Ancient Greece was a northeastern Mediterranean civilization from the 12th–9th centuries BC to around 600 AD.

The Kingdom of Macedon unified most Greek regions from 338 to 323 BC.

Classical antiquity in the Mediterranean region began in the 8th century BC and ended in the 6th century AD.

Greek urban poleis began to form in the 8th century BC, marking the start of the Archaic period.

The age of Classical Greece included significant events such as the Greco-Persian Wars and the Peloponnesian War.

The Golden Age of Athens occurred during the Classical Period, characterized by cultural and political achievements.

The Hellenistic Period ended in 30 BC with the annexation of Ptolemaic Egypt by the Roman Republic.

Classical Greek culture, especially in philosophy, greatly influenced ancient Rome and Western civilization.

The Classical Period is recognized for its exemplary architectural styles, such as the Parthenon of Athens.

The Classical Period was politically dominated by Athens and the Delian League in the 5th century BC.

The Hellenistic Period saw the expansion of Greek culture into the Near and Middle East.

Roman Greece began after the Roman victory over the Corinthians at the Battle of Corinth in 146 BC.

Late Antiquity was marked by the Christianization of the region during the later 4th to early 6th centuries AD.

Ancient Greece is the first period in world history with comprehensive narrative historiography.

Herodotus is known as the "father of history" for his work "Histories," written between the 450s and 420s BC.

Herodotus discussed historical figures like Darius I of Persia and Cambyses II, reaching about a century into the past.

The accuracy of Herodotus' works is debated among historians.

Notable historians following Herodotus include Thucydides, Xenophon, and Plato, most of whom were pro-Athenian.

Athenian historians focused primarily on political, military, and diplomatic history, often neglecting economic and social aspects.

The Archaic period saw the polis (city-state) become the most important political unit in Greece.

The absence of powerful states after the Mycenaean collapse led to the development of small independent city-states.

Tyrants rose to power in several Greek states during the Archaic period, notably at Corinth from 657 BC.

Greek colonies were established around the Mediterranean, with Euboean settlements beginning as early as 800 BC.

The period marked increased contact with non-Greek peoples, inspiring developments in art, architecture, coinage, and the Greek alphabet.

Athens developed its democratic system over the Archaic period, with citizen men attending assemblies by the seventh century.

Draco established a code of laws in Athens in 621 BC, followed by Solon’s reforms in 594 BC to balance power between the rich and poor.

Pisistratus established tyranny in Athens in the mid-sixth century, succeeded by his son Hippias.

Spartan governance included two kings, a council of elders, and five ephors, traditionally attributed to lawgiver Lycurgus.

Sparta subjugated Messenia during the first and second Messenian wars, enslaving the population.

The Ionian city-states rebelled against Persian rule in 499 BC, with support from Athens and Eretria.

The Athenians defeated the Persians at the Battle of Marathon in 490 BC, despite being heavily outnumbered.

A coalition of Greek city-states resisted a second Persian invasion led by Xerxes in 480 BC.

The Battle of Thermopylae featured a small force of Greeks holding off the Persians for several days.

The Persian navy was decisively defeated by the Athenian fleet at the Battle of Salamis in 480 BC.

The Delian League transformed from a defensive alliance into an Athenian empire under the growing naval power of Athens.

Conflict grew between Athens and Sparta after the Persian threat waned, leading to the Peloponnesian War in 431 BC.

The Peloponnesian War included a series of invasions of Attica by Sparta and Athenian victories over Corinth.

Athens suffered a major defeat in Sicily in 415 BC, significantly weakening its position in the war.

The Spartan navy, led by Lysander, defeated Athens at the Battle of Aegospotami in 405 BC, leading to Athens’ surrender.

Following the war, Sparta installed an oligarchic regime, the Thirty Tyrants, in Athens.

The power vacuum in Greece after the Peloponnesian War led to the rise of Macedon under Philip II.

Philip II formed the League of Corinth after defeating a Greek alliance at the Battle of Chaeronea in 338 BC.

Alexander the Great began his campaign against Persia in 334 BC and proclaimed himself king of Asia after defeating Darius III.

Alexander led expeditions to Bactria and India, but plans to invade Arabia were halted by his death in 323 BC.