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:
2. Photocopied material