

9-2014

ANTY 465X.01: Archaeology of the Southwest United States

John E. Douglas

University of Montana - Missoula, john.douglas@umontana.edu

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

Recommended Citation

Douglas, John E., "ANTY 465X.01: Archaeology of the Southwest United States" (2014). *Syllabi*. 1488.
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/1488>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Course Syllabi at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

Archaeology of the Southwest U.S.

Professor: **John Douglas**; Office: Social Sciences 233 (located with the anthropology offices on the “lower” or north part of the second floor). Office hours: Tuesday 11:10-12:00, Thursday 1:10-2:00, Friday 9:10-10:00, or by appoint. Tel: 243-4246; E-mail: john.douglas@umontana.edu.

Purpose: The subject of this course are the native cultures of northwest Mexico and the southwest United States (more succinctly, “the NW/SW”), from the earliest people through Spanish contact. Environmentally, the region’s low precipitation and varied land forms created a unique set of opportunities and challenges for cultures in the region. This, along with the region’s setting at a crossroad in North America (creating important interactions with neighboring regions to the north, east, south and west), as well as the inventiveness of the local societies, created a diverse and important array of Native American cultures, past and present. We survey these cultures over the past 13,000+ years, looking at changes in subsistence, technology, social systems, and political organization, in order to gain a sense of history of the area and an appreciation of the adaptations of the peoples of the Southwest. Finally, by studying the prehistory of the Southwest, we also will learn more about the methods that archaeologists use to understand the past.

Learning Objectives:

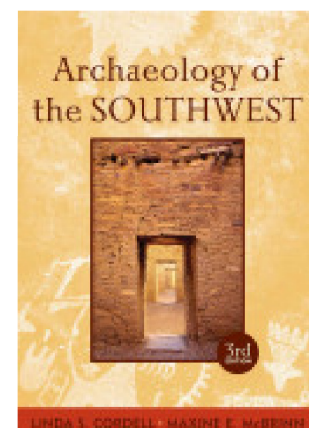
- 1) Demonstrate an understanding of the Anasazi, Mogollon, Hohokam, and other cultures that make up the archaeological record for the U.S. Southwest and related areas in Northwest Mexico.
- 2) Demonstrate an understanding of key topics of major interest and significance to archaeologists today (such as the role of climate change, the origins of agriculture, the role of interaction with Mesoamerica, and the social organization of past Southwestern Societies)
- 3) Demonstrate an understanding of key methods and theoretical perspectives that guide contemporary archaeology in the Southwest.
- 4) Demonstrate the ability critically assess the evidence and approaches archaeologists use to build their interpretations.

General Education fulfillment: No prerequisites; nonmajors may find it useful that this course counts for the Indigenous & Global (“X”) requirement in general education.

Required Text: Archaeology of the Southwest, Third Edition (2012), by Linda S. Cordell and Maxine E. McBrinn, Left Coast Press. Readings from this book and from the required scientific articles (available on Moodle) are listed in the schedule and should be completed before coming to class each day.

Supplemental Moodle Online Materials: Your grades, class PowerPoints, information on the assignment, and other study materials can be downloaded from Moodle. Need to get on Moodle? Looking for technical help? Start [here](#).

Course Requirements: Students are responsible for (and will be



tested on) all assigned materials: the book, articles, lectures, powerpoints, discussions, and videos.

Tests: There are two tests. The midterm is worth 100 points and the final is worth 150 points. Test questions for the midterm can include multiple-choice, true-false, and matching, and short definition. The final, worth 150 points, has two parts: the first section covers the course content after the midterm with the same type of questions found in the earlier test; the second part is an essay question, drawn from any part of the course, worth 50 points.

Attendance and participation: Class attendance is crucial to gain mastery of the material. 30 points will be based on attendance and 20 points on participation, particularly discussion of the articles. With appropriate documentation/explanation, absences can be excused.

Paper requirement: All students are required to complete an assignment that must be uploaded to Moodle by the required date in the second to last week of class. The assignment varies whether a student is a nonmajor undergraduate, anthropology major undergraduate, or a graduate student. Regardless, the assignment is worth 100 points and the requirements are outlined in a separate document.

Grade determination: There are 400 points possible for this class: Attendance, 30; Participation, 20; Midterm, 100; Paper, 100; Final, 150. Final grades are determined on a standard scale:

360 points+ (90%+) = A

320-359 points = B

280-319 points = C

240-279 points = D

less than 240 points = F

"Credit" for a credit/no credit grade option requires 240 or more points.

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.

Dropping: Please note that September 15 (5:00 PM) is the last day to freely add or drop a class, and that October 27 (5:00 PM) is the last day for withdrawing (marked with a "W" on transcript) from a class without the Dean's signature.



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.

Plagiarism and misconduct: All students must practice academic honesty. Students unfamiliar with the Plagiarism Warning in the catalog are urged to read it. Plagiarism and other Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review [here](#).