**DOCTORAL SUBJECT SUB-UNIT**

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| Subject name | Field of study (branch) code | Faculty | Department |
| **Archaeology of the Prehistoric Old World: Data, Theory, and Methodology** | History and Archaeology  H 005 | Faculty of History | Department of  Archaeology |
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| Mode of study | Number of credits ECTS | Mode of study | Number of credits ECTS |
| lectures |  | consultations | 2 |
| individual | 3 | seminars | 2,5 |

**Total 7,5**

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| Subject annotation | | |
| The subject provides an introduction to the archaeological material of the prehistoric period of the ancient world (from the Stone Age up to and including the (Early) Iron Age). It explores the history, theory, and methodology of research on this subject, the main scientific problems, the natural conditions, and the evolution of the environment. The Stone Age Palaeolithic is analyzed in terms of the initial settlement of the territory in the Early and Middle Palaeolithic and the culture of the earliest archanthropes (*Homo habilis*, *Homo erectus*, *Homo archaicus*, *Homo neanderthalensis*, *Homo denisovensis*); the transitional issues and the arrival and spread of modern human (*Homo sapiens*) in the Old World and the rapid cultural differentiation in the Late Palaeolithic; the emergence of beliefs and rituals and the prosperity of art (cave paintings and carvings, sculptures, movable art); the rise, development, and decline of the mammoth hunting era; the (re) colonization of the Northern fringes of the region at the end of the Ice Age.  In the Mesolithic, the subject analyzes the emergence spread and flourishing of microlithic production techniques in different regions, the diversity and change of subsistence patterns, the uniformity-diversity of the subsistence base, and the rituals of burial and sacrifice, and the emergence of cult structures.  Variety of theoretical models of neolithisation and empirical justification. The Neolithic period is analyzed in terms of the emergence and spread of the productive economy, the development and dispersal of domesticated species in the region, the genesis of the tradition of pottery production, the directions of spread and the diversity of forms, the spread and change of the wave of neolithisation from Southern to Northern Europe, and the emergence of the first towns. The exploitation of useful raw materials and the dispersion of production in the region are detailed. A comparison and detailed analysis of the lifestyles of nomadic pastoralists and sedentary farming communities.  The theories of the formation of the Indo-European ancestral homeland and the dispersal of the population (M. Gimbutienė, C. Renfrew, J. Mallory, D. Anthony, etc.) and the archaeological and other scientific data supporting them are analyzed. Archaeology of military conflicts: weapons, fortified settlements, and victims; contextual analysis of different case studies. Migration and assimilation of populations based on modern and palaeoindividual genetic studies.  The Brass/Bronze and (Early) Iron Age period: the emergence and development of the first metalwork, the rise of metallurgical centers, the intensification of trade, the formation of the first states, and the civilizations of Crete, Mycenae, Mycenae, the Etruscans, the Celts, and others. The focus is on the amber trade route and the archaeological material of the surrounding areas, the change, and diversity of burial forms, the social organization of societies, and the religious worldview.  The most important civilizational inventions of humankind in the prehistoric period and their impact on the development of society are detailed.  The potential of GIS, archaeological and chemical-physical methods, and the analysis of the data obtained for understanding prehistory are assessed.  In the preparation of individual research essays, doctoral students, together with their advisors, address the research problem formulated by using not only archaeological data but also data from other sciences. | | |
