



DEGREE CURRICULUM

GENERAL PREHISTORY

Coordination: MAS VÉLEZ, BÁRBARA

Academic year 2023-24

Subject's general information

Subject name	GENERAL PREHISTORY		
Code	100064		
Semester	1st Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION		
Typology	Degree	Course	Character
	Bachelor's Degree in History	1	COMMON/CORE
Modality	Attendance-based		
Course number of credits (ECTS)	6		
Type of activity, credits, and groups	Activity type	PRAULA	TEORIA
	Number of credits	3	3
	Number of groups	1	1
Coordination	MAS VÉLEZ, BÁRBARA		
Department	GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY AND HISTORY OF ART		
Teaching load distribution between lectures and independent student work	21 hours of in-person sessions 10 hours out of the classroom 21 hours of online sessions 98 hours of autonomous work		
Important information on data processing	Consult this link for more information.		
Language	Catalan Other: English and Spanish (readings)		

Teaching staff	E-mail addresses	Credits taught by teacher	Office and hour of attention
MAS VÉLEZ, BÁRBARA	barbara.mas86@gmail.com	6	

Subject's extra information

Description: study of the main historical processes during Prehistoric times from a universal perspective.

The objectives of this subject are extensive because for a part of the students this will be the only contact with this discipline throughout their university career. Therefore, it is necessary to complement both general contents that are aimed at those students who do not continue studies related to prehistory and more specific contents to the students of Archaeology.

Regarding the contents it intends:

- Present a comprehensive view of Prehistory in its different fields.
- Provide a general overview, and as far as possible complete, about the processes of historical change that took place from the Humankind origins to the establishment of metallurgical societies.
- Introduce the student in the sources and methods of Prehistory.

Concerning the skills and abilities:

- Use of ICT: interrelation between teacher and students, tools of the subject.
- Encourage reading, so that the emergence of new technologies in higher education does not involve the disuse and neglect of traditional practices of bibliographic consultation.
- Train the capacities of written expression, the capacity of synthesis, the structuring of the contents of the message, the transmission of ideas, etc .
- Acquire a basic terminology in Prehistory, use of scientific terms.

Learning objectives

Learning objectives
O.1. Provide a general overview, and as far as possible complete, about the processes of historical change that took place from the Humankind origins to the establishment of the first farmers and the origin of social inequalities.
O.2. Have the first-hand knowledge of prehistoric materials and sites
O.3 . Encourage reading and critical thinking
O.4. Work written and oral skills, the ability to synthesise, structure the contents of the message, the transmission of ideas, etc.

Competences

Competences
Detailed knowledge of a specific period of the Human past.
Capacity for analysis and synthesis.
Oral and written communication in native language.

Subject contents

This subject addresses the evolution of the first humans, the first hunter-gatherer communities, and the emergence of agricultural populations. The subject's content is organized along the vertical axis of the traditional chronological sequence, complemented by a necessary horizontal perspective on cultures, including their behavior, distribution, and relationships. Furthermore, there is a continuous focus on methodological aspects of prehistoric archaeology to enable students to understand the sources of knowledge available for this historical period.

The topics are divided into four content blocks or parts, each covering approximately a quarter of the semester calendar. Lecture classes, activities, and assignments are evenly distributed among these parts.

Part 1.- Hominization and human expansion

Lesson 1.- The Hominization process in Africa: Mechanisms and agents

Lesson 2.- The first humans

Lesson 3.- The Quaternary and the genus *Homo* sp.

Part 2. - Development of hunter-gatherer human communities: Europe

Lesson 4.- The earliest human communities in Europe: the Lower Palaeolithic

Lesson 5.- Adaptations, strategies and the decline of *Homo neanderthalensis*: the Middle Palaeolithic

Lesson 6.- The expansion of *Homo sapiens*: the Upper Palaeolithic

Lesson 7.- The earliest symbolic manifestations: Paleolithic art

Lesson 8.- Transitions and transformations: Epipalaeolithic and Mesolithic

Part 3.- The earliest agrarian and producing communities: the Neolithic

Lesson 9.- The beginning of agriculture and animal husbandry in the Near East

Lesson 10.- The Neolithization process in Europe

Lesson 11.- The phenomenon of European megaliths

Part 4.- Emerging societies: the Protohistory

Lesson 12.- Towards complexity: Early metallurgical societies (5th-2nd millennia BCE)

Lesson 13.- European societies at the dawn of History: the Iron Age in the first millennium BCE

Methodology

Activity	Description	O*	G*	PH classroom	PH out-of-classroom:	NPH autonomous
Lectures	check Contents and Timeline	O.1	1	35		
Seminars (S)	S1: Part 1 and 2 – Viewing and debating the documentary "Out of the cradle: the origins of Humanity" (2018) S2: Part 3 – Debating Reading: Yuval Noah Harari "El frau més gran de la historia"	O.1 O.3 O.4	1	2 1		4
Practical classes (P)	P: Practices	O.2	1	8		11

