

INTRODUCTION TO PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Anthropology 103-010

Fall 2009

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to prehistoric archaeology. Students will learn about the goals and history of archaeology as well as current theories and methods for investigating such topics as chronology, subsistence practices, and social organization. An emphasis is placed on giving students experience in analyzing and interpreting archaeological data.

Portions of most classes will be run as a seminar devoted to discussions of data analyses and the assigned readings. For good discussion everyone must come to class having done the readings and prepared to talk. Students who have not done the assigned reading or problem analysis will be asked to leave so that they can complete the assignments and so that those who remain can engage in an informed exchange of ideas. To do well, students must complete all reading and written assignments on time, review their notes thoroughly and consistently throughout the term, and demonstrate extra effort and pride in their work for all written assignments.

NOTE: The UD academic honesty policy, defined at <http://www.udel.edu/stuguide/08-09/code.html#honest>, will be enforced in this course. Also, students can not get credit for both Anthropology 103 and Anthropology 104. See course catalogue for details.

Instructor: Jill Neitzel

e-mail: neitzel@udel.edu (all e-mail messages to professor should have ANTH 103 in the subject line)

Office: Munroe 107; you can also drop off messages/papers to be put in my mailbox in Munroe 135

Office Hours: Mon, Fri 9:30am – 11:00pm; Tue, Thr 9:30-11:00am; or see me before or after class, e-mail me, or make an appointment

Phone: 831-8755; you can also leave messages at the Anthropology Department number 831-2802

Web Page: www.udel.edu/anthro/neitzel/

Required Textbooks

Chatters, James – Ancient Encounters: Kennewick Man and the First Americans

Price, T. Douglas – Principles of Archaeology

Stuart, David, and George Stuart – Palenque: Eternal City of the Maya

Assignments

3 exams – 300 pts total

exhibit critique – 50 pts

movie review – 50 pts
 site study – 25 pts
 homeworks – 55 pts total

optional extra credit – maximum 25 pts; Students may earn extra credit by working in the archaeology lab located downstairs in Rooms 9 and 12 of Munroe Hall. The work will entail washing and cataloguing artifacts. Two extra credit points will be given for each hours worked with a maximum limit of 12.5 hours. Lab hours will be announced in class.

NOTE: Absolutely **no late homework** assignments will be accepted.

No make-ups will be given for quizzes unless the student has a written excuse from the health center or has informed the instructor in advance about a legitimate, unavoidable absence.

Late projects will have penalty points deducted. The penalties will be 3 pts for after class on the due date, 5 pts for each additional day. Exceptions will be made only if the student has a written excuse from the health center or has made prior arrangements with the instructor

Grades

Grades for all assignment will be posted on SAKAI (www.udel.edu/sakai)

Grades will be assigned on a scale of:

	B+ 87-89%	C+ 77-79%	D+ 67-69%	
A 93-100%	B 83-86%	C 73-76%	D 63-66%	F 0-59%
A- 90-92%	B- 80-82%	C- 70-72%	D- 60-62%	

Schedule

For each class students should check the class web page to see if there are any assigned readings listed under “supplemental readings.” If yes, then those readings should be completed in addition to the ones listed below. Some readings may require a password, which is **6363**.

Wed, 9/2, – introduction

Fri, 9/4 – what is archaeology, doing archaeology

read: pp. 1, chapters 1-2

video: 2nd ½ Myths of the Moundbuilders (anthro VHS#56 – 30 min)

Mon, 9/7 – NO CLASS

Wed, 9/9 – history of archaeology

read: chapter 3

Fri, 9/11 – archaeological questions

read: p. 67, chapter 4

- Mon, 9/14 – archaeological record
read: chapter 5
- Wed, 9/16 – archaeological explanations
read: pp. 447, chapter 16
- Fri, 9/18 – Chaco case study
read: supplemental readings on web page
video: 1st ½ Myths of Chaco Canyon (media services VHS#7149 – 28 min)
- Mon, 9/21 – Chaco case study (con'd)
read: supplemental readings on web page
video: 2nd ½ Myths of Chaco Canyon (Media services VHS#7149 – 28 min)
- Wed, 9/23 – fieldwork: survey
read: chapter 6
homework #1: pp. 171-174
- Fri, 9/25 – fieldwork: excavation
read: supplemental readings on web page
video: Archaeology: Questioning the Past (media services VHS #4084 – 26min)
- Mon, 9/28 – **DUE: Site Study**
read: supplemental readings on web page
- Wed, 9/30 – data classification: artifacts
read: pp 177, chapter 7
- Fri, 10/2 – data classification: features, structures, sites
read: supplemental readings on web page
homework #2: pp. 211-212
- Mon, 10/5 – **EXAM #1**
- Wed, 10/7 – Maya case study
read: Stuart preface – chapter 1
video: 1st ½ Maya Lords of the Jungle (media services VHS #2165 – 30 min)
- Fri, 10/9 – Maya case study
read: Stuart chapters 2-4
video: 2nd ½ Maya Lords of the Jungle (media services VHS #2165 – 29 min)
- Mon, 10/12 – Maya case study (con'd)
read: Stuart chapters 5-6
- Wed, 10/14 – Maya case study (con'd)
read: Stuart chapters 7-8
- Fri, 10/16 – NO CLASS
- Mon, 10/19 – Maya case study (con'd)

- read: Stuart chapter 9 – epilogue
 video: 1st ½ Collapse (media services VHS #3819, part 8 – 30 min)
- Wed, 10/21 – Maya case study (con'd)
 read: supplemental reading on web page
 video: 2nd ½ Collapse (media services VHS #3819, part 8 – 29 min)
DUE: Film Review
- Fri, 10/23 – geoarchaeology
 read: chapter 9
- Mon, 10/26 – chronology
 read: chapter 8
 video: Archaeological Dating (media services VHS #2652 – 18 min)
 homework #3: pp. 267-268
- Wed, 10/28 – chronology (con'd)
 read: supplemental readings on web page
 homework #4: pp. 239-242
- Fri, 10/30 – archaeobotany
 read: chapter 13
 homework #5: 373-374
- Mon, 11/2 – archaeozoology
 read: chapter 12
 homework #6: pp.343-346
- Wed, 11/4 – lithics
 read: chapter 10
 homework #7: pp. 293-294
 video: segment from Flint Knapping (anthro VHS #46 – 10 min)
- Fri, 11/6 – **EXAM #2**
- Mon, 11/9 – ceramics
 read: chapter 11
 homework #8: pp. 319-320
 video: segment from Discovering the Moche (media services VHS #3446
 – 10 min)
- Wed, 11/11– archaeometry
 read: chapter 15
 homework #9: pp. 439-442
- Fri, 11/13 – bioarchaeology
 read: chapter 14
 homework #10: pp. 407-412
- Mon, 11/16 – Ice Man case study
 read: supplemental readings on web page
 video: Forensics: Who Killed the Ice Man (media services VHS #9752 –
 52 min)
- Wed, 11/18 – responsibilities

- read: chapter 17
 Fri, 11/20 – Kennewick case study
 read: Chatters chapters 1-3
- Mon, 11/23 – Kennewick case study
 read: Chatters chapters 4-6
 video: 1st ½ Kennewick Man (media services DVD #2947 – 44 min)
- Wed, 11/25 – Kennewick case study (con'd)
 read: Chatters chapters 7-9
 video: 2nd ½ Kennewick Man (media services DVD #2947 – 44 min)
- Fri, 11/27 – NO CLASS
- Mon, 11/30– Kennewick case study (con'd)
 read: Chatters chapters 10-epilogue
- Wed, 12/2 – another bioarchaeology case study
 read: supplemental reading on web page
 video: Kuwoot yas.ein: His Spirit Is Looking out from the Cave (anthro
 DVD #153 – 30 min)
- Fri, 12/4 – archaeology and the public
DUE: Museum Critique
 read: supplemental readings on web page
- Mon, 12/7 – site preservation and the public
 read: supplemental readings on web page
 video: Set in Stone (media services VHS #4606 – 24 min)
- Wed, 12/9 – looting of archaeological sites
 read: supplemental readings on web page
 video: Silent Witness (professor's video – 31 min)
 homework #11: pp. 500

TBA – **FINAL EXAM**

NOTE: Your final exam day and time can not be changed except for the most compelling circumstances. Do **NOT** make any travel plans until you have checked the final exam schedule.