| Key literature | | |
| 1. Ammerman A. J., Biagi P. (eds.). *The Widening Harvest. The Neolithic Transition in Europe:*  *Looking Back, Looking Forward*. Boston, 2003.  2. Bogaard A. *Neolithic Farming in Central Europe. An Archaeobotanical Study of Crop Husbandry*  *Practices.* London, New York, 2004.  3. Bonsall C., Tolan-Smith Ch. (eds.). *The Human Use of Caves*. Oxford, 1997.  4. Burch E. S., Ellanna Jr., Linda J. (eds.). *Key Issues in Hunter-Gatherer Research*. Oxford, 1996.  5. Camps M., Szmidt C. (eds.). The Mediterranean from 50 000 to 25 000 BP. Turning Points and New Directions. Oxford, 2009.  6. Chapman J., Dolukhanov P. (eds.). *Landscapes in Flux. Central and Eastern Europe in Antiquity*.  Oxford, 1997.  7. Fokkens H., Anthony H. (eds.). *The Oxford Handbook of the European Bronze Age*. Oxford University Press, 2013.  8. Gimbutas M. The *Prehistory of Eastern Europe. Part I. (Mesolithic, Neolithic and Copper Age*  *Cultures in Russia and the Baltic Area).* Cambridge, 1956.  9. Gimbutas M. *The Civilization of the Goddess*. *The World of Old Europe*. San Francisco,1991.  10. Ginter B., Drobniewicz B., Kazior B., Nowak M., Połtowicz M. (red.). *Problemy epoki kamienia na.*  *obszarze starego świata.* Księga Jubileuszowa dedykowana Profesorowi Januszowi K. Kozłowskiemu  w czterdziestolecie pracy naukowej w Uniwersytecie Jagiellońskim / Problems of the Stone Age in the Old World. Jubilee Book Dedicated to Professor Janusz K. Kozłowski on His 40th Scientific Work in Jagiellonian University. Kraków, 2001.  11. Harding A. F. *European Societies in the Bronze Age*. Cambridge University Press, 2000.  12. Ignaczak M., Kośko A., Szmyt M. (eds.). Między Bałtykiem a Morzem Czarnym. Szlaki międzymorza IV-I tys. przed Chr. Archaeologia Bimaris. Dyskusje. T. 4. Poznań, 2011.  13. Kośko A., Szmyt M. (eds.). *Nomadyzm a pastoralizm w międzyrzeczu Wisły i Dniepru (neolit,*  *eneolit, epoka brązu).* Poznań, 2004.  14. Kozlowski J.K., Kozlowski S.K. *Upper Paleolithic and Mesolithic in Europe*. *Taxonomy and*  *paleohistory*. Wroclaw, 1979.  15. Kristiansen K. *Europe before History*. Cambridge University Press. 1998.  16. Les derniers chasseurs-cueilleurs d'Europe occidentale (13 000 - 5 500 av. J.-C.). Actes du  Colloque international de Besançon (Doubs, France) 23-25 octobre 1998. Besançon, 2000.  17. Mallory J. P. *In Search of the Indo-Europeans*. London, 1989.  18. Nilsson S. L. Embodied Rituals and Ritualized Bodies. Tracing Ritual Practices in Late Mesolithic Burials. *Acta Archaeologica Lundensia*. Series in 8º, Nº 46. Lund, 2003.  19. Randsborg K. (ed.). Stone Age Studies in Post-Glacial Europe. Acta Archaeologica, Vol. 78:2. Oxford, 2007.  20. Renfrew C. *Archaeology and Language*. London, 1987.  21. Riel-Salvatore J., Clark Geoffrey A. (eds.). New approaches to the Study of Early Upper Paleolithic "Transitional" Industries in Western Eurasia. Transitions great and small. BAR International Series 1620. Oxford, 2007.  22. Roebroeks W., Mussi M., Svoboda J., Fennema K. (eds.). *Hunters of the Golden Age. The Mid*  *Upper Palaeolithic of Eurasia 30,000-20,000 BP*. Leiden, 2000.  23. Soffer O. *The Upper Paleolithic of the Central Russian Plain*. San Diego. 1985.  24. Stringer C. B., Barton R. N. E., Finlayson J. C. (eds.). *Neanderthals on the Edge*. Papers from a Conference Marking the 150th anniversary of the Forbes' Quarry Discovery, Gibraltar. Oxford, 2000.  25. Valentin B., Bodu P., Christensen M. (eds.). *L'Europe centrale et septentrionale au Tardiglaciaire. Confrontation des modèles régionaux de peuplement.* Nemours, 2000.  26. Whittle A. *Europe in the Neolithic. The Creation of New World*. Cambridge, 1996. | | |
