

**Prehistory in the Mediterranean**

Code: 100739  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500241 Archaeology	OB	2	2

**Contact**

Name: Roberto Risch  
Email: robert.risch@uab.cat

**Use of Languages**

Principal working language: spanish (spa)  
Some groups entirely in English: No  
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No  
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

**Teachers**

Roberto Risch  
Eni Soriano Llopis

**Prerequisites**

The course "Prehistoric Archaeology" (100740) devoted to Neolithic societies and the origin of the State, or its equivalent in other universities, should have been passed.

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

Understanding of the main social, economic and political changes of Later Prehistory in the Near East and the Mediterranean. Key aspects to be considered are the economic and social impact of metallurgy, the "secondary products revolution" (mainly the introduction of wheel, plough and horse riding), the "Jamnaja migration", the beginning of organised warfare, and the importance of "cooperative affluent societies" in history.

This course is conceived as the continuation and extension of the first year course "Prehistoric Archaeology" (100740)

**Competences**

- Contextualizing and analysing historical processes.
- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethic relevant issues.

- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Applying both knowledge and analytical skills to the resolution of problems related to their area of study.
2. Autonomously searching, selecting and processing information both from structured sources (databases, bibliographies, specialized magazines) and from across the network.
3. Identifying main and supporting ideas and expressing them with linguistic correctness.
4. Identifying the characteristic methods of Archaeology and its relationship with the historical analysis.
5. Identifying the context of the historical processes.
6. Identifying the specific methods of History and its relationship with the analysis of particular facts.
7. Mastering the Universal Ancient History.
8. Mastering the diachronic structure of the past.
9. Mastering the processes of change produced in Prehistory.
10. Recognising the importance of controlling the quality of the work's results and its presentation.
11. Using specialized knowledge acquired in an interdisciplinary context when debating.

## Content

TOPIC 1: Understanding pre-capitalist societies: evolutionist typologies and new alternative approaches.

TOPIC 2: Varna and the first metallurgical societies in Eastern Europe (5th millennium BCE).

TOPIC 3: The development of metallurgy: technology, origin(s) and transfer.

TOPIC 4: Economic intensification and social re-structuring during the 4th millennium BCE: the wheel, the plough and the derived products.

TOPIC 5: The emergence of individualised power and violence in the Caucasus and the Circumpontic region during the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium: Maikop and the northern peripheries of Uruk.

TOPIC 6: New forms of power and social relations at the time of the "Ice Man": the circumalpine region ca. 3300-2500 BCE.

TOPIC 7: The society of the Cyclades during the 3rd millennium BCE: Production of wealth through exchange.

TOPIC 8: The Copper Age of the Iberian Peninsula (ca. 3100-2200 BCE).

TOPIC 9: The Corded Ware Group and the "Bell-Beaker Phenomenon" I (ca. 2750-2200 BCE): Materials, settlements, burials rites and ancient DNA.

TOPIC 10: The "Bell-Beaker Phenomenon" II (ca. 2750-2200 BCE): Social elites, sex/gender system and interpretation.

TOPIC 11: The Northeast of the Iberian Peninsula during the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium: Evolution, involution and social organization.

TOPIC 12: The Early Bronze Age of the Iberian Peninsula (2200-1550 BCE)

TOPIC 13: Rise and decline of the first Aegean State: the Minoan society.

TOPIC 14: Africa and the Mediterranean during Later Prehistory: Independent or sheared trajectories?

## Methodology

- a. Lectures on teoretical issues, assited by TIC and debates.
- b. Seminars devoted to the discussion on epistemology in archaeology, historical notions and interpretative models.
- c. Study and discussion of archaeological information and publications.
- d. Acomplishment of specific exercises.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Debates, elaboration of a chronological table, etc.	30	1.2	1, 2, 11, 9, 8, 5, 4, 3, 10
Type: Supervised			
Supervised execises	20	0.8	1, 2, 5, 4, 10
Type: Autonomous			
Completion of a joint research project on a topic of the syllabus	65	2.6	2, 11, 9, 8, 3

## Assessment

### ASSESSMENT:

The subject will be assessed based on the following exercises:

- a. Active participation in the theoretical classes and seminars (5%)
- b. Completion of a chronological diagram (max. DIN-A3) in which a summary of the substantial contents of the subject is reflected (5%)
- c. Completion of an individual essay on a specific topic emerging in class (15% of the exam)
- d. Completion of a joint research project on a topic of the syllabus (40%)
- e. Final written or spoken test (50%). It is indispensable to pass the exam in order to pass the subject

The reassessment implies the submission or revision of all scheduled assignments (points c. and d.), as well as the completion of an additional test. In the event that tests or exams cannot be taken onsite, they will be adapted to an online format made available through the UAB's virtual tools (original weighting will be maintained). Homework, activities and class participation will be carried out through forums, wikis and/or discussion on Teams, etc. Lecturers will ensure that students are able to access these virtual tools, or will offer them feasible alternatives.