Essays (T)	T1 : Reading 1 T2 : Reading 2	O.1 O.2 O.3 O.4	1			20
Tutorials (Tut)	Tut 1 : general about the organization of the subject Tut 2: referred to T and AV Tut 3: referred to T and AV	O.1 O.4	1	1 1 1		
Other (AA)	AA1: Visit to archaeological sites (to be determined) AA2: Visit to the Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya	O.1 O.2 O.3	1		16	
Evaluation (AV)	AV1: Exam Parts 1 + 2 (text comment + questions): 2h AV2: Exam Parts 3 + 4 (text comment + questions): 2h AV3: Group oral presentation (10 minutes) on the scientific article "The myth of Man the Hunter: women's contribution to the hunt across ethnographic contexts" (Anderson et al., 2023)	O.1 O.4	1	2 2 1		55
TOTAL				44	16	90

O: Objective. HP: hours of classroom teaching. HNP: hour of not face-to-face teaching

Development plan

GUIDELINE SCHEDULE	Monday			Tuesday		Outings
			Syllabus		Syllabus	
1 13 September	1			1	Presentation	
2 18-19 September	2	2	BLOC 1: Hominització i expansió dels humans T1.El procés d'hominització a l'Àfrica: Mecanismes i agents	3	T1.El procés d'hominització a l'Àfrica: Mecanismes i agents	
3 25-26 September	3	4	T2 Els primers humans	5	T2 Els primers humans	
4 2-3 October	4	6	T3. El Quaternari i el gènere <i>Homo</i> sp.	7	T3. El Quaternari i el gènere <i>Homo</i> sp.	
5 9-10 October	5	8	BLOC 2: Desenvolupament de les comunitats humanes caçadores-recol·lectores: Europa T4. Les primeres comunitats humanes a Europa: el Paleolític Inferior	9	T5. Adaptacions, comportaments i declivi d' <i>Homo neanderthalensis</i> : el Paleolític Mitjà	
6 16-17 October	6	10	T5. Adaptacions, comportaments i declivi d' <i>Homo neanderthalensis</i> : el Paleolític Mitjà	11	T6. L'expansió d' <i>Homo sapiens</i> : el Paleolític Superior	
7 23-24 October	7	12	T6. L'expansió d' <i>Homo sapiens</i> : el Paleolític Superior	13	T7. Les primeres manifestacions simbòliques: l'art paleolític	25/10 MAC-Barcelona
8 30-31 October	8	14	T8. Transicions i transformacions: Epipaleolític i Mesolític		T8. Transicions i transformacions: Epipaleolític i Mesolític	
9 6-7 November	9	15	Exam Blocks 1 and 2	16	BLOC 3: Les primeres comunitats agràries i productores: el Neolític T9. L'inici de l'agricultura i la ramaderia en el Pròxim Orient	

10 13-14 November	10	17	T9. L'inici de l'agricultura i la ramaderia en el Pròxim Orient	18	T9. L'inici de l'agricultura i la ramaderia en el Pròxim Orient	
11 20-21 November	11	19	T10. El procés de neolitització d'Europa	20	T10. El procés de neolitització d'Europa	
12 27-28 November	12	21	T11. El fenòmen del megalitisme europeu	22	T11. El fenòmen del megalitisme europeu	29/11 Minferri - Vilars
13 4-5 December	13	23	BLOC 4: Les societats emergents: la protohistòria T 12. Cap a la complexitat: les primeres societats metal·lúrgiques (V-II mil·lenni aC)		T 12. Cap a la complexitat: les primeres societats metal·lúrgiques (V-II mil·lenni aC)	
14 11-12 December	14	24	T13. Les societats europees a l'alba de la Història: el primer mil·lenni aC	25	T13. Les societats europees a l'alba de la Història: el primer mil·lenni aC	
15 18-19 December	15	26	T13. Les societats europees a l'alba de la Història: el primer mil·lenni aC	27	Oral presentation	
15 January			Exam Blocks 3 and 4			
29 January			Resit activity			

Evaluation

Evaluation mechnics	Codification/Description	Observations	O*	Activity	%*
Assistance and participation (As)		Participation in class and activities			10
Evaluation (TA) (Exam)	TA 1: exam Blocks 1 and 2 Date 7/11/2022 TA 2: exam Blocks 3 and 4 Date 16/1/2023	Written evidence consisting of two text comments (one for each block, between two to choose from) and 2 short questions.	O,1 O.3 O.4	AV1 AV2	35 35
Essays (T)					
Other (A)	Group oral presentation		O.1 O.2.	AV3	20
TOTAL					100

O: Objective. %: percentage in the final note.

IMPORTANT

Minimum exam mark for the final mark: 4 (if you get less than 4, you must take the compulsory make-up exam for the corresponding exam: 30/1/2023).

Students who combine their degree with a full time job have the right to ask for alternative assessment within 5 days after the beginning of the semester. For information, please send an e-mail to academic@lletres.udl.cat or ask for information at the Faculty's office (Secretaria de la Facultat de Lletres).

If **plagiarised** material is detected, we will apply what is established in the 'Regulations for the Assessment and Grading of Student Learning in UdL Bachelor's and Master's Degrees'.

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Part 1.- Human origins and spread

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* Libros fundamentales para cada bloque