| Supervising lecturers‘ names and surnames | Academic degree | Major works in the field (branch) published in the recent 5 years |
| Algimantas Merkevičius | Dr., Associate Professor | Merkevičius, A. (sud., moksl. red.). 2018. *Ankstyvojo metalų laikotarpio gyvenvietės Lietuvoje.*Vilniaus universiteto leidykla.  Merkevičius, A. 2016. West Lithuania during the Early Metal Age. G. Zabiela, Z. Baubonis, E. Marcinkevičiūtė eds. *A Hundred Years of Archaeological Discoveries in Lithuania*. Vilnius: Lietuvos archeologijos draugija, p. 130 – 147.  Randsborg, K., Merkytė, I., **Merkevičius, A.** Kulakov, V. I. 2016. Kaup 2014. Archaeological excavations & research history. *Acta Archaeologica* 87. Oxford. Willey, p. 85 – 130.  Merkevičius, A. 2017. Tarp viduramžių archeologijos, paveldo apsaugos ir archeologijos vadybos. *Archaeologia Lituana* 18, p. 9 – 22.  Allentoft M. E., Sikora M., Sjögren K.G., Rasmussen S., Rasmussen M., Stenderup J., Damgaard P. B., Schroeder H., Ahlström T., Vinner L., Malaspinas A. S., Margaryan A., Higham T., Chivall D., Lynnerup N., Harvig L., Baron J., Philippe Della Casa, Dąbrowski P., Duffy P. R., Ebel A.V., Epimakhov A., Frei K., Furmanek M., Gralak T., Gromov A., Gronkiewicz S., Grupe G., Hajdu T., Jarysz R., Khartanovich V., Khokhlov A., Kiss V., Kolář J., Kriiska A., Lasak I., Longhi C., McGlynn G., **Merkevicius A**., Merkyte I., Metspalu M., Mkrtchyan R., Moiseyev V., Paja L., Pálfi G., Pokutta D., Pospieszny Ł ., T. Douglas Price, Saag L., Sablin M., Shishlina N., Smrčka V., Soenov V. I., Szeverényi V., Tóth G., Trifanova S. V., Varul L., Vicze M., Yepiskoposyan L., Zhitenev V., Orlando L., Sicheritz-Pontén T., Brunak S., Nielsen R., Kristiansen K. & Willerslev E. Population genomics of Bronze Age Eurasia. *Nature*, vol. 522, Issue 7555, 167–172, Nature Publishing Group, 11 June 2015.  Merkevičius A. Archaeology of late prehistoric religion in Lithuania: New reconstruction possibilities. A. Haak, V. Lang, M. Lavento (eds.). *Interarchaeologia,* 4. Tartu; Helsinki; Riga; Vilnius, 2015, p. 219–230. |
| Aleksiejus Luchtanas | Dr., Associate Professor | Luchtanas, A. Maistas ir mityba Lietuvos geografinėje aplinkoje nuo ankstyviausių laikų iki XIV a. *Eksperimentinė archeologija. Lietuvos materialaus paveldo rekonstrukcija*. I tomas. Vilnius, 2015, p. 48–71.  Luchtanas A., Podėnas V., Čivilytė A., Narkūnų piliakalnių ir papėdės gyvenvietės keramika: elgsenos atspindžiai. *Lietuvos archeologija*. T. 42, Vilnius, 2016, p. 191–241.  Luchtanas A., Podėnas V., Čivilytė A., Bagdzevičienė J. Technologiniai ir diagnostiniai Narkūnų Didžiojo piliakalnio techninės keramikos tyrimai. *Lietuvos archeologija*. T. 42, Vilnius, 2016, p. 151 –189. |
| Egidijus Šatavičius | Dr., Associate Professor | Šatavičius E. The First Palaeolithic Inhabitants and the Mesolithic in Lithuanian Territory. *A Hundred Years of Archaeological Discoveries in Lithuania*. Vilnius, 2016, p. 8-39.  Bliujienė A., Steponaitis V., Šatavičius E., Grižas G. Concentration of Authority and Power in East Lithuania, Between Tauragnas Lake and the Middle Reaches of the Žeimena River, During the Migration Period. *Estonian Journal of Archaeology*. 2017, Vol. 21.  Baubonis Z., Stončius D., Šatavičius E., Zabiela G. *Lietuvos piliakalniai. Atlasas*. IV tomas. Vilnius, 2017. |
| Approved by the Doctoral Committee of History and Archaeology  28 September 2021, No 170000-KT-47. | | |
| Chair of the Doctoral Committee Prof. habil. dr. Tamara Bairašauskaitė | | |