration after Alexander's death in 323 b.c. into numerous kingdoms, culturally diverse but all with a Hellenistic flavor. This concise but wide-ranging narrative takes us up to the death of Cleopatra VII, the last Hellenistic monarch of Egypt, in 30 b.c., and the emergence of Rome as the dominant Mediterranean power. A highly readable account of ancient Greece, particularly useful as an introductory or review text for the student or the general reader. -- Copyright 1996, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.