

Module Details	
Module Title:	Prehistoric Societies
Module Code:	ARC5027-B
Academic Year:	2019-20
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Archaeological and Forensic Sciences
Subject Area:	Archaeology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 5
Pre-requisites:	
Co-requisites:	

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Lectures	40
Fieldwork	16
Directed Study	144

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1 (Sep - Jan)

Module Aims
The aims of the module are to examine the nature of prehistoric societies in the Old World through their material remains and to understand the potential and limitations of archaeological evidence in the reconstruction of the social, cultural and economic dimensions of non-literate communities.

Outline Syllabus
The module examines the nature of prehistoric societies in Britain, Europe and the Near East through a series of period/culture specific case studies. These will typically include European hunter-gatherer societies, Neolithic and Bronze Age Britain, the Neolithic of the Near East, Iron Age Britain and Europe. Across the various case studies we will examine themes including

society and economy, the nature of social change, monumentality, subsistence strategies, materiality, trade and communication.

Learning Outcomes

1	Explain aspects of the development of prehistoric societies from c. 30,000 BC - AD 100.
2	Explain aspects of the uses and misuses of literary sources in archaeology.
3	Evaluate competing hypotheses, theoretical positions and methodologies in prehistoric archaeology.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

The module is taught through lectures (40 hours) divided into a series of blocks, each of which deals with a distinct prehistoric period/culture. A field trip to prehistoric sites widens student experience of the subject. Written feedback will be provided on the essay.

During Directed Study hours students are expected to undertake reading to consolidate and expand on the content of formal taught sessions; research and prepare for assessments; revise material from formal taught sessions; and undertake specific elements of reading as directed.

Assessment is by one essay and an exam. The essay will enable students to focus on one prehistoric society in depth. The exam will address the broad issues pertaining to the material covered by the module.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting
Summative	Examination - closed book	Exam	1.5 hours	50%
Summative	Coursework	Essay	-2000 words	50%

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit <https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html>.

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.