

SOLVING ARCHAEOLOGICAL MYSTERIES

Anthropology 367-011

Spring 2007

Course Description

This course uses case studies to illustrate the theories and methods that archaeologists use in conducting scientific research. Three case studies focus on the history of archaeological research in ancient Egypt, the U.S. American Southwest, and at Stonehenge. Three problem-oriented case studies will examine mummies in western China, the collapse of Maya civilization, and Custer's last stand at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. The course will be run as a seminar, and students will be expected to attend all classes having done the assigned readings and ready to participate in class discussions. Students will also conduct an independent research project on a prehistoric artifact in the collections of the University of Delaware Gallery.

Instructor: Jill Neitzel

e-mail: neitzel@udel.edu

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

Office Hours: Mon 11:00-11:45am; Tue 8:00-8:30am, 10:45-11:45am; Wed 8:00-8:30am, 11:00-11:45am; Thr 10:45-11:45am; Fri 11:00-11:45am; or see me before or after class, e-mail me, or make an appointment

Phone: 831-8755; 831-2802 is the Anthropology Dept. number where you can leave messages for me

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

Class e-mail: ANTH367-011-07S@udel.edu

Museum curator: Janet Broske, email Mossie@udel.edu, office in the University Gallery at 116 Old College, phone 831-1043

Required Textbooks

Barber, Elizabeth – The Mummies of Urumchi

Chippindale, Christopher – Stonehenge Complete, 3rd edition

Elliott, Melinda – Great Excavations

Fox, Richard – Archaeology, History, and Custer's Last Battle

Tyldesley, Joyce – Egypt; How a Lost Civilization Was Rediscovered

Webster, David – The Fall of the Ancient Maya: Solving the Mystery of the Maya Collapse

Assignments

3 exams – total 300 pts

Egypt current research summary – 25 pts

Southwest current research summary – 25 pts

Artifact study – 150pts

NOTE: **Attendance is mandatory** and will be recorded each class period. Absent students will have 3 pts deducted from their semester point total. Exceptions will be made only for students who have legitimate excuses and who have informed the instructor in advance.

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

Late assignments will have penalty points deducted. The penalties will be 5pts for after class on the due date, 10 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 assignments will be posted on Web CT (www.udel.edu/mycourses)

Semester 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

Wed, 2/7 – introduction

Fri, 2/9– Egypt intro, part I

Print: Egypt current research summary instructions from class web page

Mon, 2/12 – Egypt part 2 and www.guardians.net/egypt

Wed, 2/14 – Egypt part 3 or www.guardians.net/egypt

½ class meet with Janet Broske, University Gallery

Video – Seven Wonders of Ancient Egypt (#????)

Fri, 2/16 – Egypt part 3 or www.guardians.net/egypt

½ class meet with Janet Broske, University Gallery

Video – Seven Wonders of Ancient Egypt (#????)

Mon, 2/19 – www.guardians.net/egypt

Video – Mystery of King Tut (#VHS5072)

DUE: artifact choice

Wed, 2/21 – Egypt part 4

DUE: Egypt current research summary

Fri, 2/23 – Stonehenge intro, chapters 1-3

Print: Southwest current research summary instructions from class web page

Mon, 2/26 – Stonehenge chapters 4-6
Video – Prehistoric Monuments (#VHS6212)
Wed, 2/28 – Stonehenge chapters 7-9
Fri, 3/2 – Stonehenge chapters 10-12
DUE: 1st artifact visit, topic, and 5 references

Mon, 3/5 – Stonehenge chapters 13-15
Wed, 3/7 – Stonehenge chapters 16-in conclusion
Video – Set in Stone (#VHS4606)
Fri, 3/9 – **EXAM #1**

Mon, 3/12 – Southwest prologue and chapters 1-2
Wed, 3/14 – Southwest chapters 3, 5
Video – Chaco Legacy (#VHS7961)
Fri, 3/16 – Southwest chapters 4,7
DUE: artifact paper outline and 5 more references

Mon, 3/19 – Southwest chapters 6,8, epilogue
Video – Those Who Have Gone (#DVD 2914)
Wed, 3/21 – **DUE: ½ Southwest current research summaries**
Fri, 3/23 – **DUE: ½ Southwest current research summaries**
DUE: 2nd artifact visit

Mon, 3/26 – NO CLASS
Wed, 3/28 – NO CLASS
Fri, 3/30 - NO CLASS

Mon, 4/2 – mummies preface, chapters 1-2
Wed, 4/4 – mummies chapters 3-4
Video – Silk Road (#VHS2215)
Fri, 4/6 – mummies chapters 5-7

Mon, 4/9 – mummies chapters 8-10
Wed, 4/11 – **EXAM #2**
Fri, 4/13 - Maya chapters 1-2
Video - Maya Blood of Kings (#VHS5504)

Mon, 4/16 – Maya chapters 3-4
DUE: Artifact 1st draft
Wed, 4/18 – Maya chapters 5-6
Fri, 4/20 – Maya chapters 7-8
Video – Fall of the Maya (#VHS3724)

Mon, 4/23 – Maya chapters 9-10
Wed, 4/25 – NO CLASS, revise artifact paper
Fri, 4/27 – NO CLASS, revise artifact paper

Mon, 4/30 – Custer preface, part 1
DUE: Artifact 2nd draft

Wed, 5/2 – Custer part 2

Fri, 5/4 –Custer part 3

Mon, 5/7 – Custer part 4

Video – Last Stand at Little Big Horn (#VHS8396)

Wed, 5/9 –Custer part 5

Fri, 5/11 –Custer part 6

Mon, 5/14 –TBA

DUE: Final artifact paper

Wed, 5/16 – EXAM # 3

TBA – oral presentations of artifact research