Prehistory II: from the First Rural Societies to State Societies

Code: 106845
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Archaeology	FB	1

Contact

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Teachers

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the end of this
document.

Prerequisites

There is not any prerequisite

Objectives and Contextualisation

The subject has as a main objective expose the social developments between the first Neolithic societies and
the emergence of the classical States. Go in these developments, highlight the origins of the patriarchal
relations, of the sedentary and urban life, of the first social classes, and the institutionalization of the political
power and of the shapes of violence.
The territorial field centres in Asia, Africa and Europe, although they will do punctual references to other
regions of the planet.
The contents include empirical descriptions and relative syntheses to the concrete social dynamics and, at the
same time, they expose the methodological and inferencials bases in which support the current state of the
knowledges in prehistoric archaeology. In this second aspect will result fundamental the practical activities
programmed.

Learning Outcomes

1. CM01 (Competence) Understand problems in the study of prehistory and protohistory associated to the
   need to avoid androcentric perspectives and sex or gender inequalities.

2. KM01 (Knowledge) Identify the most characteristic material remains of prehistoric and protohistoric societies.
3. KM02 (Knowledge) Recognise the main historical processes experienced by human societies in prehistory and protohistory and the factors that influenced them.
4. KM03 (Knowledge) Contextualise historical processes from the prehistoric and protohistoric archaeological record in an introductory manner.
5. SM01 (Skill) Synthetically explain the periods of prehistory and protohistory, both empirically and interpretively.
6. SM02 (Skill) Identify the main archaeological materials in the prehistoric and protohistoric time-frame.
7. SM03 (Skill) Effectively express oneself by applying the typical procedures used to present arguments in formal discourse when producing written work or making oral presentations on introductory aspects of prehistory and protohistory.

Content

PART 1. INTRODUCTION ON THEORY AND METHODS.

THEME 1: Prehistoric Archaeology: object of study and structure of the research.

PART 2. DEVELOPMENT OF FIRST FARMER SOCIETIES

THEME 2: economic and social Implications of the agriculture and the cattle (the "Neolithic Revolution").

THEME 3: The economic and social consequences of the starts of the agriculture in the Near East.

THEME 4: The first farming communities in Europe.

THEME 5: Megalitism in Europe.

PART 3. BETWEEN THE IIIrd AND THE Ist MILLENNIA B. C.

THEME 6: The formation of the First States (the "Urban Revolution").

THEME 7: Increasing Social Dissymmetries in Western Europe.

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Theoretical classes	40	1.6	
Type: Supervised			
Clasroom practices	20	0.8	
Field practices	15	0.6	
Type: Autonomous			
Autonomous work	42	1.68	

Methodology

1. Expositive lectures about the contents billed in the programme. Frequently they will pose subjects of discussion in the classroom.
2. Practical activities related to the course content.
3. A practical field activity:
3.1. Visit to one or several archaeological sites of the recent Prehistory of Catalonia and realization of a practical exercise around a series of questions posed by the teaching staff.
Within this chapter of external activities to the Campus, it contemplates the possibility to realize visits to exhibitions, museums, ... that treat aspects notable related with the contents of the course

Students will have access to specific documentation on security in activities carried out outside the UAB campus that they will be able to connect and accept.

This subject allows the use of AI technologies exclusively for support tasks such as (bibliographic searches, text correction or translations). Other specific situations may be contemplated, as deemed appropriate by the teacher.
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.

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.

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Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Classroom practices	40	15	0.6	CM01
Field practices	10	15	0.6	KM01, KM02, KM03
Final examination	50	3	0.12	SM01, SM02, SM03

1. Practical activities of classroom (40% of the final note).
2. One practical field activiti (10% of the final note).
3. Written test (50% of the finalnote).

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.

The student will be classified as Non-evaluable when he has not delivered more than 30% of the evaluation activities.

Written tests: if in any of the written tests a grade equal to or less than 3 is obtained that part of the subject will have to be revaluated, regardless of whether the average of all the grades obtained that are taken into account for the final grade of the course is 5 or higher.

Attendance at practical classes and practical activities, as well as the delivery of the corresponding practices and papers, is required.

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.

Reevaluation: Test written or critical comment of an extensive work related with the course.

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.

<u>Unique assessment</u>

The student willbe able to ask for the single assessment in this subject.

The single assessment activities will be:

1. Two practical classroom activities (50% of the final grade).
2. A written test (50% of the final mark).

Bibliography

General readinga

BOGUCKI, Peter I. & Pam J. Crabtree (eds.) (2004), *Ancient Europe 8000 BC - AD 1000: Enciclopedia of the Barbarian World*. Charles Scribner's Sons, Nueva York.

CHILDE, Vere G. (1984), *Los orígenes de la civilización*. Fondo de Cultura Económica, México

CUNLIFFE, Barry (ed.) (1998), *Prehistoria de Europa Oxford*. Crítica, Barcelona.

FOWLER, Chris, Jan Harding & Daniela Hofmann (Eds.) (2015): *The Oxford Handbook of Neolithic Europe*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

GRAEBER, David, & David Wengrow (2021), *El amanecer de todo: Una nueva historia de la humanidad,* Ariel, Barcelona.

KRISTIANSEN, Kristian (2001), *Europa antes de la Historia*. Península, Barcelona.

REDMAN, Charlles (1990), *Los orígenes de la civilización. Desde los primeros agricultores hasta la Sociedad urbana en el Próximo Oriente*. Crítica, Barcelona.

RENFREW, Colin 6 BAHN, Paul (1993), *Arqueología. Teorías, Métodos y Práctica*. Akal, Madrid.

RENFREW, Colin & BAHN, Paul (eds.) (2014), *The Cambridge World Prehistory.* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

SERVICE, Elman (1984), *Los Orígenes del Estado y de la Civilización*, Alianza, Madrid.

(The list of titles will be able to expand in treating concrete aspects)

Software

Word Processor, Presentation Program, PDF Reader, Internet Browser.

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
(PAUL) Classroom practices	2	Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed
(PCAM) Field practices	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PCAM) Field practices	2	Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	2	Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed