

ANTHROPOLOGY 3360

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY

Fall Semester 2024

Location CAS 104

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

11:15-12:10

Dr. Thomas H. Guderjan

Office: CAS 136 (NOTE! This is a change.)

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Office Hours

MWF 10-11AM & 1:30-3PM and any other time by appointment. You can email for an appointment any time.

Course Description:

Archaeology is the branch of anthropology that deals with peoples of the past. This course deals with the techniques, methodology and theoretical constructs that are incorporated into archaeology. The focus of this course is to understand how we know, what we know, about the past. A number of case studies will be incorporated into the course to illustrate the application of these concepts. Consequently, while this course does not deal with the prehistory of humanity, a number of related issues will be integrated into the course. This is, for the most part, a lecture-format course. However, some additional teaching media will be used.

Objectives

1. Introduce students to the theoretical and historical background of archaeology.
2. Introduce students to techniques, such as radiocarbon dating, surveys and excavations, commonly used in archaeology.
3. Introduce students to methodologies of contemporary archaeology.
4. To increase students' research and scholarly skills through preparation and presentation of information related to the subject.

Textbook: None-All course material will be provided via CANVAS and in class.

Class: The normal week will consist of class meetings on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. There will be lectures on Monday and Wednesday with a discussion on Friday. Beginning the second week, weekly paper topics will be assigned on Fridays and the papers are due on the following Wednesday for discussion the next Friday.

The readings provided via CANVAS will be supplemented by lectures, films and discussion. The lectures will complement but not duplicate the readings. In general, I will explain methods in class that are also covered in the text then use case studies to illustrate the utility of the particular methods. In general, you

are expected to have read appropriate assignments prior to coming to class. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of all deadlines and material discussed in class. There will be 2-3 optional practicums offered during the semester as well.

Grading: The course grade will be based on *12 weekly papers and one research paper*. The weekly papers will be assigned on Fridays and due on the following Wednesday. Each will consist of a 2-3 page discussion of a topic to be assigned in class and the highest 10 grades will be counted towards the final grade. Students are expected to be able to synthesize major concepts and be responsible for specific details presented in class and the textbook. Additionally, each student will write a 15-page research paper on a subject agreed upon in advance. Each student will give a short presentation of their research paper during the last week of class.

DATE	TASK	DETAILS	SLO	POINTS
Sept 15	Choose Topic for Research Paper	1 page discussion of student's planned topic	Become able to conceptualize a theme associated with information from the class	5
Oct 15	List of references for research paper	Students compile lists of 10 peer-reviewed references applicable to the research paper topic	(1) Students learn what peer-reviewed sources mean and (2) learn to compile literature applicable for research topic	10
Nov 15	Research Paper	15 page (double space, 12 pt.) paper with at least 10 references	Students learn to demonstrate their ability to understand what scholarly information is, (1) demonstrate their abilities to command and synthesize information and (3) demonstrate their abilities to conduct scholarly research	25
Last week of Class	Presentation	15 minutes student lead discussion on the results of their research paper	Students demonstrate their ability to understand what scholarly information is, (1) demonstrate their abilities to command and synthesize information and (3) demonstrate their abilities to conduct scholarly research	10
	10 weekly tests	5 pts each		50
TOTAL				100 pts

GRADE SCALE

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

60-69 = D

0-59 = F

The Purposes of research papers include:

Demonstrate your ability to understand what scholarly information is... and ... what is not.

Demonstrate your ability to command and synthesize scholarly information.

Demonstrate your ability to conduct scholarly research.

Attendance & Deadlines: You chose to spend your time and money to take this class. So, I assume you desire to spend them well. Consequently, I will not normally take attendance. Deadlines for all tests and assignments are absolute unless you have conferred with me in advance or have an excuse from the Dean or University. Otherwise, there will be no make-up exams. Written assignments must be turned in by the due date. Unexcused absences for assignment due dates will result in a grade of zero for the assignment.

Classroom distractions: Cell phones, text messages and any other contact with people outside of the classroom are considered to be distractions and will not be tolerated. Likewise, inappropriate activity inside the classroom will also not be tolerated.

PLAGARISM & CHEATING

- It is your responsibility to know and understand the university policy on cheating and plagiarism.
- If you plagiarize or cheat, you **WILL** receive an F for this course.
- If you plagiarize, your case **WILL** be referred to the Dean for further action. Penalties may include expulsion.

Make-Up Exams: You may take a make-up exam only if you have made arrangements prior to the exam to do so. Do not ask for a make-up exam if you missed the exam without prior arrangements or have reason for an official absence.

Academic Problems: Feel free to talk with me about any problems you may have with the course. It's usually best to make an appointment to me in my office rather than trying to get an answer to a question or to take care of a problem between classes. Faculty members are expected to provide information at the start of each semester on how the final grade will be determined. I am extremely conscientious about determining student grades, but if you feel that an error has been made, talk with me. If you feel that your concerns have not been addressed, talk with the department chair or the dean of the school in that order.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES & STUDENT RESOURCES:

Here are links to the applicable university policies.

- [University Policy](#)
- [Student Resources](#)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week of:	Topic:
Aug 26	Introducing Archaeology and Jobs in Archaeology
Sept 2	(Labor Day) What we know about the human past in 2 lectures
Sept 9	History of Archaeology, 20th Century Thought in Archaeology
Sept 16	Tom's Nickel tour of the Philosophy of Science & Shifting Paradigms and Shifting Models <i>Student Activity: Choice of Topic for Research Paper</i>
Sept 23	Finding the Past
Sept 30	Digging the Past
Oct 7	Dating the Past
Oct 14	Case Study in Research Designs: Blue Creek. <i>Student Activity: List of References for Research paper</i>
Oct 21	People's relationships to plant and animals
Oct 28	Bioarchaeology
Nov 4	Social and Political Systems of the Past
Nov 11	Studying Environments and People
Nov 18	Cultural Resource Management. <i>Student Activity: Research Paper Due</i>
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 2	Student Presentations
Dec 9	Finals Week: Exam administered upon request.