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ANTY 513.01: The Bioarchaeology of Interpersonal Violence

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ANTHROPOLOGY 513: THE BIOARCHAEOLOGY OF INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

SPRING 2017 W 2:00-4:50 PM SOCIAL SCIENCE 252

Instructor: Dr. Ashley Kendell

Office: Social Science 217

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10-12pm or by appointment

Email: ashley.kendell@mso.umt.edu

Course Objectives:

This semester's seminar deals with the study of interpersonal violence as observed in the archaeological record. The first two weeks will focus on the theories behind human conflict and how we approach interpersonal violence from an evolutionary perspective. The semester will progress into discussions of trauma in the archaeological record and the importance of integrating context into any interpretation of past human conflict. Finally, the last half of the semester will provide case studies and examples of interpersonal violence and anthropological interpretations of the material record.

Some Advice:

This course requires considerable effort and time on the part of the student. The key to success is to come to class prepared, and to be on time. In order to do well in this course, you must read and take notes on all assigned reading prior to the class period. Twenty-five percent of your grade is dependent on your participation in in-class discussions and your understanding of the materials.

Required Textbooks:

Knusel, Christopher, and Martin J. Smith (2014). *The Routledge Handbook of the Bioarchaeology of Human Conflict*. New York: Routledge.

Keeley, Lawrence, H. (1996). *War Before Civilization: The Myth of the Peaceful Savage*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Moodle and e-mail.

Course materials will be posted on Moodle (<http://umonline.umt.edu>). Students are responsible for checking the course Moodle page regularly. Class communications will be sent via email and all students are required to have a valid UM email account. It is your responsibility to check your email regularly, and missed assignment/deadlines cannot be attributed to a missed email.

Classroom Rules:

Please **turn off all cell phones (including text messaging)** before class begins. If you are on your cell phone in class you may be asked to leave the classroom for the remainder of the class period.

Course Requirements:

There are components that contribute to your overall course grade.

1. Class participation and reading (25%)

Prior to each class period, read all assigned chapters and articles. You must come prepared to discuss each of the readings in depth. It is highly recommend that you take notes on all assigned readings. If you are not a discussion leader for the week, you will be required to turn in a one-page, single-space synthesis of that week's readings. Additionally, please provide at least three discussion questions from that week's readings.

2. Discussion Leader (40%)

Over the course of the semester, you will be asked to lead two classes (topics will be assigned in the first week). As a discussion leader you must find one additional reading assignment that must be approved at least one week prior to your class period. You also are in charge of facilitating class discussion for the entirety of the class period. Please keep in mind that when leading a discussion, you must be comfortable enough with the topic to teach it to your fellow students, as well as initiate discussion questions and debatable topics. You are welcome to incorporate a short powerpoint presentation at the beginning of the class period to help introduce the topic and initiate the class discussion.

3. Final Paper (35%)

For your final paper, you can select any topic pertaining to bioarchaeology or interpersonal violence. The final paper will take the form of a research proposal and I highly encourage everyone to use this assignment as a foundation for your thesis/dissertation proposals. The final paper should include the following sections: Introduction, Literature Review, Methods and Materials, Hypotheses, and Expectations. Your paper should be a minimum of 15, double-spaced pages (not including the bibliography). The paper will be turned in on the last day of class. Finally, each student will give a 20-minute presentation of their project during the last two weeks of class.

Grading:

The total number of points possible for the course is 400. Grades are assigned on a straight scale (no curve), and using the plus/minus system.

<i>Grade Breakdown</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Class participation	100	25%
Topical Presentations	160	40%
Final Paper and Presentation	140	35%
<i>Total</i>	400	100

Grades will be assigned as follows:

A = 90 - 100%

B = 80 - 90%

C = 70 - 80%

D = 60 - 70%

F = <60%

COURSE SCHEDULE
(Subject To Revision)

DATE	WEEKLY TOPICS	READING ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1		
1/25	Course Introductions	
Week 2		
2/1	Killer Apes	Articles posted on Moodle
Week 3		
2/8	Human Violence in Evolutionary Perspective	Articles posted on Moodle
Week 4		
2/15	**NO CLASSES THIS WEEK** AAFS Meetings	
Week 5		
2/22	Theories of Human Violence	Articles posted on Moodle
Week 6		
3/1	The Pacification of the Past	Keeley 1996
Week 7		
3/8	Trauma in the Archaeological Record	Articles posted on Moodle
Week 8		
3/15	Contextualizing Human Violence	K & S Part I
Week 9		
3/22	**NO CLASSES THIS WEEK** Spring Break	
Week 10		
3/29	Conflict in Prehistory	K & S Part II
Week 11		
4/5	Hierarchies and Violence	K & S Part III
Week 12		
4/12	Conflict in the New World	K & S Part IV
Week 13		
4/19	Mass Graves and Genocide	K & S Part V
Week 14		
4/26	Class Presentations	

Week 15		
5/3	Class Presentations *Final Papers Due at beginning of class	
Week 16		
5/8 –5/12	NO FINAL EXAM!	

Academic Dishonesty: Academic misconduct includes cheating on exams, homework assignments, class projects, and deliberate plagiarism of someone else’s work. While I expect that you will work together with your classmates on course materials outside of class, all submitted assignments **must be** the written work of each individual student. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will receive an automatic **F** for the course. For more information, please see me and/or refer to the University of Montana’s **Student Conduct Code** at: http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php.

Disability Support: Students with a documented disability can contact the Disability Services for Students (DSS) at: <http://www.umt.edu/disability>. Please let me if you have any questions or concerns.