ANT 304T – Introduction to Texas Archaeology
Unique # 31600
Class meets MW 1:00-2:30 pm
The class meets online: live online streaming

Instructor:
Dr. Mariah Wade
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Teaching Assistants:
Mr. Jordan Bowers
Office: SAC. 4.166
Office hours: MW 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

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Office hours: TTH 12:00-1:00 pm

TA Email: onlineant304tta@austin.utexas.edu

Course description: People have been in Texas since about 12,000 years ago and the evidence of their presence throughout time is fascinating. Ever wondered how we know and can prove that? This course introduces students to Texas archaeology through lectures and a variety of media resources. Texas geographic and environmental diversity provided prehistoric and historic peoples with unique resources and possibilities, and people used that diversity to make choices and develop specific cultural characteristics while interacting with other peoples from the surrounding regions.

Doing archaeology requires teamwork, critical thinking and multidisciplinary approaches. In archaeology, it is often more important to ask relevant questions than provide ready answers. The lectures, readings, videos and homework assignments in this course aim to emphasize these requirements as well as how archaeology relates to other sciences.

This course may be used to fulfill the natural science and technology (Part II) component of the common core curriculum and addresses the following four core objectives established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board: communication skills, critical thinking skills, teamwork, and empirical and quantitative skills.

Pre-requisites: none
Course readings: This course uses textual and media material from The Texas Beyond History website. http://www.texasbeyondbhistory.net/

All required readings, whether they are from The Texas Beyond History or from other sources, are available through links provided in the modules or posted on Canvas. Although not required, it is highly
recommended that students purchase *Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians*, by Ellen Sue Turner and Thomas R. Hester.

**Evaluation:**
Participation and attendance: 10 points
Tests: 3 @ 25 points each = 75 points
Projects: 3 projects = 15 points

Grading policy:
A - 100-90
B - 89-80
C - 79-70
D - 69-60
F - less than 60 points.

**Description of Online Course Format**
This course is streamed live to your computer. Unlike the majority of courses offered at the University of Texas, you will be viewing this class online from any place you choose. Though delivered as a live stream through Canvas, this course takes place at the official times described in the course schedule: Monday and Wednesday 1:00 to 2:30 pm. You are required to attend class by logging into the course site before 1:00 pm on Monday and Wednesday to watch the live, real-time video stream of the lectures and participate in class activities when required.

It is very important that you treat logging into the course website the way you would treat attending a traditional course held in a classroom; attendance is required. You must also treat the class period as a normal class: you must not answer the phone, a knock on the door of your apartment, etc. Otherwise you may miss an instapoll and important lecture material. Students are expected to pose questions online in real-time just as if you were raising your hand in class.

**Technical Requirements:** All students are required to have access to an internet-enabled laptop or desktop computer. Tablets and smartphones are not supported. Your computer should have enough battery life to last an entire class period and meet the following requirements:
  a. 2 GB RAM/memory (most computers purchased in the last five years will have this)
  b. Modern and updated operating system (Windows or macOS)
  c. Updated web browser: Chrome (recommended), Safari, Firefox
  d. 5Mbps internet connection speed ([check your speed here](https://speedtest.net))

**Specific information about the online course format follows.**
Canvas class website: To get to everything associated with the class, go to: [https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1227089](https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1227089)

You can enter directly at this URL or through Canvas ([https://utexas.instructure.com/](https://utexas.instructure.com/)). To log into Canvas and the class website, you will need your UTEID and password. Once you reach the class website, you can navigate your way to other areas.
Some of the most important features include:

**Homepage** – The homepage will have links to the Course Syllabus, the technical requirements and test stream webpage, information regarding technical questions and other important information. On the left-hand side of each page of the Canvas course site are navigation tabs to all parts of the website, including the Syllabus.

**Video Stream** - The Video Stream page is where you will find the video stream for the course. The Video Stream page will also display the outline for the current lecture, links, and other participation activities including instapolls.

**Modules** – The Modules page includes links to the Assignments, Readings, Lecture video archives and other course documents.

**Pre-Class Activities** – These activities are required before the first day of class to ensure that you are prepared to take the online course. Activities include making sure your computer is up-to-date, testing your network connection, and watching screencasts that help you understand how to navigate and communicate in the course (see Technical Requirements above).

