Africa

Oldowan  
Location: Eastern Africa.  
Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherer / scavengers living in small bands. Associated with Homo habilis and early Homo erectus.  
OAT code: 0005  
OWC code: F030

Acheulean  
Location: Africa and Western Europe.  
Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small bands. Associated with Homo erectus.  
OAT code: 0010  
OWC code: F035

Southern and Eastern Africa Middle Stone Age  
Location: Africa.  
Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small bands. Associated with archaic Homo sapiens.  
OAT code: 0020  
OWC code: F045

Middle Paleolithic Egypt  
Location: Nile valley in Egypt and westward in northern Egypt and Sudan.  
Description: Nomadic or semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities. Associated with archaic Homo sapiens.  
OAT code: 0040  
OWC code: MR45

Aterian  
Location: Northern Africa.  
Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers, focused on big game, and living in small, egalitarian bands.  
OAT code: 6005  
OWC code: M060

Late Pleistocene-Early Holocene Maghreb  
Location: Mediterranean coast of Northern Africa.  
Description: Nomadic or semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.  
OAT code: 6010  
OWC code: M050

Southern Mediterranean Neolithic  
Location: Mediterranean coast of North Africa.  
Description: Nomadic or semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers with some domesticated livestock (sheep, pigs, and cattle), and living in small, egalitarian communities.  
OAT code: 6025  
OWC code: M053
Neolithic of Capsian

*Years BP:* 7500 - 4000

*Location:* Northern Africa.

*Description:* Nomadic or semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers with some domesticated livestock (sheep, pigs, and cattle), and living in small, egalitarian communities.

*OAT code:* 6030  
*OWC code:* M062

North African Protohistoric

*Years BP:* 4000 - 3000

*Location:* Northern Africa.

*Description:* Sedentary or semi-sedentary pastoralists and agriculturalists living in large villages with a chiefdom political organization. Historic period follows.

*OAT code:* 6035  
*OWC code:* M066

Saharo-Sudanese Neolithic

*Years BP:* 8000 - 3000

*Location:* Sahara region of northern Africa.

*Description:* Semi-nomadic pastoralists, some with supplementary agriculture, living in small communities. Desertification begins late in the period and climaxes by 3000 BP. Desert areas become virtually uninhabited.

*OAT code:* 6040  
*OWC code:* MS60

Southern and Eastern Africa Later Stone Age

*Years BP:* 40000 - 2000

*Location:* Eastern and southern Africa.

*Description:* Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian bands.

*OAT code:* 6060  
*OWC code:* F050

Wilton

*Years BP:* 10000 - 2000

*Location:* Cape region of southern Africa.

*Description:* Nomadic hunter/gatherers living in small, egalitarian bands. Some reliance on marine resources in coastal areas.

*OAT code:* 6065  
*OWC code:* FX50

South African Iron Age

*Years BP:* 2000 - 500

*Location:* Southern Africa.

*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists and pastoralists living in villages, some large. Late in the tradition there is evidence of regional chiefdoms or states developing. Continues into the historic period.

*OAT code:* 6075  
*OWC code:* F057

East African Microlithic

*Years BP:* 20000 - 5000

*Location:* Northeast Africa and the Horn.

*Description:* Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.

*OAT code:* 6080  
*OWC code:* M071
East African Neolithic  
**Location:** Northeastern Africa and the Horn.  
**Description:** Semi-sedentary pastoralists and agriculturalists living in small villages, most integrated into larger, regional chiefdoms and states. Ends in the historic period.  
**OAT code:** 6090  
**OWC code:** M074  
*Years BP: 5000 - 1200*

Early Khartoum  
**Location:** Nile valley in Nubia and the Sudan.  
**Description:** Semi-sedentary or sedentary hunter / fisher / gatherers living in small villages.  
**OAT code:** 6095  
**OWC code:** MS45  
*Years BP: 10000 - 5700*

Khartoum Neolithic  
**Location:** Nile valley in Nubia and the Sudan.  
**Description:** Sedentary pastoralists and agriculturalists living in villages, integrated into regional chiefdoms or states, particularly late in the tradition. Integrated into Egyptian empire by the end of the time period.  
**OAT code:** 6100  
**OWC code:** MS50  
*Years BP: 5700 - 3550*

Late Paleolithic Egypt  
**Location:** Upper Nile valley in Egypt.  
**Description:** Village-dwelling hunter / fisher / gatherers with an egalitarian or ranked form of social organization.  
**OAT code:** 6110  
**OWC code:** MR50  
*Years BP: 45000 - 7000*

Upper Egypt Predynastic  
**Location:** Upper Nile valley in Egypt.  
**Description:** Sedentary, village-dwelling agriculturalists and fishers living in regional chiefdoms or simple states.  
**OAT code:** 6115  
**OWC code:** MR55  
*Years BP: 7000 - 5000*

Lower Egypt Predynastic  
**Location:** Lower Nile valley in Egypt.  
**Description:** Sedentary, village-dwelling agriculturalists and fishers living in regional chiefdoms or simple states.  
**OAT code:** 6125  
**OWC code:** MR60  
*Years BP: 7000 - 5000*

Early Dynastic Egypt  
**Location:** Nile valley in Egypt.  
**Description:** Sedentary, emerging state with a politico-religious hierarchy.  
**OAT code:** 6130  
**OWC code:** MR70  
*Years BP: 5000 - 4575*
Protohistoric Egypt

Location: Nile valley in Egypt.
Description: Powerful, expanding state with a complex bureaucracy, politico-religious hierarchy, and military organization. Includes the Old Kingdom, First Intermediate Period, and Middle Kingdom.

OAT code: 6135  OWC code: MR80

Tshitolian

Years BP: 10000 - 4000

Location: Congo basin.
Description: Semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.

OAT code: 6160  OWC code: Fl71

Central African Neolithic

Years BP: 4000 - 2000

Location: Congo basin.
Description: Settled village agriculturalists with a continuing reliance on hunting, fishing, and gathering. Cereal agriculture moves from north to south during this time period.

OAT code: 6165  OWC code: Fl74

Central African Iron Age

Years BP: 2000 - 500

Location: Congo basin.
Description: Settled agriculturalists living in large villages.

OAT code: 6170  OWC code: Fl76

West African Late Stone Age

Years BP: 40000 - 4000

Location: Western Africa south of the Sahara and north of the Congo basin.
Description: Nomadic or semi-sedentary hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.

OAT code: 6175  OWC code: FA70

West African Neolithic

Years BP: 4000 - 2000

Location: Western Africa south of the Sahara and north of the Congo basin.
Description: Semi-sedentary agriculturalists living in small communities.

OAT code: 6180  OWC code: FA73

West African Iron Age

Years BP: 2500 - 1200

Location: Western Africa south of the Sahara and north of the Congo basin.
Description: Sedentary agriculturalists living in small to moderate communities, some linked into regional chiefdoms or simple states.

OAT code: 6185  OWC code: FA75
West African Regional Development  

*Years BP:* 1200 - 630

*Location:* Western Africa south of the Sahara and north of the Congo basin.

*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists living in communities of varying size, some very large, and linked into regional chiefdoms and states. Time range covers only the period before European contact, but the tradition continues into the historic period.

*OAT code:* 6190  
*OWC code:* FA77

Nachikufan  

*Years BP:* 16000 - 2000

*Location:* Zambia, Luangwa valley, western Turkana region.

*Description:* Semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small, egalitarian communities.

*OAT code:* 6195  
*OWC code:* FQ50