

SYLLABUS

SUBJECT:

Archaeology of Ancient Thrace
(in English)

TEACHER:

Prof. dr. Diana Gergova

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Thracology is the youngest of the interdisciplinary sciences, dedicated to the study of the culture and history of one of the most important ancient European peoples during the Bronze and the Iron Age – the Thracians. The intensive archaeological investigations in the last 40 years mainly on the territory of Bulgaria and its neighboring countries allow now to outline the main characteristics of the culture of the Thracians that reached its apogee during the 1st mill BC, their participation in the events in the Eastern Mediterranean, their long distant contacts and relationships with contemporary peoples in Eastern, Northern and Western Europe, as well as the specific role, that the civilization of the Thracians played in the formation of the culture and the religious ideas of Prehistoric Europe.

The course will discuss the main aspects of the Thracian culture in the Late Bronze and the Iron age (14th - 1st c. BC): Settlement system and urbanization processes, Greek colonies and Emporia, Cult places and Sanctuaries, Necropolises and Burial rites, Tombs architecture, Pottery, Jewelry, Armor and Weapons. Contacts with the Mediterranean world, Scythians and the Caucasus, Northern and Western Europe will be discussed.

ECTS

5

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Obtaining still unavailable by textbooks knowledge about the culture of one of the main peoples of Ancient Europe – the Thracians and their place in the formation of the culture of Prehistoric Europe.

GRADING POLICY

credit with grade.

TIMETABLE

15 hours / winter semester

TEXTBOOK AND REQUIRED MATERIALS

- P. Alexandrescu. Les modèles grecs de la céramique thrace tournée, Dacia 31, 1977.
- Z. Archibald. The Odrysian Kingdom of Thrace. Oxford 1998.
- A. Balkanska. The Thracian Sanctuary at Demit baba teke (second half of the 1st mill BC), Sboryanovo series II, Sofia 1998.
- A. Bozkova. A Pontic Pottery Group of the Hellenistic Age (A Survey Based on Examples from the Bulgarian Black Sea Coast), Archaeologia bulgarica 2, 1997.
- D. P. Dimitrov, M. Cicikova. The Thracian City of Seuthopolis, BAR Suppl. 38, Oxford, 1978.
- D. Gergova. Genesis and Development of the Metal Ornaments in the Thracian Lands during the Early Iron Age (11th-6th Century BC), Studia Praehistorica 3, 1980.

- D. Gergova. Früh-und Ältereisenzeitlichen Fibeln in Bulgarien, PBF XIV/7, 1987.
- D. Gergova. The Rogozen Treasure and One Religious Feast in Ancient Thrace, in: 17 Internationale Eirene Konferenz, Berlin 1986 (= Klio, 1989, 71/1), 36–50.
- D. Gergova. Die Bedeutung der Schatzfunde in der Thrakischen Welt, in: Der Thrakischen Silberschatz aus Rogozen, Bulgarien. Katalog. Bonn-Mainz-Freiburg-München-Hamburg, 1988, 51–58.
- D. Gergova. Thracian Burial Rites of the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age. Thracians and Mycenaean. Leiden-Sofia 1989.
- D. Gergova. The Problem of the "Plundered" Thracian Tombs and its Proposed solution: A new method applied during excavations, in: H. Schliemann. Grundlagen und Ergebnisse moderner Archeologie. 100 Jahre nach Schliemann Tod. Berlin, 1992, 283–292.
- D. Gergova. Culture in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age in Southwest Thrace (Upper Mesta and Middle Struma Valleys). Сборник Нова Серија, бр.1, 1995, археологија. Скопје, 31–48.
- D. Gergova. The Treasure from Vulchitran and the Amber Route in the Balkans, in: The Early Hallstatt Period (1200-700 B.C.) in South Eastern Europe. Alba Julia 1994 – Apulum 1995, 69–79.
- D. Gergova. The Rite of the Immortalization in Ancient Thrace, Engl. Summ. (=Д. Гергова. Обрядът на обезсмъртяването в древна Тракия. София) Sofia 1996.
- D. Gergova. The Tripartite Vessel from Vulchitran - Epoch and Function. – Thracia, 13, Serdicae, 2000, 137–147.
- D. Gergova. L'eschare dans le monde Thrace e Celte. – In: Thracians and Celts. Proceedings of the International Colloquium from Bistrita, 18-20 mai 2006. Editura Mega, Cluj-Napoca, 2006, 149–166.
- D. Gergova. The Eternity of a Burial Rite. The Throne and the Sitting Dead. 7th International Colloquium of Funerary Archaeology. Sibiu 2005. – Acta Terrae Septemcastrensis, V,1, 2006, 51–62.
- D. Gergova. The Golden sandals. – Folia Archaeologica Balkanica. In honorem Verae Bitrakova Grozdanova, 2006, 111–117.
- D. Gergova. The tumular embankment in the burial rites and cosmogony of the Thracian Getae. The cosmic egg. – ISTROS, 13, 2006, 85–95.
- D. Gergova. Geoarchaeological studies in the Sbornyanovo National Reserve (North-East Bulgaria) - In: Geoarchaeology and Archaeomineralogy. Proceedings of the International Conference 29-30 October 2008, Sofia, 367–37
- D. Gergova, I. Iliev, V. Rizzo . Seismic Effects on Tombs in Sveshtari, dated to the Hellenistic period. In: Terremoti et Civiltà Abitative. Roma, ottobre 1993 Annali Geofisici, 1994
- A. Gotzev. Decoration of the Early Iron Age Pottery from South-east Bulgaria. The Early Hallstatt period (1200-700 B.C.) in South-Eastern Europe. Alba Julia, 1994.
- M. Domaradzki (ed.) Pistiros et Thasos. Structures économiques dans la Péninsule Balkanique aux VIIe-IIe siècles avant J.-C. Opole, 2000.
- A. Fol, M. Cicikova, T. Ivanov, T. Teofilov. The Thracian Tomb near the Village of Sveshtari. Sofia 1986.
- B. Hänsel. Beiträge zur regionalen und chronologischen Gliederung der älteren Hallstattzeit an der Unteren Donau. Bonn 1976.
- B. Isaak. The Greek Settlements in Thrace until the Macedonian Conquest (Leiden 1986)
- G. Kitov. A newly found Thracian Tomb with Frescoes. Archaeologia Bulgarica, V, 2001, 2.
- I. Kuleff, I. Iliev, E. Pernicka, D. Gergova. Chemical and lead isotope compositions of lead artefacts from ancient Thracia (Bulgaria). – Journal of Cultural Heritage, 2006, No 7, 244–256.

