

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

Code	34021
Name	Ancient universal prehistory
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2023 - 2024

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1005 - Degree in History	Faculty of Geography and History	2	First term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1005 - Degree in History	11 - Universal prehistory	Obligatory

Coordination

Name	Department
CARRION MARCO, YOLANDA	360 - Prehistory, Archaeology and Ancient History
EIXEA VILANOVA, ALEJO	360 - Prehistory, Archaeology and Ancient History
VADILLO CONESA, MARGARITA	360 - Prehistory, Archaeology and Ancient History

SUMMARY

The subjects Ancient Universal Prehistory (PUa) and Recent Universal Prehistory are part of a general subject dedicated to the knowledge of Prehistoric Humanity; both are included in the second year of the Degree in History at the University of Valencia.

PUa presents a general panorama of the socio-cultural evolution of prehistoric Humanity, prior to the development and expansion of the farming economies. With this objective, a presentation of the main theories about the formation and development of human societies prior to food production is addressed, as well as the documentary bases used by Archeology during the study of prehistoric hunter-gatherer-fishermen societies.



Due to historical and geographical proximity, greater attention will be paid to the Old World regions and especially to Africa and Europe.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

It is advisable for students to have experience in office software (word processing, spread sheets, presentations, etc.), the use of the Virtual Classroom platform and to know how to search for bibliographic resources in the library of the University of Valencia.

OUTCOMES

1005 - Degree in History

- Be able to make abstractions, to analyse and to synthesise.
- Show commitment to the principle of equal opportunities for men and women.
- Have problem-solving skills.
- Show creativity.
- Have decision-making capacity.
- Be able to learn autonomously.
- Be sensitive to environmental issues.
- Be aware of the ongoing nature of historical debate and research.
- Be able to read historiographic texts or original documents in another language.
- Be able to use information-gathering tools such as bibliographic catalogues, archival inventories and electronic references.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- To know and use the concepts, methods and objectives of this subject.
- To know the archaeological sources, the time frame and the main divisions of Prehistory.



- To obtain knowledge of paleoclimatic and socio-cultural changes, highlighting the diversity and complexity of Prehistoric societies.
- To recognize the main characteristics, spatial distribution and chronology of archaeological entities.
- To know and use the specific bibliography on the subject.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Presentation

Commentary on the bibliography and the teaching guide. Limits and objectives of the subject. General chronological table. Humanity from the perspective of evolutionary, historical and sociocultural studies.

2. The first hominids and their expansion in temperate latitudes

Hominids and genus Homo: chronological and paleoenvironmental framework. Genus characteristics: bipedalism, childbirth and social behaviour. Consolidation of humans in Asia and Europe: adaptation and cultural transmission. The Lower Palaeolithic: technology and economy of the first hominids.

3. The evolutionary path to Neanderthals: the Middle Paleolithic

The environment before the last great interglacial: the middle Pleistocene. The consolidation of human settlement in Europe: archaic Homo Sapiens (Homo heidelbergensis and H. Neanderthalensis). Characterization of technology and the economy. Social organization: habitat and mobility.

4. Modern human behaviour

Archaic/Modern: the discussion on the first signs of modernity. Anatomically modern humans and the colonization of the planet by Homo sapiens sapiens. Transition and cohabitation in Europe.

5. The European Upper Palaeolithic

The landscapes and cold fauna of the Pleniglacial. Geographic variability and evolution of technological traditions. The specialized hunting economies. Forms of social and political organization of hunters: anthropological models and their archaeological use. Paleolithic art, personal adornment, and burial practices: symbolism, identity, and interaction.

**6. The last hunter-fisher-collectors: Epipaleolithic and Mesolithic**

The beginning of the current interglacial: the Holocene. Colonization of the north and new adaptations in emerging forests: economic diversification. The new funeral practices: the necropolis.

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	30,00	100
Other activities	15,00	100
Classroom practices	15,00	100
Development of individual work	20,00	0
Study and independent work	70,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

A) Lectures attendance:

1) Theoretical lectures (30 hours): in the classroom, lecturers expose the essential aspects of the subject, systematize the basic contents and provide references for the exam preparation. Classes will be organized through text discussion, image projection using PowerPoint presentations and / or videos, etc. It is crucial that, prior to each lesson, students read all the contents recommended by the lecturer (handbook, exercises, etc.).

2) Practical classes (15 hours): the lecturer proposes different practical exercises for each topic in the classroom. If any supplementary material is required, it will be provided to students through the Virtual Classroom. For some subjects, the students themselves will search for appropriate readings (papers or books from the bibliographical list).

3) Attendance to seminars, workshops or complementary activities (15 hours): students will participate in activities scheduled by the Faculty and lecturers (visits, seminars and conferences). Complementary activities can be evaluated: in that case, each teacher will indicate the evaluation method and criteria in the supplementary Teaching Guide.



B) Tutorial classes: Students may attend the tutorial classes that teachers program to resolve queries or concerns about any aspect related to the subject. The timetables are indicated in the Virtual Classroom and on the board of the Department of Prehistory, Archaeology and Ancient History.

EVALUATION

On the first call:

Theory: The evaluation of the theoretical part of the subject will consist a 70% of the final grade. Mastery of the general scheme of the evolution of prehistoric societies, the capacity for relationship and synthesis, and conceptual precision, as well as the capacity for analysis and expository clarity, will be especially valued.

Practical works = 20% of the final mark. The final grade in this section will be the proportional calculation of those obtained in the different works, as indicated in the annex of each group.C

omplementary activities = 10% of the final grade.

It will be necessary to obtain a minimum score of 5 out of 10 in each part (theory, practical and complementary) so that the average can be calculated.

The students will deliver the work and materials on the scheduled dates through the Virtual Classroom. Those who do not participate in these actions will not have this proportional part of the final grade.

On the second call:

Those who have not passed any part of the subject may take an extraordinary exam (70%), a joint test of all practices (20%) and a complementary activity (10%), following the criteria established for the first call (minimum score of 5 out of 10). The grades obtained in the assignments throughout the semester will be taken into account. These qualifications will only remain valid during the academic year.

Detected plagiarism (copying from sources without mentioning: books, papers, internet, etc...) will directly determine the final grade of failing (grade 0) in the subject.

The grade "Merit with Distinction" can be awarded to students who have obtained a grade equal to or greater than 9.0. This grade may be awarded for every twenty students within a group.

REFERENCES

Basic

- FULLOLA, J.M. y NADAL, J. 2005: Introducción a la Prehistoria. La evolución de la cultura humana. Editorial UOC., Barcelona



- V.V.A.A. 2000: Historia de la humanidad, vols. 1 y 2. Ed. Arlanza

Additional

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- AA.VV. 2000: Los orígenes del hombre. De los primeros homínidos al Homo sapiens. Ed. especial National Geographic España. National Geographic Society.
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