

UČNI NAČRT PREDMETA / COURSE SYLLABUS

Predmet:	Kozmologija mezoameriških ljudstev
Course title:	Cosmology of Mesoamerican societies

Študijski program in stopnja Study programme and level	Študijska smer Study field	Letnik Academic year	Semester Semester
Primerjalni študij idej in kultur, doktorski študij 3. stopnje	Antropologija: razumevanje svetotvornih praks	Brez letnika	/
Comparative studies of ideas and cultures, doctoral study 3 rd level	Anthropology: understanding worldmaking practices	Not specified	/

Vrsta predmeta / Course type: splošno izbirni / general elective

Univerzitetna koda predmeta / University course code: 11

Predavanja Lectures	Seminar Seminar	Vaje Tutorial	Klinične vaje work	Druge oblike študija	Samost. delo Individ. work	ECTS
60	30				90	6

Nosilec predmeta / Lecturer: Red. prof. dr. Ivan Šprajc

Jeziki / Languages: Predavanja / Lectures: slovenščina, angleščina / Slovenian, English
 Vaje / Tutorial: /

Pogoji za vključitev v delo oz. za opravljanje študijskih obveznosti:

Ni posebnih pogojev.

Prerequisites:

None required.

Vsebina:

1. Uvod v mezoameriške kulture:

- Mezoamerika – definicija in skupne značilnosti kulturnogeografskega območja;
- Mezoamerika – oris naravnega okolja in kulturnega razvoja;
- pregled osnovnih značilnosti mezoameriških kultur (gospodarske osnove, družbena struktura, politična organizacija, religija, znanja, arhitektura, umetnost...).

2. Kozmologija v kulturnem kontekstu:

- definicija kozmologije;
- kozmologija in sorodni pojmi (kozmogonija, pogled na svet);
- razmerje med kozmologijo, znanostjo in religijo;
- pogojenost kozmoloških konceptov od konkretnega naravnega okolja in kulturnega konteksta.

3. Zgodovinski in mitični čas v Mezoameriki:

Content (Syllabus outline):

1. Mesoamerican cultures, introduction:

- Mesoamerica: definition and common characteristics of the cultural area;
- Mesoamerica: natural environment and cultural development;
- Survey of basic characteristics of Mesoamerican cultures (economic basis, social structure, political organization, religion, exact knowledge, architecture, art, etc.).

2. Cosmology in a cultural context:

- Definition of cosmology;
- Cosmology and related terms (cosmogony, worldview);
- The relationship between cosmology, science, and religion;
- The dependence of cosmological concepts on a specific natural environment and cultural context.

3. Historical and mythical time in Mesoamerica:

- Orientation in time; significance of

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • orientacija v času; pomen opazovanja neba; • merjenje časa, koledarski sistem; • linearni in ciklični čas; • astronomsko znanje, uporabni vidiki; • razmerje med astronomijo in astrologijo; • kozmogonija v mitih in arheoloških virih. <p>4. Konceptualna povezanost časa in prostora:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • astronomsko signifikantne smeri kot prostorski indikatorji poteka časa; • struktura sveta/vesolja; kozmogrami; • kozmologija v religiji in ritualu; • observacionalne osnove verovanj, atributov božanstev in obrednih dejanj. <p>5. Materialni korelati kozmoloških konceptov:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • kozmološki simbolizem v arhitekturi, pokopih in drobnih artefaktih; • urbane trase kot kozmogrami; • astronomske orientacije v arhitekturi – praktični in simbolični pomen; • kozmološki elementi kulturne pokrajine (»posvečena geografija«). <p>6. Družbena vloga kozmoloških pojmovanj:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strukturiranje in interpretacija sveta in človekovega mesta v njem; • uporabna vloga poznavanja naravnih zakonitosti (programiranje dejavnosti v letnem ciklu; učinkovitost gospodarstva ipd.); • vloga kozmologije v kompleksnih družbah: znanje kot sredstvo legitimiranja oblasti, preobrazba verovanj v politično ideologijo; • komparativni vidiki in generalizacije: primerjave z nekaterimi drugimi arhaičnimi civilizacijami.

