



## Course details

### Course title

History: The Queens of Ancient Egypt

### Course code

Q00017588

### Course date

Start: 26/02/25

End: 26/03/25

### Number of classes

5 sessions

### Timetable

Wed 26th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Wed 5th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Wed 12th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Wed 19th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Wed 26th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

### Branch

Wokingham and District

### Tutor

John Billman

### Fee range

Free to £50.00

### How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!  
In venue

## **Venue**

Woodley Hill House (Reading)  
Woodley Hill House  
45 Eastcourt Avenue  
Reading  
RG6 1HH

## **Level of study**

Beginners

## **Course overview**

Ancient Egypt demonstrates how even in a male-dominated society women did on occasion rise to the highest position in the land. In this course we will explore the women who not only held great influence but, on some occasions, effectively ruled Egypt. From the famous female pharaoh Hatshepsut to Cleopatra VII over a millennium later, we consider how these women came to power and served as some of the most prominent female figures of antiquity.

## **Course description**

This course focuses across the entire span of ancient Egypt from its unification c3100 BCE to Cleopatra VII at 30 BCE. In a way suitable for both beginners to the subject and those with some knowledge of the topic, we will trace chronologically prominent women, especially those exercising royal power. The centre of course will be the exceptional female Pharaoh Hatshepsut. Hatshepsut progressed from royal wife to regent to a role where she was ruling the country as a female and then male pharaoh. We consider how she achieved this remarkable feat, how she justified, how her representations changed to a male pharaoh and why. We study the exceptional mortuary temple she builds in modern-day Luxor and consider changes made to its reliefs after her death. We conclude with perhaps the most famous female Egyptian of all time Cleopatra VII. By this time Egypt is intertwined with Rome, Cleopatra's tactics to retain control of Egypt are legendary, we look at the primary evidence for the story behind the films and review a series of images of Cleopatra to challenge the Hollywood depiction.

## **What financial support is available?**

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

## What other support is available?

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

**Source URL:** <https://www.wea.org.uk/courses/humanities-science/history/26-february-history-queens-ancient-egypt>