At the time of completion/delivery of each assessment activity, the teacher will inform (Moodle, SIA) of the procedure and date of revision of the grades.

Note: In the event of a student committing any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade awarded to an assessment activity, the student will be given a zero for this activity, regardless of any disciplinary process that may take place. In the event of several irregularities in assessment activities of the same subject, the student will be given a zero as the final grade for this subject.

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Diagrama cronològic	5	10	0.4	1, 11, 9, 5, 4, 6, 3, 10
Exams	50	10	0.4	1, 2, 11, 9, 8, 7, 5, 4, 6, 3, 10
Practical exercises	40	5	0.2	2, 9, 8
Presentations and active participation in class	5	10	0.4	1, 2, 11, 9, 7, 3

## Bibliography

### BASIC REFERENCES

#### TOPIC 1

CASTRO, P.V., GILI, S., LULL, V., MICÓ, R., RIHUETE, C., RISCH, R. & SANAHUJA YLL, M<sup>a</sup>.E. (1998), "Teoría de la producción de la vida social. Mecanismos de explotación en el Sudeste Ibérico", *Boletín de Antropología Americana* 33, pp. 25-77.

KARATANI, K. (2014), *The structure of World History - From modes of production to modes of exchange*. Duke Univ. Press, Durham.

RISCH, R. (2016), "How did wealth turn into surplus profit? From affluence to »scarcity« in prehistoric economies" en H. MELLER, H. P. HAHN, R. JUNG & R. RISCH (eds), *Rich and Poor - Competing for resources in prehistoric societies*. Tagungen des Landesmuseums für Vorgeschichte Halle 14, Halle, 34-48.

#### TOPIC 2

CHAPMAN, J., HIGHAM, T., SLAVCHEV, V., GAYDARSKA, B. & HONCH, N. (2006), "The Social Context of the Emergence, Development and Abandonment of the Varna Cemetery, Bulgaria", *European Journal of Archaeology*, 9, pp. 159-183.

KRAUß, R., ZÄUNER, S. & PERNICKA, E. (2014), "Statistical and anthropological analysis of the Varna necropolis", en H. MELLER, R. RISCH & E. PERNICKA (ed.), *Metalle der Macht - Frühes Gold und Silber. Metals of Power - Early Gold and Silver*. Landesmuseums für Vorgeschichte 11, Halle, pp. 371-187.

MANOLAKAKIS L. (2007), "Varna et le Chalcolithique de Bulgarie", en J. GUILAINE (ed.), *Le Chalcolithique et la construction des inégalités. t. 1, Le continent européen*. Séminaires du Collège de France, Paris, Edition Errance, pp. 25-46.

#### TOPIC 3

MOHEN, J. P. (1992), *Metalurgia prehistórica. Introducción a la paleometalurgia*. Masson, Barcelona.

RADIOJEVIĆ, M., REHREN, Th., PERNICKA, E., ŠLJIVAR, D., BRAUNS, M. & BORIĆ, D. (2010), "On the origins of extractive metallurgy: new evidence from Europe", *Journal of Archaeological Science*, 37, pp. 2775-2787

ROBERTS, B. W., THORNTON, Ch. P. & PIGOTT, V. C. (2009), "Developments of metallurgy in Eurasia", *Antiquity*, 83.322, pp. 1012-1022

#### TOPIC 4

GREENFIELD, H. (2010), "The Secondary Products Revolution: the past, the present and the future", *World Archaeology*, 42 (1), pp. 29-54.

SHERRATT, A. (1981), "Plough and pastoralism: aspects of the secondary products revolution", en HODDER, I., ISAAC, G. & HAMMOND, N. (ed.), *Patterns of the Past*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, pp. 261-306.

