

University of Lethbridge
Anthropological Archaeology
Anthropology 2410A
Fall 2013

Class: MWF 2:00-2:50 PM

Instructor: Dr. Jerimy J. Cunningham

Instructor Phone: 329-5102

Office Hours: Wed 11:30-12:30

Classroom: PE264

Dropbox: A874

Instructor Office: A868

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Introduction:

The goal of this course is to provide students with a well-rounded introduction to anthropological archaeology by surveying world prehistory from the emergence of humans to the development of ancient states and empires. We begin by looking at the techniques and methods that archaeology uses to reconstruct the past. We then move chronologically through human prehistory, focusing on the evolution of modern humans, the development of agriculture and the emergence of social complexity. Some of the topics we will cover in the course include relations between humans and Neanderthals, the Neolithic transition, social complexity at important sites such as Cahokia and Chaco Canyon, ancient states such as Egypt, Teotihuacan, and ancient empires such as the Aztec and the Inca.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course, students should have the necessary skills and knowledge to:

- Describe how archaeologists reconstruct the past from material remains.
- Describe the recent history of anthropological archaeology and outline key theoretical developments.
- Outline key phases in human evolution and in the social and political evolution of ancient societies.
- Define the chronologies, key characteristics and major sites of some of the most important archaeological cultures in human prehistory.
- Interpret basic archaeological data and create a basic culture history based on that data.

Course Texts:

Chazan, Michael

2012 *World Prehistory and Archaeology: Pathways through time*. Second Canadian Edition. Pearson Education, Toronto.

Additional materials available through Moodle.

DELIVERABLES

Component	Weighting	Date
Quiz 1	20%	Oct 4
Quiz 2	20%	Nov 8
Archaeological Problem	25%	Nov 22
Final Exam	35%	Exam Period

Quizzes (2 X 20%)

Quizzes consist of multiple-choice, matching and map questions that you write online through Moodle **on Oct 4th & Nov 8th**. Questions are drawn from all course materials, including readings, lectures and films. The quizzes are not cumulative and cover material dealt with only since the previous quiz. The exact chapters covered on the exam may change slightly depending on how fast we move through the course.

Archaeological Problem (25%)

The archaeological problem is an exercise that allows students to interpret an archaeological dataset that has been adapted from a real world situation. During the first month of the course, you will be provided with a handout that outlines a problem. I would recommend reading it as early as possible so that you may think about it as we work through course materials. While you may draw from course materials in writing up your interpretation, it should not require additional library research.

During the 10th week of the class, you will be placed into groups of 4-6 people and I will give you the class on **Nov 15th** to discuss your project with one another and talk about the types of patterns that you see and consider to be significant. Consequentially, you should have studied the data in detail and drawn some preliminary interpretations on you own prior to this class. You will then each ***independently*** write up a solution to the problem over the next week and hand it in. **Your interpretation of the data provided should not exceed 5 double spaced pages (1250 words) in length and must include appendices containing graphs, maps and/or tables. The assignment is due November 22nd and is worth 25% of your final mark.**

Final Exam (35%)

The Final Exam will be a cumulative, mixed format exam written through Moodle during the Final Exam Period. It will consist of questions drawn from all course content, including texts, lectures, and films.

COURSE POLICIES

Percentage to Letter Grade Conversion

Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent
A+	95+	C+	67-69%
A	87-94%	C	63-66%
A-	83-86%	C-	60-62%
B+	78-82%	D+	57-59%
B	74-77%	D	50-56%
B-	70-73%	F	0-49%

Returned Exams and Assignments

I will strive to return marked exams and assignments to students within 2 weeks of their due date. Marks will be posted in Moodle's Gradebook.

Citation Format

All assignments should adhere to the style format of *American Antiquity*. (<http://www.saa.org/AbouttheSociety/Publications/StyleGuide/tabid/984/Default.aspx>). A pdf version of the guide is available on Moodle and key citation information is located in sections 3.4 and 3.9.

Late Penalties for All Course Assignments

All deliverables lose 2% of the FINAL GRADE IN THE COURSE for each day that the assignment is late. For example, an article review worth 10% of the final grade will lose 2% of the FINAL GRADE that is allotted to the assignment, which effectively moves an initial score of 8.5/10 (or an 'A-') to a mark of 6.5/10 (which a 'C'). Please note that *no extensions will be granted* and delayed submissions of assignments because of illness or family emergency will require official documentation.

PowerPoint Slides

PowerPoint slides related to lectures will be posted on Moodle *after* the lectures in which they are used. It is my goal to have the slides available for you on Moodle within 72 hours of the lecture, however it may take longer if the lectures carry over into subsequent classes.

COMMUNICATION POLICIES

Outside lectures and office hours, the primary forms of communication in the course take place through Moodle, including the bulletin board and chat rooms.

Bulletin Board

Any questions that you may have that relate to course content, course procedures, the assignments or the readings should be posted to the main bulletin board. This allows everyone in the class to see the responses that I give and it makes my life a bit easier because I won't have to answer 6 identical questions. It also will hopefully jump start the bulletin board as a venue for informal discussions about the course.

Email: (jerimy.cunningham@uleth.ca)

Questions on more personal issues can be sent to my email. I will check my email once a day during the week and I will try to reply to you within 72 hours. At certain times during the semester, I will be away from my office for 2-7 days at a time and thus I may be delayed in replying to any questions.

Office Hours & Chats

A single set of office hours tends to be quite difficult for most students to work into their diverse schedules, yet other students still enjoy a time when they can drop in to ask their professor a question. As a result, this term I have opted to schedule an office hour for our course on Wednesdays between 11:30-12:30 and I will also be available at other times by appointment. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to meet and discuss the course or assignments. I do ask that you please give me sufficient notice for appointments so I can arrange my schedule. Appointments can be held either in person at my office, adjacent to our classroom, or electronically in our Moodle chatroom.

Telephone

I have posted my office telephone number on the course outline. I would stress that this is given *for emergency purposes only*. Questions relevant to the course are best directed to me through the bulletin board and email.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE & ASSOCIATED READINGS
(Subject to change**)**

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings
0	Sept 4 & 6	Introduction to the course	
1	Sept 9-13	Archaeological Research Projects	Ch 1
2	Sept 16-20	Archaeological Theory	Ch 2
3	Sept 23-27	Early hominins & neanderthals	Ch 3 & 4
4	Sept 30–Oct 4	Modern humans ** Oct 4 – Quiz 1 **	Ch 5 & 6
5	Oct 7-11	Early Agriculture	Ch 7
6	Oct 16 & 18	New World Agriculture	Ch 8
7	Oct 21-25	Global Agriculture	Ch 9
8	Oct 28-Nov 1	Complexity without the state	Ch 10
9	Nov 4-8	Mesopotamia & Egypt ** Nov 8 – Quiz 2 **	Ch 11
10	Nov 13-15	Aegean, Indus Valley & China **Nov 15 – Arky problem work day**	Ch 12
11	Nov 18-22	Maya & Aztec ** Nov 22 - Arky Problem Due **	Ch 13
12	Nov 25-29	Inca	Ch 14
13	Dec 2-9	Solution to the Arky Problem & Review	Epilogue