

HONORS SECTION

Introduction to Prehistoric Archaeology

Anthropology 101-080

Honors students in Professor Neitzel's Fall '09 Introduction to Prehistoric Archaeology course will attend classes with the regular section students and complete the same required assignments (see www.udel.edu/anthro/neitzel).

In addition, honors students will be required to complete three additional assignments worth 25 pts each. Honors students will also be **REQUIRED** to meet as a discussion group several times during the semester. The days and times of these meetings will be determined after the start of classes.

The extra assignments are:

1) SITE STUDY PAPER – DUE: Monday, September 28, 2009

In addition to completing the site map and artifact inventory that is due for all students on 9-28-09, honors students will write a short paper that addresses the following points:

- a. description of survey area (e.g., location, size, appearance)
- b. brief summary of the kinds and quantities of cultural objects found; what kinds occur most frequently? What proportions are perishable?
- c. description of spatial patterning (e.g., random, clustered, linear) of artifacts all together and by category (e.g., paper vs. plastic vs. cigarette butts)
- d. inferences about the natural and cultural formation processes that may have affected the kinds of artifacts present, their quantities, and their spatial patterning
- e. if you had no prior knowledge of your site, what kinds of social/behavioral inferences would you draw from your inventory and sketch map about the people who used your site and the activities that occurred there (e.g., numbers of people, kinds of people, diet, activities, organization)/
- f. if you eliminated the perishables, how would your inferences in e above be affected?
- g. given that you have prior knowledge about the site, how accurate would your inferences in e and f above be? If they would be inaccurate, what reasons can you give for the disparities? Are there any activities

- that you know take place at the site but which are not evidenced in the archaeological record?
- h. Conclusions about insights that can be gained and difficulties that can be encountered in studies of material remains.

This paper should be attached to your site map and inventory. Full points will be given only to those papers that evidence more than the ordinary amount of work, include creative interpretations, and are well written.

2) ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE NEWS PAPER – **DUE: Monday, November 2, 2009**

Honors students will write a 3-4 page paper that uses selected articles in the “Archaeology in the News” section of the class web page to explore a topic of current interest to archaeologists

3) ETHICS BOWL – **DUE: TBA, during final exam week**

Pairs of students will be given different cases involving archaeological ethics and will be required to:

- a. co-write a 2 page position paper on what they think the proper response to this quandary should be
- b. present and defend their recommendations to their fellow honors students