Time and Tide
The Prehistoric Archaeology of Coastal and Maritime Communities
HTA-2125
HTA-3125

Convenor: Dr Gary Robinson

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Office hours: Tuesday 11am – 12 noon and Thursday 10am – 11am
Alternatively call-in if door is open, or e.mail to arrange an appointment.
Office T14 (Turret)
Time and Tide: The Prehistoric Archaeology of Coastal and Maritime Communities

This handbook contains basic information about the content and administration of this course. If you have queries about the organisation, objectives, structure, content or assessment of the course, please consult the module convenor. Be sure to check your email regularly since I will send you any messages or reminders through email.

Please check blackboard regularly for course information, documentation and notices.

The module convenors contact details are as follows:

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Module description
This module will explore the prehistoric archaeology of the cultural maritime landscapes of Britain and Ireland. The module will introduce students to the development and methods of maritime, island and coastal archaeology. The cultural maritime landscape encompasses the evidence for human engagements with the sea through the study of archaeological evidence in the form of boats, harbours, fish traps and associated coastal structures and buildings. By studying these archaeological resources, themes such as trade and exchange, subsistence, wayfaring and technology will be explored. The module will demonstrate that the sea was central to the lives of past communities and fundamental to our understanding of Prehistoric Europe.

Teaching of the Module
The course is taught through lectures, seminars and fieldtrips which have weekly required readings, which students will be expected to have read, to be able fully to follow and actively contribute to discussion. Seminars are a major element of this module, so reading in advance of the seminar is absolutely essential. There will be 11 hours of lectures and 11 hours of seminars for this course. Attending lectures will enable you to develop a broad understanding of the range of themes and arguments that will be discussed in seminars and forms the focus for the essay questions. In order to help you follow the content of the lectures, you should do a short amount of preliminary reading beforehand. The lecture topics are listed below along with the recommended readings for seminars you may also consult the bibliography at the

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end of the handbook for further guidance on suitable sources. Fieldtrips play an essential element to the teaching of this module. Fieldtrips will be used to explore the themes discussed during the seminars in greater detail and expose students to the archaeological record of coastal archaeology. Two fieldtrips will be undertaken approximately 12 hour in total. Students will be expected to undertake around 100 hours of reading for the weekly sessions, plus 66 hours preparing for and producing the assessed work. This adds up to a total workload of some 200 hours for the course.

The lectures are timetabled for: Tuesday 10am-11am in Room G1

The seminars are timetabled for:

Group A: Thursday 12noon – 1pm in Room G9
Group B: Thursday 2pm - 3pm in Room 431
Group C Thursday 4pm – 5pm in Room G9

The Fieldtrips are timetabled for Fridays (weeks 18-19) 9am – 4pm
Overview of Lectures, Seminar and Fieldtrips

WEEK 1:

Lecture 1 The maritime cultural landscape

Seminar Reading


WEEK 2

Lecture 2: Uniting landscape archaeology, maritime archaeology, maritime history and maritime anthropology

Seminar reading


WEEK 3

Lecture 3 Reconstructing prehistoric coastlines.

Seminar reading


WEEK 4
Lecture 4: The Nature of the Evidence

Seminar reading


WEEK 5

Lecture 5 Island Archaeology

Seminar reading


WEEK 6

Lecture 6 Boats and seafaring: Log boats

Seminar reading


Fieldtrip 1

WEEK 7

Lecture 7 Boats and seafaring: Sewn Plank boats

Seminar reading


Fieldtrip 2

Fieldtrip reading

WEEK 8 READING WEEK

WEEK 9

Lecture 8 Boats and seafaring: Skin boats

Seminar reading


WEEK 10:

Lecture 9 Harbours and landing places.

Seminar reading


**WEEK 11:**

**Lecture 10 Fishing and hunting.**

**Seminar reading**


**EASTER BREAK**
WEEK 12

Lecture 11 Trade and exchange networks

Seminar reading


WEEK 13:

Lecture 12 Maritories and prehistoric maritime interactions.

Seminar reading


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Learning outcomes

(1). Display a knowledge of the main archaeological techniques and methods used in coastal and maritime archaeology.
(2). Show awareness that archaeological evidence can be interpreted in different ways.
(3). Demonstrate a critical understanding of different types of archaeological evidence, and the strengths and weaknesses of specific types of evidence.
(4). Understand the historical, political and social context of the social maritime landscape.
(5). To understand and evaluate the past using a range of archaeological evidence.
(6). To understand the nature of the archaeological record (sites, monuments, landscapes, artefacts) and to critically analyse it.
(7). To understand that the past is at least partly constructed in the present, and of the contemporary issues of identity and legitimation which this raises.
(8). To provide students with a knowledge and skills base from which they can proceed to further study and research in specialised areas of archaeology, or multi-disciplined areas involving archaeology.
(9). Display a knowledge of the main archaeological techniques and methods used in coastal and maritime archaeology.
(10). To provide students with a knowledge and skills base from which they can proceed to further study and research in specialised areas of archaeology, or multi-disciplined areas involving archaeology.

