

Indo-european Languages and Peoples

Code: 104216
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Ancient Studies	OB	2

Contact

Name: Agustín Alemany Vilamajo
Email: agusti.alemany@uab.cat

Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

This is an introductory course to Indo-European Linguistics, which is why it is not required a specific previous training to follow it beyond a basic-intermediate knowledge of the grammatical structure of Greek and Latin. However, students are recommended to revise their previous knowledge of both phonology and morphology as well as geography and history of Europe and Asia. It is convenient, but not indispensable, that students have a level of English and French that allows them to access bibliography in these languages.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This course is a basic introduction to Indo-European Linguistics, which will also allow access to the second cycle optional subject "The Origins of Classical Languages", of the same degree. Its purpose is to provide the student with a basic knowledge of the history and culture of the main Indo-European peoples, as well as to offer a general introduction to Greek and Latin phonology and morphology from a comparative point of view.

Competences

- Be able to express oneself orally and in writing in the specific language of history, archaeology and philology, both in one's own languages and a third language.
- Interrelate linguistic, historical and archaeological knowledge of the ancient world with knowledge of other areas of the humanities, mainly ancient literature, philosophy and art.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Understand and interpret the evolution of ancient societies in the Mediterranean from Egyptian civilisation to the disbanding of Western imperial Rome through analysis of the political, historical, social, economic and linguistic factors.

Learning Outcomes

1. Autonomously searching, selecting and processing information both from structured sources (databases, bibliographies, specialized magazines) and from across the network.
2. Compare linguistic features of Greek and Latin to draw conclusions about their common origins.

3. Describe the main historical and social features of the Egyptian, Sumerian, Acadian, Persian and Mycenaean cultures.
4. Preparing an oral and written discourse in the corresponding language in a proper and organized way.
5. Relate Mycenaean history and civilisation to the Greek literary, cultural and historical developments that emerge from it.
6. Submitting works in accordance with both individual and small group demands and personal styles.

Content

The contents of this subject include, on the one hand, a historical presentation of the different Indo-European languages and peoples, and, on the other, an introduction to the historical phonology and morphology of Greek and Latin from a comparative perspective with special attention to the parallel results in Sanskrit and Gothic. Practical exercises will be carried out in order to favor the understanding of this second part. The issues that will be addressed are these, although not necessarily in the order in which they are presented here:

Block I: Indo-European languages and peoples

- ◆ 1. Brief history and justification of Indo-European linguistics
- ◆ 2. Anatolic languages † (17th-3rd c. B.C.)
- ◆ 3. Greek (15th c. BC-)
- ◆ 4. Indo-Aryan languages (10th c. BC-)
- ◆ 5. Iranian languages (9th c. BC-)
- ◆ 6. Italic languages (7th c. BC-)
- ◆ 7. Celtic languages (4th c. BC-)
- ◆ 8. Germanic languages (2nd c. BC-)
- ◆ 9. Armenian (5th c. AD-)
- ◆ 10. Tocharian † (5th-9th c. AD-)
- ◆ 11. Slavic languages (8th c. AD-)
- ◆ 12. Baltic languages (14th c. AD-)
- ◆ 13. Albanian (15th c. AD-)

Block II: Introduction to Indo-European Linguistics

- ◆ 14. General characterization of Indo-European
- ◆ 15. The phonological system
- ◆ 16. The nominal system
- ◆ 17. The pronominal system
- ◆ 18. The verbal system

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Development of the subject contents	36	1.44	4
Oral and written exercises	15	0.6	1, 2, 6
Type: Supervised			
Tutoring in small groups	4.5	0.18	2
Type: Autonomous			
Performing exercises	35	1.4	2, 6
Reading of bibliography	35	1.4	1

The teaching methodology of this subject will alternate the theoretical exposition of each of the aforementioned units with the realization of a series of practical exercises designed to help students to familiarize themselves with the basics of comparative grammar. The division in two blocks is not groundless, since it will allow to plan the teaching of contents in alternate classes and thus to deal with the topics related both to Indo-European peoples and cultures and Linguistics (base of the exercises to be carried out) simultaneously every week. At the beginning of the course, a small dossier will be provided with a series of basic tables illustrating the evolution of the Indo-European phonological and morphological system in Sanskrit, Greek, Latin and Gothic. Other complementary languages may be added, such as Old Church Slavic, for example.

The work will consist [1] in the translation of an entry in the dictionary of Buck 1949 and an etymological and bibliographic research related to it or [2] an etymological exercise based on the student's name and surnames or [3] a series of activities on languages, cultures and writing systems of the Indo-European peoples (to be determined).

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.

Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Attending class and participation	10%	0	0	2, 4, 6
Small research work	15%	20	0.8	1, 2, 6
1st partial exam (practice)	25%	1.5	0.06	2, 4, 6
2nd partial exam (theory & practice)	50%	3	0.12	2, 3, 4, 6, 5

The evaluation of this course will take as a reference point the evaluation activities specified in the attached table. It is important for the student to take into account that the assessment also includes a regular class attendance as well as the resolution of proposed exercises (10%) and the presentation of a small research work (15%). The first partial exam (25%) will be practical in nature and will consist in the resolution of a reconstruction exercise, while the second partial exam (50%) will have two parts, a theoretical one on history and

culture of Indo-European-speaking peoples (25%) and a practical one similar to the first partial exam (25%). A student having presented two evaluation activities will not be able to avoid final evaluation nor to obtain a final qualification of "Not Evaluable". In the Final Reassessment, the student can overcome the grade corresponding to the second partial exam (50%).

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.

If the student chooses a single assessment, he must pass a practical final exam (40%) and a theoretical one (40%), handing in a research paper (20%) agreed with the professor at the beginning of the year on the day of examination.

Erasmus students who request to advance an exam must submit to the teacher a written document from their home university that justifies their application.

This subject/module does not incorporate unique assessment

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.

NOT ASSESSED

Students will obtain a Not assessed/Not submitted course grade unless they have submitted more than 30% of the assessment items.

AI

This subject allows the use of AI technologies exclusively for support tasks such as explicitly required exercises by the teachers.

The student must clearly (i) identify which parts have been generated using AI technology; (ii) specify the tools used; and (iii) include a critical reflection on how these have influenced the process and final outcome of the activity.

Lack of transparency regarding the use of AI in the assessed activity will be considered academic dishonesty; the corresponding grade may be lowered, or the work may even be awarded a zero. In cases of greater infringement, more serious action may be taken.

Bibliography

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Software

PDF, Power Point

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed