

Academic Year/course: 2021/22

## 28103 - Formation of complex societies

### Syllabus Information

**Academic Year:** 2021/22

**Subject:** 28103 - Formation of complex societies

**Faculty / School:** 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras

**Degree:** 418 - Degree in History

**ECTS:** 6.0

**Year:** 1

**Semester:** First semester

**Subject Type:** Basic Education

**Module:**

### 1. General information

### 2. Learning goals

### 3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

### 4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

#### 4.1. Methodological overview

The methodology followed in this course is oriented towards the achievement of the learning objectives. A wide range of teaching and learning tasks are implemented, such as lectures, practice sessions, autonomous work, study and assessment tasks.

Students are expected to participate actively in class throughout the semester.

Further information regarding the course will be provided on the first day of class

#### 4.2. Learning tasks

The course includes the following learning tasks:

- Lectures.
- Practice sessions.
- Autonomous work and study.
- Assessment tasks.

#### 4.3. Syllabus

The course will address the following topics:

Topic I. Ancient Near East & Egypt

1. Introduction: Geographical and Climatological Circumstances. Periodization. Peoples, languages and cultures of the Ancient Near East. Historical Sources. Historiography and bibliography.
2. Egypt and the Ancient Near East through the 3rd millennium BC. The emergence of the Palatial states. Characteristics of the Mesopotamian State-City and the Egyptian Pharaonic State. Religion and Ideology. The evolution of the administrative systems. Origins, development and function of the writing systems.

3. Egypt and the Ancient Near East through the 2nd Millennium BC.
  - A. First half: Indoeuropean peoples in Anatolia Region and Amorites in Mesopotamia. Palaeo-Asirian long-distance trade. Kingship and law codes.
  - B. Second half: The rise of the Imperial states (Mitanni, Egyptian Kingdom and Hittite Empire) and diplomacy. Economical and social characteristics of the Eastern Empires of Late Bronze Age.
  - C. 1200 AC crisis: external and structural features.
4. The 1st Millennium AC: Early Iron Age in the Ancient Near East. Aramaization of Syria and Mesopotamia. Political rise of Asiria and Babylonia. The Phoenicians and their trade over the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. The alphabet script. The Mede-Persian Empire.

#### Topic II. The Aegean World

1. Introduction: Geography and Periodization of the Ancient Greek World. Historical Sources. Historiography and bibliography.
2. The Aegean Cultures (Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations) and the hellenization of Greece. The Palatial Period in Crete and Continental Greece. Writing systems and languages in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea through the 2nd Millennium AC. The Aegean society on the Mycenaean tablets. International Relationships. 1200 AC crisis and the palatial collapse.
3. The period of the Greek epic: Homer and Hesiod.
  - A. ?The Homeric issue?, the archaeology and the documentary sources for the study of the Greek Dark Ages. The oral making and the transmission of the homeric poems. The Greek alphabet. The rise of the Greek civilization.
  - B. The aristocratical society and the political organization.
  - C. Hesiod?s peasant society.
  - D. Justice, Ethos and Gods in Homer and Hesiod?s Works.

#### 4.4. Course planning and calendar

Further information concerning the timetable, classroom, office hours, assessment dates and other details regarding this course, will be provided on the first day of class or please refer to the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts website (<https://fyl.unizar.es/>; academic calendar <http://academico.unizar.es/calendario-academico/calendario>, timetable <https://fyl.unizar.es/horario-de-clases#overlay-context=horario-de-clases>; assessment dates: <https://fyl.unizar.es/calendario-de-examenes#overlay-context=>)