

SYLLABUS
INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY, ARY 301/ANT 304, **82130**
University of Texas, Austin
Summer 2012

Lecture days/hours: MTWTHF, 830-10am

Lecture Location: SAC 4.174

Instructor: Deanna M. Riddick, MA

Email: deannariddick@msn.com

Office: SAC 4.192

Office hours: Mon 10-11, Tues 10-11 & by appointment

Course Description:

The discipline of Archaeology involves the study of past societies, their practices and behaviors as deduced by the analysis and interpretation of their material remains. This course will provide an introductory exploration of archaeological theory, method and practice. We will begin with an introduction of the roots of the discipline and trace its trajectory to its current state. This course will review proper archaeological methodologies and techniques that are necessary to excavate a site. We will examine archaeological theoretical conceptions of cultural complexity by studying hunter-gatherer societies, as well as tribes, chiefdoms, and state societies. This class is also designed to provide an overview of various critical components of archaeology, such as Bioarchaeology, NAGPRA, and ethics.

Course/Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Define archaeology and its relevant role in reconstructing the past
- Exhibit an understanding of the development of the discipline
- Demonstrate knowledge about basic archaeological techniques and methods
- Analyze and critically evaluate archaeological material culture
- Synthesize archaeological data to make informed and educated interpretations
- Effectively communicate knowledge about archaeological ethics and contemporary heritage management efforts and organizations

Course Requirements and Evaluations:

There are no prerequisites for this course and this course does not require student attendance. You are responsible for keeping up with the course readings and assignments. Assessments for this course will be based on: exam grades, lab exercises, and one short class paper.

Labs

There are a total of three labs in this class with each lab due every Friday before the end of class. Each lab will supplement the week's lecture and will serve as a "hands-on" technique to provide you with practical experience. Lab work will be performed individually or in groups and turned

in as such for credit at the end of the class. There are NO make-up labs. If you miss a lab, you will NOT receive credit for that lab. You will receive a grade of Zero.

Exams

There are two exams in this course, a mid-term and a final exam. Both exams will cover the assigned textbook readings, case studies, and weekly lab assignments. The exams will be multiple choice, short answer and short essay-type questions. You will be tested over the methods, techniques and theories you have acquired throughout this course. The final exam will *not* be comprehensive and will only cover the materials presented during the second half of the course. I encourage you to meet with your fellow students and with the instructor to review the course material before your exam. If you are concerned about the exam or about the content or format please see the instructor before your scheduled exam.

Archaeology of Trash paper

This paper is intended to encourage you to think about how archaeologists develop interpretations based on the discarded material remains of other societies. Please write three to four double-spaced pages on what your trash indicates about your class, gender, diet, ethnic background, and personal preferences. You will be given a thorough, specific assignment handout addressing the necessary components that must be covered in your paper and presentation. Please (objectively) write this paper according to what the contents found in your trash would *imply* about you. Additionally, please include on a separate sheet an itemization of the contents with the name, type of product, and price point. Please format this assignment in Times New Roman with 11 or 12 point font.

Required Text and Readings:

Renfrew, Colin and Paul Bahn

2011 Archaeology: Theories, Methods, and Practice. (6th edition) Thames and Hudson, New York.

*Available at the UT-Co-op

Black Board This course will require additional readings in the form of case studies in which you are responsible. Please consult Blackboard and your syllabus to follow the schedule of the readings. Your exams will have questions about these, so please make sure you are keeping up with the readings.

Course Grading:

- Weekly Labs= 15%
- The Archaeology of Trash Assignment = 15%
- Mid-term Exam=35%
- Final Exam=35%
- Response Paper= 3 points on Mid-term exam or Final Exam

Grading Scale: The grading system used in this course will be the plus/minus system in use throughout the UT system. (i.e.100-93=A, 92-90 =A-, 89-87= B+, 86-83=B, 82-80=B-,79-77=C)

Classroom Policies:

Please arrive to class on time and *turn off your cell phones*. It is disruptive to the instructor and to your peers. NO texting during class. You will be asked to leave the class for the day if you are caught texting in-class. If you have to leave early, please make a quiet exit. Laptops are allowed for use of note-taking in the classroom. Please refrain from watching movies, TV shows and facebook messaging during class lecture.

If you are having trouble following assignments and/or understanding the course lectures or content, please see the instructor immediately. If you are on academic probation and are concerned about your progress, please see the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Do NOT wait until the final exam.

Policy on missed exams:

There are NO make-up exams in this class. If you miss an exam, you will be given a zero for the exam missed. Please set your schedule according to the exam dates provided on the syllabus to prevent scheduling conflicts. If **extraordinary** circumstances require absence from an exam, you MUST provide proper documentation.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Any form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. For questions on what constitutes cheating or plagiarism, please consult the university's policy:

http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_plagiarism.php

<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/discprocess.php>

Students with Disabilities

Accommodations for students with disabilities can be found at the following websites. Please see instructor to discuss necessary accommodations as soon as possible. For more information, please contact Services for Students with Disabilities at (512) 471-6259.

<http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/accomod_services.php

Email & Official Correspondence

Communication by email is necessary and is recognized by the University as an official means of correspondence, however, please refrain from submitting emails that ask questions which require incredibly long responses. Please visit the instructor for help if you have major questions about the course material or concerns about your progress in class. NO papers by electronic submission via email. Please keep your email address updated with the university to receive any course-related information. UT's instructions for updating your email address can be found at:

<http://www.utexas.edu/its/policies/emailnotify.php>

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

Week I. Topic: Defining Archaeology. What is it? History, Theory and Method in the Old and New World (July 9-13)
* In-class discussion of syllabus
* In-class discussion of 1 st assignment (The Archaeology of Trash assignment)
Reading: Chapters 1, 2, 3
Friday: Lab I. “Antiquarianism and Guesswork: Working with artifacts” (Lab due at end of class)
Week II. Topic: Archaeological Methods and Classifications of Societies in the Old and New World (July 16-20)
Reading: Chapters 4, 5, 6 (p. 238-267)
Friday: Lab II. “Archaeological Methods of Dating” – Group LAB! (Lab is due at end of class)
Mid-term Exam (Monday- July 23rd)
Week III. Topic I: Culture Contact: Investigations of Production, Consumption, Distribution, and Trade in Prehistory (July 24-27)
Topic II. Cognitive Archaeology (July 24-27)
Reading: Chapters 9 & 10, Case Studies: Check on Blackboard
Friday: Lab III. “Cognition and Symbolism” – Individual Lab- <i>Due Monday Morning</i>
Week IV. Topic: Bioarchaeology: The Business of Bones in Archaeological Interpretation (July 30-August 3)
Reading: Chapter 11, Case studies on Blackboard , Ch7 p.300-306
Friday: No Lab. Archaeology of trash paper due in-class- August 3- (Hand in a hard copy)
Week V. Ethics and Ownership of the Past: Antiquities, Looting, Displays of the Past and NAGPRA (August 6-9)
Reading: Chapter 14
<i>Thursday, August 9- NO CLASS.</i>
Final Exam (Friday- August 10th)

***Important Dates to Remember:**

July 23, 2012- Mid-term Exam

August 3, 2012- Archaeology of Trash Paper Due in-class (bring a hard copy)

August 9, 2012- NO CLASS. Study for Final Exam.

August 10, 2012- Final Exam