

Europe before the Roman Empire

The spread of humans, their art and settlements in Europe before the 1st Century BCE

Course #	20FEB
Format:	Seminar
Moderator:	Larry Ambs
Date and Time:	Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 10 weeks, September 23
Location:	UMass Transit Center, Amherst
Maximum number of participants:	18
Auditors accepted:	Yes, up to 2

Purpose: In this seminar we will investigate the peoples, art and social groups of prehistoric Europe into the early iron age.

Description: The period we will look at occurred before written language developed so communication by art, religion (burial practices) and megaliths was important. Many of these artifacts, villages and burial sites have been discovered and restored. Through an examination of these materials we will try to explore the emergence of agriculture, the development of village life and the rise of complex societies including their religious, cultural and scientific practices. We will also try to understand the relationship between the climate, landscape, material culture, architecture and the political organizations of these cultures that spread through Europe.

Role of participants: Each participant will be expected to explore a topic regarding prehistoric Europe and to prepare a 20-30-minute presentation for the seminar.

Resources: Various resources are available from the internet and libraries. Representative texts include *Europe before Rome*, T. Douglas Price, 2013, Oxford Press; *The Oxford Illustrated History of Prehistoric Europe*; Barry Cunliffe; 2001, Oxford Press; or *Handbook to Life in Prehistoric Europe*, Jane McIntosh, 2006, Infobase Publishing.

About the Moderator: Larry Ambs has been presenting 5CLIR seminars for over 10 years on topics ranging from science to history to culture.