

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS
ANTHROPOLOGY 453 --- FALL 2011
MW 10-12, SAC 4.174

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TEXTS: Required – *Archaeology: The Science of the Human Past*, 3rd ed.
By: Mark Q. Sutton and Robert M. Yohe

COURSE CONTENT:

The purpose of this course to provide you (the course participants) with a background to “the kinds” of archaeological analyses that often occur, “what” is involved in archaeological analysis, and “how” archaeological analysis may be approached. This means learning what questions to ask about a field or laboratory project and the steps needed to understand the type of analysis required. From this course you should also become aware of “how to do” an analysis from start (first learning about certain material culture) to completion (doing the analysis and the report writing).

We will review each of the aspects noted above first by reading chapters detailing some procedures. The class lectures will elaborate on the various analytical techniques highlighted.

A schedule of planned topics is presented on a separate (color) page. This serves primarily as a guide to the order of topics. The actual amount of time spent on a particular issue or topic will vary according to the needs of the class.

COURSE GRADING:

Evaluation in this course will be through five tests Five (5) tests are required and please note that there are **NO MAKE-UPS**. The lowest test score (of the five) will be dropped for the final average, but all five tests must have been taken.

Tests are multiple choice, true-false, and fill-in-the-blank. The tests are not cumulative, there is no “final exam” for this course. When tests are returned, any questions or need of modification to the evaluation must be done within two class meetings of the returned test. Test results will not be reevaluated at the end of the semester. Any questions, confusion about the course grading, etc. should be clarified/settled with Prof. Valdez as soon as possible. Tests will take place during a regular class period, you will have the entire class period to complete the test, no lecture after test completion. You will not be allowed to take the test if you are late.

ANTHROPOLOGY 453
FALL 2011 -- SCHEDULE OF CLASSES*

Dates	Topics, Subjects, Tests, Readings
Aug. 24 - Sept. 14	Introduction, History of Archaeology, Archaeological Record, etc. Chapters 1, 2, 4
September 5	Labor Day holiday -- No Class Meeting
September 14	Test 1
Sept.19 – Oct. 3	Dating Methods, Survey & Excavation, Social Archaeology Chapters 5, 7, 11
October 3	Test 2
Oct. 5 – Oct. 19	Environmental Archaeology, Trade & Exchange, etc. Chapters 9, 10, 12
October 19	Test 3
Oct. 24 – Nov. 7	Subsistence/Diet, Technologies (stone tools), etc. Chapters 6, 8, 9
November 7	Test 4
Nov. 9 – Nov. 30	Cognitive Archaeology, Explanation in Archaeology, etc. Class notes only... no assigned readings.
November 23	No Class Meeting
November 24-25	Thanksgiving holiday
November 30	Test 5

*This schedule is an approximation of dates for topics, tests, etc. Any significant changes will be announced as early as possible. Included within the schedule is the showing of films, slides, guest presentations, and any other activities deemed appropriate for this course.