

COURSE OUTLINE

"Ancient Europe"

(HUM 199Y1, Section L0251, 2009/10)

Prof. Wolfgang Hempel

W 12-2 . St. Michael's College, Alumni Hall 302

Office Hour: W 11-12 . SMC, Odette Hall 027

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Syllabus:

The course deals with trends and issues in early European history (800,000 BC to 1000 AD), with the focus on central Europe. The following periods will be covered: "Stone Age I: Hunters and Gatherers"; "Stone Age II: Early Farmers"; "Bronze Age: The Indo-Europeans"; "Iron Age I: The Celts"; "Iron Age II: The Germanic People"; "Dark Ages: The Birth of Medieval Europe".

We will study the archaeological and historiographic data and their historical interpretation (ethnic patterns; subsistence strategies; economic and social structures; language developments; major events, innovations and trends), and we will attempt to understand the intellectual and spiritual life of the times. A continual question will be how aspects of early European history and life relate or compare to our present times.

Format:

Usually, a survey lecture by the instructor or a brief presentation by students will give an overview over a period or introduce specific topics. This will be followed by a seminar discussion of details and of points that are of special interest to participants.

Evaluation:

In-class Tests (5):	50%
Presentation:	20%
Attendance	15%
Participation:	15%

Texts:

1. Cunliffe, Barry ed. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Prehistoric Europe*. Oxford University Press, 2001
2. Photocopied material