SHERRATT, A. (1983), "The Secondary Exploitation of Animals in the Old World", *World Archaeology*, 15 (1), pp. 90-104.

#### TOPIC 5

HANSEN, S. (2013), "The Birth of the hero - The emergence of a social type in the 4th millennium BC" en: E. STARNINI (ed.), *Unconformist Archaeology. Papers in honour of Paolo Biagi*, Oxford, pp. 101-112.

Arslantepe: <http://w3.uniroma1.it/arslantepe/index.php/en/home> 2

#### TOPIC 6

BARFIELD, L. (1986), "Neolithic burial in Northern Italy- problems of social interpretation", *Dialoghi di Archeologia*, 2, pp. 241-248.

SPINDLER, K. (1995), *El hombre de los hielos: el hallazgo que revela los secretos de la edad de piedra*. Círculo de Lectores, Barcelona.

DOLFINI, A. (2013), "The Emergence of Metallurgy in the Central Mediterranean Region: A New Model", *European Journal of Archaeology* 16 (1) 2013, pp. 21-62.

#### TOPIC 7.

STAMPOLIDIS, N. & SOTIRAKOPOULOU, P. (2007), *Aegean Waves*. Museum of Cycladic Art, Milano.

#### TOPIC 8.

CHAPMAN, R. (2017), *Arqueologías de la complejidad*. Bellaterra Arqueología. Barcelona (cap. 5).

DÍAZ DEL RÍO, P. (2004), Copper Age ditched enclosures in Central Iberia, in *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 23, pp. 107-121.

GARCÍA SANJUÁN, L., VARGAS JIMÉNEZ, J.M., HURTADO PÉREZ, V., CRUZ-AUÑÓN BRIONES, R., RUIZ MORENO, T. (eds.) (2013), *El asentamiento prehistórico de Valencina de la Concepción (Sevilla) investigación y tutela en el 150 aniversario del Descubrimiento de La Pastora*. Sevilla : Secretariado de Publicaciones, Universidad de Sevilla.

RISCH, R. 2017, "Archaeological limits or missed opportunities? The monumental settlement structures of LateNeolithic and Chalcolithic Iberia" in Cupitó, M., Vidale, M. & Angelini A. (eds.) *Beyond Limits. Studi in onore di Giovanni Leonardi*. Padova: UP Padova, 205-216.

VALERA, A. C. 2013a "Recintos defossos da Pré-História Recente em Portugal. Investigação, discursos, salvaguarda e divulgação", *Almadan, Segunda Série*, 18, Almada, Centro Arqueológico de Almada, 93-110.

#### TOPIC 9.

HAAK, W. BRANDT, B., DE JONGH, H., MEYER, CH., GANSLMEIER, R., HEYD, V., HAWKESWORTH, CH., PIKEB, A., MELLER, H. y ALT, K. (2008), "Ancient DNA, Strontium isotopes, and osteological analyses shed light on social and kinship organization of the Later Stone Age", *PNAS* 105, 47.

HAAK, W. et al. (2015), "Massive migration from the steppe was a source for Indo-European languages in Europe", *Nature* 522, pp. 207-211.

DELIBES, G. & GUERRA, E. (ed) (2019), *¡Un brindis por el príncipe! El vaso campaniforme en el interior de la Península Ibérica (2500-2000 A.C.)*, vol. 2. Museo Arqueológico Regional, Comunidad de Madrid, Madrid.

OLALDE, I. et al. (2018), "The Beaker phenomenon and the genomic transformation of northwest Europe", *Nature*, 555, pp. 190-196.

#### TOPIC 10

TUREK, J. (2016), "Sex, Transsexuality and Archaeological Perception of Gender Identities", *Archaeologies: Journal of the World Archaeological Congress*, 12 (3), pp. 340-358.

VANDER LINDEN, M. (2006), *Le phénomène campaniforme dans l'Europe du 3<sup>e</sup>ème millénaire avant notre ère. Synthèse et nouvelles perspectives*. BAR International Series 1470, Oxford

#### TOPIC 11.

MARTÍN, A. (2003), "Els grups del neolític final, calcolític i bronze antic. Els inicis de la metal·lúrgia", *Cota Zero*, 18, pp. 76-105.

