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ANTH 215D ARCHAEOLOGY

Fall 2008
MW 1400-1550 in
HSS 111
4 credits



INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Robin L. Smith
smithr@wou.edu

Phone: 838-8357

Office: HSS 209

Office Hours: MW 1300-1350, TR 1400-1530

and by appointment.

Note: If you have a disability that might require assistance or accommodations for any aspect of this course, please come and discuss this with me during the first week of classes. You may also contact the Office of Disability Services, at 838-8250 V/TTY, for information about accessibility and accommodations.

DESCRIPTION

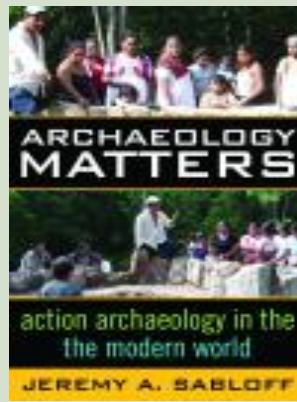
Archaeology is the subfield of anthropology that focuses on learning about the human past through the study of material remains. This course provides an account of the methods we use to collect and analyze archaeological data, to interpret the sequence of events that occurred in the past, to reconstruct ancient lifestyles, and to explain processes of cultural evolution. We examine some of the major contributions of archaeology to Western thought and discuss the relevance of archaeology to everyday life.

This is one of four foundation courses in Anthropology: ANTH 213 Language and Culture, ANTH 214 Physical Anthropology, ANTH 215 Archaeology, and ANTH 216 Cultural Anthropology. They may be taken in any order; any two of the four will satisfy the LACC requirement for a Social Science sequence; any three of the four will fulfill the 12 hour Social Science requirement. Anthropology majors should take all four courses early in their program.

TEXTS



Thomas, David Hurst and Robert L. Kelly 2007
Archaeology: Down to Earth. Third Edition. Belmont, California: Thompson Wadsworth.



Sabloff, Jeremy A. 2008 **Archaeology Matters: Action Archaeology in the Modern World.** Walnut Creek, California: Left Coast Press.

For additional materials, notes, etc or to post your picture, visit [WOU Online](#)

EVALUATION

Attendance and participation are required. Readings should be completed by class time on the dates assigned. Take notes as you read and write down your questions; bring both to class. Take notes on lectures, films, and discussion.

There are two equally weighted in-class exams: a midterm and a final. These feature essay-format questions and a few graphical puzzles. Think of them as word problems to which you apply the tools and concepts learned in class. In addition, you write a researched paper based on a theme from Sabloff's book that appeals to you. Details of this assignment [are provided separately](#).

Make-up exams **must** be arranged in advance. If this is impossible due to a **documented, bona fide emergency**, notify me as soon as possible and then come to see me in person **with your documents**.

You earn (I do not give) a grade as follows: Grades are assigned using the following scale: A = 93-100, A- = 90-92; B+ = 87-89; B = 83-86; B- = 80-82; C+ = 77-79; C = 73-76; C- = 70-72; D+ = 67-69; D = 63-66; D- = 60-62; < 60 = F.

| | |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| 20 % | Participation (you must be present) |
| 20 % | Midterm |
| 20 % | Paper Deadlines |
| 20 % | Paper |
| 20 % | Final |

CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF ACADEMIC CULTURE

- You are responsible for a grade if your name remains on the Registrar's role past the last drop date, at the end of week 6.
- The "Incomplete" grade is reserved for the rare case in which a student is making satisfactory progress when **documented circumstances beyond the student's control** cause a significant but discrete portion of the course to remain unfinished at the end of dead week. You must request an incomplete and sign an incomplete contract. This cannot be done by email or phone.
- I place a high value on academic honesty and expect my students to do the same. Please ensure you understand the definition of academic dishonesty in the [Code of Student Responsibility](#). I refer apparent cases of academic dishonesty to the

Coordinator of Campus Judicial Affairs for adjudication. If you have any questions or concerns about how you have quoted, paraphrased or cited sources, consult me **before** you submit your work.