<p>observation of the sky;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time measurement, the calendrical system; • Linear and cyclical time; • Astronomical knowledge, utilitarian aspects; • The relation between astronomy and astrology; • Cosmogony in myths and archaeological evidence; <p>4. The conceptual relationship of time and space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Astronomically significant directions as spatial indicators of the course of time; • Structure of the world/cosmos, cosmograms; • Cosmology in religion and ritual; • Observational bases of beliefs, attributes of deities, and ritual acts; <p>5. Material correlates of cosmological concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cosmological symbolism in architecture, burials, and small artefacts; • Urban layouts as cosmograms; • Astronomical orientations in architecture: practical and symbolic significance; • Cosmological elements of cultural landscape ("sacred geography"). <p>6. The social role of cosmological concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordering and interpretation of the world and humans' place therein; • Practical significance of understanding regularities in nature (scheduling of activities in the yearly cycle, efficiency of subsistence strategies, etc.); • The role of cosmology in complex societies: knowledge as an instrument of domination and legitimation of power; • Transformation of beliefs into political ideology; • Comparative aspects and generalizations: comparison with other ancient civilizations.

Temeljni literatura in viri / Readings:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolle, K. W., Cosmology. V: M. Eliade, ur., Encyclopedia of Religions, vol. 4: 100-107. • Jaki, S. L., Science and religion. V: M. Eliade, ur., Encyclopedia of Religions, vol.4 : 121-133.
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- Brady, J. E. – W. Ashmore, 1999, Mountains, caves, water: ideational landscapes of the ancient Maya, v: Wendy Ashmore – A. Bernard Knapp, ur., Archaeologies of landscape, Oxford: Blackwell, 124-145.
- Aveni, Anthony F., 2001. Skywatchers: A revised and updated version of Skywatchers of ancient Mexico, Austin: University of Texas Press.
- Verdet, Jean-Pierre, 1996, Nebo: Red in nered, Ljubljana: DZS (prev.: M. Veselko; orig.: Le ciel: Ordre et désordre, Paris: Gallimard Jeunesse, 1987).
- Carlson, J. B., 1981, A geomantic model for the interpretation of Mesoamerican sites: an essay in cross-cultural comparison. V: E. P. Benson, ur., Mesoamerican sites and world-views, Washington: Dumbarton Oaks, 143-215.
- Sosa, J. R., 1989, Cosmological, symbolic and cultural complexity among the contemporary Maya of Yucatan. V: A. F. Aveni, ur., World archaeoastronomy, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 130-142.
- Villa Rojas, A., 1986. Apéndice I: Los conceptos de espacio y tiempo entre los grupos mayances contemporáneos. V: M. León-Portilla, Tiempo y realidad en el pensamiento maya, México: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, 119-167.
- Adams, R. E. W., M. J. MacLeod, eds. 2000. The Cambridge History of the Native Peoples of the Americas, Vol. II: Mesoamerica, Parts 1 & 2. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Šprajc, I., 2018, Astronomy, architecture, and landscape in prehispanic Mesoamerica. Journal of Archaeological Research 26 (2): 197-251.

Cilji in kompetence:

Študentke in študentje naj bi se seznanili s kozmološkimi koncepti mezoameriških ljudstev in z raznimi kulturnimi prvinami oz. vidiki življenja, v katerih se ta pojmovanja tako ali drugače odražajo. Pregled konkretnih spoznanj in raziskav, ki so do njih pripeljale, naj bi ponazoril tudi metodološke prijeme, ki so bili aplicirani, omogočil ovrednotenje njihove uporabnosti pri tovrstnih preučevanjih nasploh ter ilustriral relevantnost rezultatov za holistično razumevanje funkcioniranja in razvoja nekdanjih družb.