- K. Nikov. "Aeolian" bucchero in Thrace? – *Archaeologia bulgarica*, 2, 1999.
- Ch. Popov. Eine ältereisenzeitliche Fibelgruppe aus Koprivlen (Südwestbulgarien) – Problemkreis und Interpretationsversuche. – *Archeologia Bulgarica*, X, 2006, 2, 9-36.
- M. Reho. La ceramica attica a figure nere e rosse nella Thracia Bulgara. 1990.
- T. Shalganova. The Lower Danube Incrusted Pottery Culture. – In: *Prehistoric Bulgaria (Monographs in World Archaeology, XXII)*, Prehistory Press, 1995.
- T. Shalganova, A. Gotzev. Problems of Research on the Early Iron Age. - In: *Prehistoric Bulgaria. Monographs in World Archaeology* 22.
- V. Sirbu. Agigiol- la tombe d'un basileus gete de la Dobroudja.- *Phosphorion*. 2008. *Studiae in honorem Mariae Cicikova*. Sofia, 268-273.
- V. Sirbu. G. Florea . Les Géo – Daces. Iconographie et imaginaire. Centre d'Études Transylvaines Fondation Culturelle Roumaine, Cluj-Napoca, 2000.
- V. Sirbu., N. Harțuche. Remarques sur le tumulus aristocratique de Gâvani, department de Brâila, p. 139-153, in *Tombes tumulaires de L'Âge du Fer dans le Sud-Est de L'Europe. Actes du Iie Colloque International d'Archéologie Funéraire*, Tulcea, 2000.
- T. Stoyanov. Tumular necropolis from the Early Iron Age. *Sboryanovo* 1, 1997.
- E. Teleaga. Griechische Importe in den Nekropolen an der unteren Donau. 6 Jh.-Anfang des 3 Jhs.v.Chr. *Marburger Studien zur vor-und Frühgeschichte* 23, Verlag Marie Leidorf GmbH. Rahden/Westf. 2008, 480.
- N. Theodossiev. 'Monumental Tombs and Hero Cults in Thrace during the 5th–3rd Centuries B.C.'. In *Pirenne-Delforge, V. and Suñez de la Torre, E. (eds.), Heros et heronnes dans les mythes et les cultes grecs .Kernos suppl. 10*, 2000, Liege, 435–47.
- N. Theodossiev. *North-Western Thrace from the Fifth to First Centuries BC (BAR International Series 859)*. 2000. Oxford
- N. Theodossiev . *Ancient Thrace during the First Millennium BC.*-In: *The Black Sea, Greece , Anatolia and Europe in the First millennium BC. Colloquia Antiqua* 1, Leuven-Paris-Walpole, 2011, 1-61
- G. Tonceva. Chronologie du hallstatt ancien dans la Bulgarie de nord-est. - *Studia Thracica* 5, 1980.
- M. Tonkova. Vestiges d'ateliers d'orfèvrerie thraces des Ve-IIIe s. av. J.C.- *Helis* III, 1 1994.
- M. Tonkova. Hellenistic jewellery from the colonies in the West Black Sea Coast. – *Archaeology in Bulgaria*, 1, 1997.
- M. Tonkova. Traditions and Aegean influences on the Jewellery of Thrace in Early Hellenistic Times. – *Archaeologia Bulgarica*, 2, 1997.
- M. Tonkova. Late Iron Age Pit-Sanctuaries in Thrace: The contribution of the studies at Gledacevo. - *Thracia* XV, 2003, 478-504.
- I. Venedikov. *The Vulchitrun Treasure*. Sofia 1987.
- B. Zlateva, M. Kuzmanov, I. Kuleff, R. Djingova, D. Gergova. "Multi-element analysis of bones for dietary reconstruction of the inhabitants of Thracia at Hellenistic times (Bulgaria). – *Berliner Beiträge z. Archäometrie*, 20, 2006, 224–338.

PREREQUISITES:

General knowledge about Bronze and Iron Age cultures in Europe and Eastern Mediterranean.