1-2004

ANTH 250.01: Introduction to Archaeology

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INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY: SPRING 2004

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Teaching Assistant: Eileen Flannigan; Office: SS 216; Message telephone: 243-5865. Office hours: ____________________________________________________; E-mail: Eileen.Flannigan@umontana.edu.

Purpose: Archaeology is the study of material culture to make inferences about human behavior. Anthropological archaeologists apply these inferences to increase our understanding of all human societies: contemporary, historic, and prehistoric. This class surveys the issues and questions that motivate archaeologists to examine material culture, as well as the techniques used by archaeologists. Case examples illustrating goals and techniques are examined. Students who satisfactorily complete this course will gain an understanding of the goals and methods of contemporary archaeology as well as the challenges facing archaeology.


Course requirements: There are no prerequisites. Students are responsible for all assigned materials: lectures, videos, slides, and readings. Class attendance is crucial to gain mastery of the material.

Grade Determination: There are four exams, each worth 100 points. Each exam covers about a fourth of the course's lecture material and readings. All regular tests and the final will consist of true-false and multiple-choice questions. Students must bring a sharpened, soft pencil and scantron sheet (pink, 1/4 sheet size, available in the bookstore) to take the exam. Objective midterm exams will not be available at any time other than their scheduled class time. Students who miss tests may take the comprehensive short answer/essay exam in the final period or you may petition to arrange a short answer/essay makeup exam covering the same material as the missing test, at the discretion of the T.A. An optional comprehensive essay final can be taken to substitute for a missing test or a low test score. This optional final cannot lower your grade. A single extra credit assignment (to be announced) can be completed to increase your point total up to 15 points; it is due on April 9. The final grade is based on a 400-point scale: 4 tests@ 100 points each = 400 (plus any additional points from the extra credit assignment). Grades are based on a straight point system:

360 points (90%+) = A
320-359 points = B
280-319 points = C
240-279 points = D
less than 240 points = F
more than 239 points = “Pass”

Other issues:

Drops: Please note that February 13 is the last day to add or drop a course without penalty, and March 9 is the last day to add, drop, or change grading option with signatures and fees.

Disability Accommodations: When requested by the student, learning disabilities recognized by Disability Student Services (DSS) will be ameliorated with any reasonable accommodation: copies of notes, special testing environment, extended testing time, and special forms of the tests.

Incompletes: An incomplete will be considered only when requested by the student. At the discretion of the instructor, incompletes are given to students who missed a portion of the class because of
documented serious health or personal problem during the semester. Students have one year to complete the course; requirements are negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26-Jan</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28-Jan</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Historic perspectives</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-Jan</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2-Feb</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Formation Processes</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-Feb</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>6-Feb</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Survey and Excavation</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-Feb</td>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11-Feb</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-Feb</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16-Feb</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>President’s Day Holiday</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18-Feb</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Test 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-Feb</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Chronology</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>23-Feb</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>25-Feb</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-Feb</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Social Archaeology</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-Mar</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-Mar</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-Mar</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-Mar</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Environmental Reconstruction</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-Mar</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-Mar</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Test 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-Mar</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Subsistence and Diet</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>17-Mar</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-Mar</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-Mar</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>24-Mar</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>26-Mar</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Trade and exchange</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>M-F</td>
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<td>SPRING BREAK, MARCH 29-APRIL 2</td>
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<td>5-Apr</td>
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<td>7-Apr</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-Apr</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-Apr</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Test 3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14-Apr</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Art and religion</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-Apr</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>(Extra Credit Assignment due)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-Apr</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Bio-archaeology</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>21-Apr</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>23-Apr</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Explanation in Archaeology</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>26-Apr</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>28-Apr</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>30-Apr</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Whose Past?</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-May</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-May</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-May</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14-May</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>FINAL PERIOD: Test 4, 10:10-11:00; Comprehensive essay exam, 11:10-12:10</td>
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</table>
Summer school:

There are three exams, each worth 100 points. Each exam covers about a third of the course's lecture material and readings. Tests consist of true-false, matching, multiple-choice and short answer questions. Students who miss tests may petition to arrange a short answer/essay makeup exam covering the same material as the missing test at the discretion of the instructor.

* A single extra credit assignment can be completed to increase your point total up to 15 points (see page 3).

The final grade is based on a 300-point scale: 3 tests @ 100 points each = 300 (plus any additional points from the extra credit assignment). Grades are based on a straight point system:

- 270 points+ = A
- 240-269 points = B
- 210-239 points = C (or “Pass”)
- 180-209 points = D
- less than 180 points = F
- more than 210 points = P
Extra Credit Homework Assignment, Archaeology: Popular and Scholarly Views:

This extra credit assignment is worth up to 20 points, depending on how well the paper fits the assignment, the quality of the analysis, and the skill of presentation (including grammar and spelling). The paper must be no more than 1,000 words (four double spaced typed pages with standard formatting; you may want to use “word count” under “Tools” on the MS Word tool bar). In addition to the text, you must provide a full bibliographic citing of the articles that you use, and you must attach a photocopy (or computer printout, if using web resources) of the FIRST page of the four articles that you use. Pages torn out of magazines or journals will not be accepted. Papers are due on Monday, July 28, in class; papers must be the stated length, typed, stapled, and on-time. Early papers will be accepted.