Objectives and competences:

This course familiarizes students with the cosmological concepts of pre-Hispanic peoples of Mesoamerica, as well as cultural manifestations or aspects of life in which these ideas are contained or reflected. A summary of what is currently known in this respect and a survey of studies that have led to specific results should also exemplify methodological approaches that have been applied, allow a proper assessment of their utility in this kind of research, and illustrate the relevance of what they have learned for a holistic understanding of the structure and functioning of past societies.

Predvideni študijski rezultati:

Razumevanje

- razvoja mezoameriških kultur;
- kozmoloških pojmovanj in njihove povezave z okoljskimi značilnostmi in kulturnega konteksta;
- relevantnih konceptov sferne astronomije;
- metodologije, primerne za preučevanje kozmologije in pogleda na svet

Intended learning outcomes:

Understanding of

- development of Mesoamerican cultures;
- cosmological concepts and their relationship with environmental peculiarities and cultural context;
- relevant concepts of spherical astronomy;
- methodology appropriate for studying cosmology and worldview

Metode poučevanja in učenja:

Learning and teaching methods:

Oblike dela:

- Frontalna oblika poučevanja
 Delo v manjših skupinah oz. v dvojicah
 Samostojno delo študentov
 e-izobraževanje

Metode (načini) dela:

- Razlaga
 Razgovor/ diskusija/debata
 Delo z besedilom
 Proučevanje primera
 Igra vlog
 Druge vrste nastopov študentov
 Reševanje nalog
 "Terenske vaje" (npr. obiski podjetij)
 Vključevanje gostov iz prakse

Types of learning/teaching:

- Frontal teaching
 Work in smaller groups or pair work
 Independent students work
 e-learning

Teaching methods:

- Explanation
 Conversation/discussion/debate
 Work with texts
 Case studies
 Roleplay
 Different presentation
 Solving exercises
 Field work (e.g. company visits)
 Inviting guests from companies

Načini ocenjevanja:

Krajši pisni izdelki
Daljši pisni izdelki
Javni nastop ali predstavitev
Končno ocenjevanje (pisni/ustni izpit)
Drugo

Delež (v %) /
Weight (in %)

20
20
60

Assessment:

Short written assignments
Long written assignments
Presentations
Final examination (written/oral)
Other

Reference nosilca / Lecturer's references:

Šprajc, Ivan

- 2020 Lost Maya cities: Archaeological quests in the Mexican jungle. College Station: Texas A&M University Press.
- 2018 Venus in Mesoamerica: rain, maize, warfare, and sacrifice. Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Planetary Science.
- 2018 Astronomy, architecture, and landscape in prehispanic Mesoamerica. Journal of Archaeological Research 26 (2): 197–251.
- 2015 Astronomical correlates of architecture and landscape in Mesoamerica. In: Clive L. N. Ruggles, ed., Handbook of Archaeoastronomy and Ethnoastronomy, New York: Springer, pp. 715–728.
- 2015 ed., Exploraciones arqueológicas en Chactún, Campeche, México. Prostor, kraj, čas 7, Ljubljana: Založba ZRC.
- 2005 More on Mesoamerican cosmology and city plans. Latin American Antiquity 16 (2): 209-216.
- 2000 Astronomical alignments at Teotihuacan, Mexico. Latin American Antiquity 11 (4): 403-415. Washington (USA).

Sánchez Nava, Pedro Francisco, Ivan Šprajc

- 2015 Orientaciones astronómicas en la arquitectura maya de las tierras bajas. México: Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (Colección Arqueología, Serie Logos).

Šprajc, Ivan - Pedro Francisco Sánchez Nava

- 2015 Orientaciones astronómicas en la arquitectura de Mesoamérica: Oaxaca y el Golfo

de México. Prostor, kraj, čas 8. Ljubljana: Založba ZRC. ISBN 978-961-254-816-2

Šprajc, Ivan, Carlos Morales-Aguilar, and Richard D. Hansen

- 2009 Early Maya astronomy and urban planning at El Mirador, Peten, Guatemala. *Anthropological Notebooks* 15 (3): 79–101.