SORIANO, I. (2016), "Les pràctiques funeràries durant el calcolític i el bronze antic i mitjà", en *La fi és el principi. Pràctiques funeràries a la Catalunya prehistòrica*, Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya, Arqueoxarxa, pp. 79-101.

#### TOPIC 12:

Pedro Michó, M. J de; Ripollés Adelantado, E.; Fortea i Cervera, L. (coord.) 2015. Viure vora el Túria fa 4000 anys. La Loma del Betxi. Museu de Prehistòria de València, Diputació de València, València.

Ruiz Taboada, A. 1998. La Edad del Bronce en la Provincia de Toledo: La Mancha y su entorno. Instituto Provincial de Investigaciones y Estudios Toledanos, Toledo.

Gusi, F. y Olària, C. 2014. Un asentamiento fortificado del Bronce Medio y Bronce Final en el litoral mediterráneo: Orpesa La Vella (Orpesa del Mar, Castellón, España). Servei d'Investigacions Arqueològiques i Prehistòriques, Diputació de Castelló, Castellón.

Pavón Sodevilla, I. 1998. El tránsito del II al I milenio A.C. en las cuecas medias de los ríos Tajo y Guadiana: La Edad del Bronce. Universidad de Extremadura, Cáceres.

García García, M. 2016. La edad de los metales en el Duero Medio. La evolución del paisaje y de las sociedades. Universidad de Valladolid, Valladolid.

Rodríguez Marcos, J.A. 2007. Estudio secuencial de la edad del bronce en la ribera del Duero (provincia de Valladolid). Junta de Castilla y León, Valladolid.

#### TOPIC 13:

CHERRY, J. F. (1984), "The Emergence of the State in the Prehistoric Aegean", *Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society*, 30, pp. 18-48.

SCHOEP, I. (2010) "The Minoan 'Palace-Temple' Reconsidered: A Critical Assessment of the Spatial Concentration of Political, Religious and Economic Power in Bronze Age Crete", *JMA* 23.2, 219-244.

RISCH, R. & MELLER, H. (2015), "Change and Continuity in Europe and the Mediterranean around 1600 BC", *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, 81, 239-264.

#### TOPIC 14:

DIAMOND, J. (2007), *Armas, gérmenes y acero: breve historia de la humanidad en los últimos trece mil años*, DeBolsillo, Barcelona (cap. 5-10).

RISCH, R. (2007), "La Prehistoria Reciente entre el Sahara y el Sudán", *Revista de Arqueología*, 315, pp. 14-23.

#### **ON LINE RESOURCES**

- Campus Virtual

- *Prehistoria Activa*

[http://seneca.uab.es/prehistoria/PREHISTORIA ACTIVA 3](http://seneca.uab.es/prehistoria/PREHISTORIA%20ACTIVA%203)

#### **Software**

#### SYLLABUS

TOPIC 1: Understanding pre-capitalist societies: evolutionist typologies and new alternative approaches.

TOPIC 2: Varna and the first metallurgical societies in Eastern Europe (5th millennium BCE).

TOPIC 3: The development of metallurgy: technology, origin(s) and transfer.

TOPIC 4: Economic intensification and social re-structuring during the 4th millennium BCE: the wheel, the plough and the derived products.

TOPIC 5: The emergence of individualised power and violence in the Caucasus and the Circumpontic region during the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium: Maikop and the northern peripheries of Uruk.

TOPIC 6: New forms of power and social relations at the time of the "Ice Man": the circumalpine region ca. 3300-2500 BCE.

TOPIC 7: The society of the Cyclades during the 3rd millennium BCE: Production of wealth through exchange.

TOPIC 8: The Copper Age of the Iberian Peninsula (ca. 3100-2200 BCE).

TOPIC 9: The Corded Ware Group and the "Bell-Beaker Phenomenon" I (ca. 2750-2200 BCE): Materials, settlements, burials rites and ancient DNA.

TOPIC 10: The "Bell-Beaker Phenomenon" II (ca. 2750-2200 BCE): Social elites, sex/gendersystem and interpretation.

TOPIC 11: The Northeast of the Iberian Peninsula during the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium: Evolution, involution and social organization.

TOPIC 12: The Early Bronze Age of the Iberian Peninsula (2200-1550 BCE)

TOPIC 13: Rise and decline of the first Aegean State: the Minoan society.

TOPIC 14: Africa and the Mediterranean during Later Prehistory: Independent or sheared trajectories?