- Please make wise use of email:
 - Use your WOU email address
 - Identify the course and yourself on the subject line: "ANTH 215 Name."
 - **Do not** send written assignments by email; submit them in hard copy.
 - Avoid sending email messages to anyone when angry or upset.
 - Requests for special accommodations are best made **in person during office hours**.
- Please turn **cell phones off** at the beginning of class and **put them away** for the duration of class.

GOALS

On completing this course, you should be able to discuss the following:

- What is Anthropology? What is Archaeology? Why is archaeology part of anthropology in the US, but not in Europe?
- What major questions do Archaeologists address and where do they look for the answers?
- What is "**material culture**" and how is it related to "**Culture**?"
- How is the dimension of **time** measured and interpreted in archaeological sites?
- How is the dimension of **space** measured and interpreted in archaeological sites and regions?
- How is the dimension of **form** measured and interpreted in archaeological assemblages?
- How are the cultural attributes of **gender, ethnicity, and class** reflected in the archaeological record?
- How do the gender, ethnicity, and class **of the archaeologist** affect interpretation of the archaeological record?
- How is the **increasing complexity** of human culture through time reflected in the archaeological record?
- What **ethical questions** are raised by archaeological investigations and interpretations?
- What is the **relevance** of archaeology for understanding life in our times and anticipating life in the future?

ANTH 215D FALL 2008 SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 ARCHAEOLOGY IS ANTHROPOLOGY

Sept 29 [Email me your profile by Friday 5 pm; take the Reading Archaeology tutorial](#)

Oct 1 [Thomas & Kelly Ch 1](#); Sabloff Ch 1 & 2

WEEK 2 ARCHAEOLOGY IS SCIENCE

Oct 6 [Thomas & Kelly Ch 2](#) ; [Read the Essay Guide](#)

Oct 8 Sabloff Ch 3 & 4; *film: Myths and the Moundbuilders*

WEEK 3 "HOW DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO DIG?"

Oct 13 [Thomas & Kelly Ch 3](#)

Oct 15 Sabloff Ch 5 & 6

WEEK 4 COLLECTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA

Oct 20 [Thomas & Kelly Ch 4](#)

Oct 22 Sabloff Ch 7 & 8 (Canada Day Assignment)

WEEK 5 CHRONOLOGY: IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME

Oct 27 [Thomas & Kelly Ch 5](#)

Oct 29 *film: TBA*

WEEK 6 MIDTERM

Nov 3 *Midterm Exam Monday covers Thomas & Kelly 1-5, Sabloff entire, and lectures, films, discussion weeks 1-5.*

Nov 5 *film: TBA*

WEEK 7 PART II BRIDGING THEORY

Nov 10 [Thomas & Kelly 6](#) *Paper topic due Monday IN CLASS*

Nov 12 [Thomas & Kelly 7](#) (3:30 study abroad visit) *film: Ishi, Last of the Yahi*

WEEK 8 WHAT'S FOR BREAKFAST? & WRITTEN IN THE BONE

Nov 17 [Thomas & Kelly 8](#) *film: Secrets Underground* *Thesis, outline, and References Cited due Monday IN CLASS*

Nov 19 [Thomas & Kelly 9](#)

WEEK 9 SOCIAL PATTERNS & FOSSIL THOUGHTS

Nov 24 [Thomas & Kelly 10](#) *film: Anastasia: Dead or Alive* *take your rough draft to the Writing Center*

Nov 26 [Thomas & Kelly 11](#)

WEEK 10 **CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

Dec 1 [Thomas & Kelly 13](#) (omit Ch 12)

Dec 3 Review

[Essay](#) due Wednesday IN CLASS

EXAM WEEK

Dec 10 Wednesday 1200-1350 Final Exam*

[*You must take the exam at the scheduled time unless you have written permission for an alternate time from LAS Dean Scheck]

[HOME](#)