

PYRAMIDS, PRIESTS, AND PALACES
THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS
Anthropology 390-80
Fall 2005

Instructor: Jill Neitzel

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Office: Munroe 105; you can also drop off messages/papers to be put in my mailbox in Munroe 135

Office Hours: Mon 11:00-11:45am, 5:15-6:00pm; Tue 10:45-11:45am; Wed 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: 831-2802 (this is the Anthropology Dept. number where you can leave messages for me)

Curator, University Museums: Janet Broske (Old College 114; email moosie@udel.edu; phone 831-1043)

Writing Fellows:

Course Description

This course examines some of the best known civilizations of the ancient world. Comparisons will be made of the environmental settings, economic bases, and developmental histories of civilizations in the Near East, India, Africa, southeast Asia, Mesoamerica, and South America. Other topics to be considered include the process of urbanization, the nature of political leadership, the role of religion, and the causes of societal collapse. The class will be conducted as a seminar with an emphasis on reading, writing, and discussion.

Required Textbooks

Coe, Michael – Angkor and the Khmer Civilization

Conrad, Geoffrey and Arthur Demerest – Religion and Empire: The Dynamics of Aztec and Inca Expansionism

Fagan, Brian – Atlas of Anthropology

Leick, Gwendolyn – The Babylonians: An Introduction

McIntosh, Jane – A Peaceful Realm: The Rise and Fall of the Indus Civilization

Webster, David – The Fall of the Ancient Maya

Assignments

Midterm exam – 100 pts

Final exam – 100 pts

2 quizzes – 50 pts total

African civilizations day poster and contribution – 50 pts total

Museum visit – 50 pts
Artifact project – 100 pts total
In-class/homeworks – 50 pts

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 fieldwork exercises 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 will be assigned on a scale of 93-100% A; 90-92% A-; 87-89% B+; 83-86% B; 80-82% B-; 77-79% C+; 73-76% C; 70-72% C-; 67-69% D+; 63-66% D; 60-62% D-; 0-59% F

Schedule

Wed, 8/31 – introduction

Fri, 9/2 – bands, tribes, chiefdoms, states
read: TBA

Mon, 9/5 - NO CLASS

Wed, 9/7 – beginnings; ½ class meet at UD gallery
read: Fagan pp. 3-19

Fri, 9/9 – beginnings; ½ class meet at UD gallery
read: Fagan pp. 3-19

Mon, 9/12 – development of agriculture
read: Fagan pp. 20-23, 46-49; TBA

DUE: ARTIFACT CHOICE

Wed, 9/14 – overview of civilizations
read: Fagan pp. 24-25, 36-37, 40-41, 52-53

Fri, 9/16 – Babylonia
read: Leick chapters 1-2
video: Mesopotamia: I Have Conquered a River (VHS#9043)

Mon, 9/19 – Babylonia
read: Leick chapter 3

Wed, 9/21 – Babylonia
read: Leick chapter 4

Fri, 9/23 – Babylonia
read: Leick chapter 5

Mon, 9/26 – Indus

read: McIntosh intro-chapter 2

QUIZ 1

Wed, 9/28 - Indus

read: McIntosh chapters 3-4

Fri, 9/30 – Indus

read: McIntosh chapters 5-6

video: Indus: The Unvoiced Civilization (#VHS9045)

DUE: 1st GALLERY VISIT

Mon, 10/3 – Indus

read: McIntosh chapters 7-8

Wed, 10/5 – Indus

read: McIntosh chapters 9-10

Fri, 10/7 – Indus

read: McIntosh chapters 11-12

Mon, 10/10 – **AFRICAN CIVILIZATIONS DAY**

Wed, 10/12 – sub-Saharan Africa

read:TBA

Fri, 10/14 – sub-Saharan Africa

read: TBA

video: The Lost City of Zimbabwe (#VHS3153)

Mon, 10/17 – **MIDTERM**

Wed, 10/19 – Khmer

read: Coe chapters 1-2, web search of Khmer Rouge

video: In the Shadow of Angkor Wat (anthro dept #148)

Fri, 10/21 – Khmer

read: Coe chapter 3-4, Fagan pp. 38-39, 42-43

DUE: 2nd GALLERY VISIT

Mon, 10/24 –Khmer

read: Coe chapter 5

Wed, 10/26 – Khmer

read: Coe chapter 6

video: Hidden Temples: Cambodia's Angkor Wat (#DVD1635)

Fri, 10/28 – NO CLASS

Mon, 10/31 – Khmer

read: Coe chapter 7

Wed, 11/2 – Khmer

read: Coe chapter 8

DUE: 1st WRITING FELLOW VISIT

Fri, 11/4 – ancient civilization and today's public

DUE: MUSEUM CRITIQUE

read: TBA

Mon, 11/7 – Aztec/Inca
read: Conrad and Demerest chapters 1-2
video: The Aztecs (#VHS8642)

Wed, 11/9 - Aztec/Inca
read: Conrad and Demerest chapter 3

Fri, 11/11 – Aztec/Inca
read: Conrad and Demerest chapter 4
Video: The Incas (#VHS2481)

Mon, 11/14 – Aztec/ Inca
read: Conrad and Demerest chapter 5

Wed, 11/16 – Maya
read: Webster prologue – chapter 2
QUIZ 2

Fri, 11/18 – Maya
read: Webster chapters 3-4
video: Maya Lords of the Jungle (#2165)

Mon, 11/21 – Maya
read: Webster chapter 5
DUE: 2nd WRITING FELLOW VISIT

Wed, 11/23 – Maya
read: Webster chapter 6

Fri, 11/25 – NO CLASS

Mon, 11/28 – Maya
read: Webster chapter 7
DUE: ARTIFACT STUDY

Wed, 11/30 – Maya
read: Webster chapter 8
video: Collapse (#VHS3819P8)

Fri, 12/2 – Maya
read: Webster chapter 9

Mon, 12/5 – Maya
read: Webster chapter 10

Wed, 12/7 - **EXAM**

TBA – DUE: ARTIFACT TALK

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