

North Hennepin Community College

ANTH 1130: The Archaeology of Ancient Europe

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: *.*

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 10 - People/Environment

Anthropology is concerned with the many ways that humans have adapted to their physical and social environments, including the systems of meaning and social organization that they use, as well as the historical development of those adaptations. There are a number of subfields within Anthropology in America: (Archaeology, Physical Anthropology, Linguistics, and applied Anthropology), and this course focuses on the remote past of Europe before the advent of writing (history), as revealed through archaeological research. We will focus primarily on Temperate Europe (north of the Alps), but to do so we will repeatedly run into the sophisticated cultures of the Mediterranean Basin. Evidence will be considered starting with the first people in Europe, through millennia of hunting and gathering, and then the broad changes that occurred with the advent of agriculture and metal use, and the increasing societal complexity, ending with the coming of the Romans who brought "civilization" to their northern neighbors.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 01/13/2014 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Methods and data that anthropologists/archaeologists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Development and change of social institutions and processes across various cultures through European prehistory.
3. Discussion of divergent explanatory systems and theories pertaining to the interpretation of prehistoric culture and cognition.
4. The basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems in prehistoric Europe, and human adaptive strategies within those systems.
5. The patterns and inter-relationships of prehistoric European sociocultural systems with changing environmental conditions.
6. The basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that evolved to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges in prehistoric Europe.
7. Critical evaluation of environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions in prehistoric Europe.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Use archaeological methodology to investigate and interpret the changing human condition in Europe throughout the period covered (MnTC Goal 5 comp. a; Goal 10 comp. b; NHCC ELOs 1, 2).
2. Examine data pertaining to social institutions, and cultures across a range of periods and changing ecosystems in prehistoric Europe (MnTC Goal 5 comp. a, b, c; Goal 10 comp. a, b, c, d; NHCC ELOs 1, 2).
3. Develop an understanding of the types of information revealed by archaeology (MnTC Goal 5 comp. c; Goal 10 comp. c; NHCC ELO 1).
4. Explore and articulate varying interpretations that have and can be made from archaeological evidence (MnTC 5 comp. b, c; Goal 10 comp. b, d; NHCC ELOs 1, 2).
5. Explore human adaptation to different environments and ecosystems within the time period covered (MnTC Goal 10 comp. a, b, c, d; NHCC ELOs 1, 2).

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.

Goal 10 - People/Environment

1. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

1. Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World --Through study in the sciences, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, the arts, technology and professions.
2. Intellectual and Practical Skills including: Inquiry and analysis; Critical and creative thinking; Written and oral communication; Quantitative literacy; Information literacy; Teamwork and problem solving.