Introduction: Your task is to find four articles about archaeology, two from the popular press and two from a scholarly journal. They do not need to be exactly the same topic, but they should share the same themes. You need to read and understand these articles, then prepare a short review outlining your articles and comparing and contrasting the approaches taken in scholarly and popular presentations.

What to do:
1. Find two popular articles from the last 13 years dealing with a subject relating to archaeology. These might be from a “popular” science magazine such as National Geographic, Scientific American, Archaeology, or Discover Magazine, popular weekly or monthly magazines such as Atlantic Monthly or Newsweek, or newspapers, such as The New York Times. The website, “Anthropology in the News,” http://www.tamu.edu/anthropology/news.html, may be helpful in your search.

2. Find two scholarly articles from the last 13 years dealing with similar topics as your popular articles. I recommend four general archaeology journals, American Antiquity, Plains Anthropologist, World Archaeology, and Journal of Field Archaeology. All of these journals are available in the Mansfield Library. Early 1990s articles from the journals American Antiquity and World Archaeology are available as e-journals through the Mansfield Library (using the Jstor database).

3. Write your paper, making sure that you cover the following topics:
   - Brief summaries of the articles
   - Compare and contrast popular and academic writing as specifically as possible. Comparisons that you may want to consider include:
     - voice and language use; how interpretations are backed with evidence and argument; how the goals of the authors differ
     - How effective are the popular articles in explaining to the public what archaeologists do? Do they capture any of the excitement of archaeology?
     - How might professional archaeologists reach a larger audience?

4. Be very careful to cite quotations. If you do not put clearly mark the source of sentences taken from the articles, you are committing “plagiarism,” an activity that, at a minimum, will result in a reduced grade for this class and notification of the Dean of Students. Please be familiar with the warning in the 2002-2003 University of Montana Catalog, which is reproduced below:

   Plagiarism is the representing of another’s work as one’s own. It is a particularly intolerable offense in the academic community and is strictly forbidden. Students who plagiarize may fail the course and may be remanded to Academic Court for possible suspension or expulsion. (See Student Conduct Code section of this catalog.)

   Students must always be very careful to acknowledge any kind of borrowing that is included in their work. This means not only borrowed wording but also ideas. Acknowledgment of whatever is not one’s own original work is the proper and honest use of sources. Failure to acknowledge whatever is not one’s own original work is plagiarism.
Anthropology 250 Summer 2003, Test 1 Study Guide

Exam questions are taken from the lectures, textbook, slide shows and videos. All items on the following list are not guaranteed to be on the exam, nor is the exclusion of an item from this list a guarantee than it will not be on the exam.

**Concepts to know**
- Discovery, methods, and theory
- Culture history
- Processual (new) archaeology
- Post-processual (interpretive) arch.
- Formation processes (cultural and natural/environmental)
- Key positions in archaeological theory
- from the 19th century to the present
- Natural vs. arbitrary levels
- Horizontal/Vertical Exposure
- Grid systems
- Soil description
- Remote sensing
- Research Design
- Survey
- Environment & preservation
- Relative vs. Absolute dating
- Dendrochronology
- Thermoluminance (TL)
- Radiocarbon dating
  - Calibration
  - Half-life
  - Range of dates
  - AMS
- Radioactive decay

**Terms to know**
- Historical Archaeology
- Feature
- Artifact
- Ecofact
- Matrix
- Provenience
- Association
- Prehistory
- Systemic vs. archaeological context
- Primary refuse
- Secondary refuse
- *De facto* refuse
- Cache
- Excavation
- Mapping

**Profile**
- Point provenience (piece plotting)
- Test Excavation
- Magnetometer
- Potassium/Argon dating
- Baulk
- Seriation
- Stratigraphy
- Deflation
- Bioturbation
- Culture/Material Culture
- Context
- Midden

**People to know**
- Michael Schiffer
- Lewis Binford
- Ian Hodder
- John Lubbock
- Charles Darwin/Charles Lyell
- Thomas Jefferson
- C.J. Thomsen
- Jacques Boucher de Perthes
- V. Gordon Childe
- Alfred V. Kidder
- Walter Taylor
- Willard Libby

**Places to know**
- Melos (Island)
- Pompeii
- Catal Huyuk
- Iceman of the Alps
- Ozette Site
- Tomb of Tutankamun
- Sutton Hoo
- Teotihuacan
- Virginia City, Montana
- Guajara, (mouth of Amazon)