MAYA CIVILIZATION

ANTHROPOLOGY 360K ** LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES 324L
FALL 2011, MWF 1-2, UTC 3.132

Instructor:	Fred Valdez	471-0060	office
	SAC 4.162	471-5946	lab.
	Hrs.: Mon. 12-1*	fredv@mail.utexas.edu	

Teaching Assts.:	Name:	Deanna Riddick	deannariddick@msn.com
		Jessica Osorio	josorio@mail.utexas.edu
	Office:	SAC 4.192	
	Hrs.:	Riddick = M 11-12*	
		Osorio = MW 11:30-12:30*	

* Please note that Dr. Valdez and your TAs are available beyond the listed office hours, just ask and make an appointment.

TEXT: Required – M. Coe, **The Maya** (8th Edition)
Chapter assignments are listed on a separate page.

COURSE CONTENT: This course reviews Maya civilization and archaeological and art history perspectives. The Maya region is defined and described in order to have a common basis for studying the civilization. Early investigations into the Maya area and a summary of the earliest inhabitants are presented.

The Preclassic Period (ca. 2000 BC – AD 250) is detailed as the beginnings and development of Maya Civilization. Early and Late Classic Maya are reviewed for their various cultural developments. The Terminal Classic and its related events are studied as well as adjustments by Maya Civilization that define the Postclassic.

The final segment of the course will inquire into Maya religion and thought as expressed (mostly) archaeologically. A short review of current/recent archaeological projects and the research of interest may be presented.

COURSE GRADING: Evaluation in this course will be through four tests and one paper. Please note that there are **NO MAKE-UPS**. The lowest of the four grades will be dropped for the final grade average = 90% of the course grade. If you miss a test, that becomes the lowest grade. Papers are valued at 10% (and due on the last class day, Dec. 2); the paper topics will be discussed by August 31.

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 Dr. Valdez as soon as possible.

ANT. 360L --- LAS 324L
FALL 2011 -- SCHEDULE OF CLASSES*

Dates	Topics, Subjects, Tests, Readings
Aug. 24 – Sept. 14	Introduction, Geography, Earliest Occupants Read: Chaps. 1, 2
September 5	Labor Day holiday
September 14	**Test 1**
Sept. 24 – Oct. 10	The Preclassic Maya Read: Chap. 3
October 10	**Test 2**
Oct. 10 – Oct. 28	Early Classic and Late Classic Developments Read: Chaps. 4, 5
October 28	**Test 3**
Oct. 31 – Nov. 16	The Terminal Classic, Postclassic Transformations, and Calendrics Read: Chaps. 6, 7, 8
November 16	**Test 4**
Nov. 18 – Dec. 2	Synthesis & Contexualizing Maya Civilization
November 23	No Class Meeting
November 24 - 25	Thanksgiving holiday
December 2	**Papers Due**

*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.