Teaching and Learning

(1). Understand the historical, political and social context of the social maritime landscape.
(2). Display a knowledge of the main archaeological techniques and methods used in coastal and maritime archaeology.
(3). Demonstrate a critical understanding of different types of archaeological evidence, and the strengths and weaknesses of specific types of evidence.
(4). To understand and evaluate the past using a range of archaeological evidence.
(5). To understand that the past is at least partly constructed in the present, and of the contemporary issues of identity and legitimation which this raises.
(6). To understand the nature of the archaeological record (sites, monuments, landscapes, artefacts) and to critically analyse it.
(7). To provide students with a knowledge and skills base from which they can proceed to further study and research in specialised areas of archaeology, or multi-disciplined areas involving archaeology.
(8). Show awareness that archaeological evidence can be interpreted in different ways.

Skills

(1). Literacy - Proficiency in reading and writing through a variety of media.
(2). Numeracy - Proficiency in using numbers at appropriate levels of accuracy.
(3). Computer Literacy - Proficiency in using a varied range of computer software.
(4). Self-Management - Able to work unsupervised in an efficient, punctual and structured manner. To examine the outcomes of tasks and events, and judge levels of quality and importance.
(5). Exploring - Able to investigate, research and consider alternatives.
(6) Information retrieval - Able to access different and multiple sources of information.  
(7) Inter-personal - Able to question, actively listen, examine given answers and interact sensitevely with others.  
(8) Critical analysis & Problem Solving - Able to deconstruct and analyse problems or complex situations. To find solutions to problems through analyses and exploration of all possibilities using appropriate methods, resources and creativity.  
(8) Safety-Consciousness - Having an awareness of your immediate environment, and confidence in adhering to health and safety regulations.  
(9) Presentation - Able to clearly present information and explanations to an audience. Through the written or oral mode of communication accurately and concisely.  
(9) Teamwork - Able to constructively cooperate with others on a common task, and/or be part of a day-to-day working team.  
(10) Argument - Able to put forward, debate and justify an opinion or a course of action, with an individual or in a wider group setting.  
(11) Self-awareness & Reflectivity - Having an awareness of your own strengths, weaknesses, aims and objectives. Able to regularly review, evaluate and reflect upon the performance of yourself and others.

**Assessment methods and deadlines**

This course will be examined by two essays and a seminar workbook.

**Essay 1:** 3000 word essay (50% of the final mark) on the development of archaeological theory. Essay due date: **Thursday 30th March 2017**.

**Essay 2:** 3000 word essay (50% of the final mark) Essay due date: **Thursday 9th May 2017**

Questions for the essays will test knowledge and understanding of maritime and coastal archaeology. Answers will be graded by considering scope of reading; content (the depth of knowledge displayed); focus and clarity of argument; analysis (the ability to judge between interpretations and back arguments with evidence); presentation; and the ability to use references and bibliography appropriately [see Blackboard for assessment criteria in these areas]. Answers will be expected to show detailed knowledge of the topic they deal with (drawn from sources well beyond basic textbooks and lectures); to analyse evidence and interpretations in depth; and to engage with current theoretical debates. (Outcomes 1-5).

**Essay Questions**

Essay questions will be uploaded on to Black Board during week 2 of the module

**Assessment criteria:**

Please see blackboard for a full outline of the marking criteria for this module.
Bibliography


Borlase, W.C. 1753. Of the great alterations which the Isles of Scilly have undergone since the time of the ancients. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* 17 (1): 55–67.


Fox, C. 1925 Canoe discovered in Llangorse Lake. *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 80: 419-422.


O’Connor, B.O. 1980. *Cross-Channel Relations in the Later Bronze Age, Relations Between Britain, North-East France and the Low Countries during the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age, with Particular Reference to the Metalwork.* Oxford: British Archaeological Reports (International Series 91).


Bibliography


Borlase, W.C. 1753. Of the great alterations which the Isles of Scilly have undergone since the time of the ancients. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* 17 (1): 55–67.


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**Davies, M. 1946.** The Diffusion and Distribution Pattern of Megalithic Monuments of the Irish Sea and Northern Channel Coastlands. *Antiquaries Journal* 26, 38-60


