

# COURSE DETAIL

## PREHISTORY

**Country**

Taiwan

**Host Institution**

National Taiwan University

**Program(s)**

National Taiwan University

**UCEAP Course Level**

Lower Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Archaeology Anthropology

**UCEAP Course Number**

6

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

PREHISTORY

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

PREHISTORY

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

## **Course Description**

This course introduces the major themes in world prehistory through a global and comparative approach, focusing on the great evolutionary, behavioral, and cultural transitions or “revolutions” in our common past, beginning with the appearance of the first material culture record (the world’s earliest stone tools, dating 3.3 million years ago).

Considering how power and violence, socio-political stratification, economies and trade, technological innovation, and especially ideology shaped human societies, the course addresses the following periods:

- The hominin evolution and behavior during the Lower Paleolithic period
- The first migrations of *Homo erectus* out of Africa
- The evolution of archaic humans and their behavior (Middle Paleolithic period), and the emergence of anatomically modern humans and their interactions with archaic humans (Neanderthals and Denisovans).
- The behavioral revolution of the Upper Paleolithic and the transition from hunting-gathering to village life and farming.
- The emergence of socio-political complexity, the development of chiefdoms, and formation of state-level societies in the New World and the Old World, including Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, and Mesoamerica.

### **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

### **Host Institution Course Number**

Anth2012

### **Host Institution Course Title**

PREHISTORY

**Host Institution Course Details**

[https://nol.ntu.edu.tw/nol/coursesearch/print\\_table.php?course\\_id=105%2021000&c...](https://nol.ntu.edu.tw/nol/coursesearch/print_table.php?course_id=105%2021000&c...)

**Host Institution Campus**

**Host Institution Faculty**

College of Liberal Arts

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

Department of Anthropology

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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