**Frequent Asked Questions** (FAQ): Please refer to this feature because it is set to answer most of your questions. If you do not find the answer to your question in FAQ, then please contact your Teaching Assistants or Dr. Wade.

Most of your activity on Canvas will take place in the Live Video Stream and Modules tabs.

**Tests:** There are three tests that will be *taken in person* on the following dates, times and classroom:

- **Test One** - October 8 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm - ECJ 1.214
- **Test Two** – November 19 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm ECJ 1.214
- **Test 3** – December 10 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm ECJ 1.214

This is the link to the building and its location: [https://maps.utexas.edu/buildings/UTM/ECJ/](https://maps.utexas.edu/buildings/UTM/ECJ/)

**Out of the Classroom Projects:**

a) *Material cultural workshop.* All students must attend to obtain a grade. Students will have to register online for the different workshop dates. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. The days, times and places are shown below:

- Monday, September 17 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174
- Tuesday, September 18 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174
- Wednesday, September 19 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174
- Thursday, September 20 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174

b) *Ethics in online classes and in archaeology workshop*
Monday, October 22 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174  
Tuesday, October 23 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174  
Wednesday, October 24 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174  
Thursday, October 25 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174  

The three tests that are part of the grading for this class will take place during the normal class period, as it would happen with a ‘normal’ class, and your answers will be submitted on Scantron. Tests will NOT
be comprehensive. Test One will cover the class material from the beginning of class, Test Two will cover the class material since Test One and Test Three will cover the material since Test Two. Please note that some of the material does overlap, but you will be given clues as to this material before the tests.

**Questions and participation OUTSIDE of the live class** – There are three approved avenues of communication outside of class. Note that the Canvas inbox is NOT a supported way to contact the teaching staff:

In-person office hours with Dr. Wade or the TA Team (see office hour times at the top of the syllabus)

Dr. Wade’s email and the TA email – Please use these email addresses for private inquiries related to the course.

All technical support questions should be directed to gatewaytechsupport@austin.utexas.edu. Do Not email the teaching staff with technical issues. YOU MUST COMMUNICATE with the technical staff as soon as you experience a problem.

We expect that you will treat all discussions - online and in office visits - in a civil and respectful manner. Please refrain from using profanity or any euphemisms for profanity. Please do not use sarcasm in a way that can be misinterpreted negatively. Please just respect the right of your colleagues to ask questions and discuss their opinions about the subject matter of our course. Violators of these discussion rules will simply be shut out from all class communications—email, and office hours.

**OFFICIAL RULES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
Class instructions (please read carefully):

1. Class participation is required. All assigned readings are required. Assignments will be due on the appointed dates. This is a fairness issue.

2. Scholastic dishonesty on any graded assignment will be dealt with according to University Rules.

   Please see: [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_whatis.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_whatis.php). This site also contains several useful links to students. On scholastic conduct see also: [http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi05-06/app/appc11.html](http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi05-06/app/appc11.html)

3. The University of Texas provides appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information please contact the Office of the Dean of Students at (512) 471-6259 or (512) 471-4641.

   **If you have a disability** you must let me know **no later than the second week of class**. SSD accommodation letters must be delivered in person to Dr. Wade. Failure to do so will result in delaying appropriate provisions and will affect testing accommodations.

4. Please do not ask for grades or grade information by email. Information about grades will only be given in person, or through official means.
**Weekly schedule**
Class schedule and corresponding material are shown by themes and respective Power Points (PP). If we need to make any changes you will be informed in class or by email.

Week 1
Wednesday August 29
**PP 1** - Introduction - Important issues about this class
What is archaeology and what archaeologists do.

Week 2
September 3 - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
September 5
**PP 2** - Archaeological Methods and Techniques

**Module 1 covers Weeks 1 and 2.**

Week 3
September 10 -12
**PP 3** - Texas Physiography, Archaeological Regions and Archaeologists

Week 4
September 17-19
**PP 5** - The Antiquity of humans in America - Blackwater Draw.
**PP 6** - Dating Methods and Paleoindian sites. Notes on Social Organization

**Module 2 covers Weeks 3 and 4.**

**Material Culture Workshop (see schedule above).**

Week 5
September 24-26
**PP 7** - Ways of making a living. Video
**PP 8** - Paleoindian Burial Behavior. The Late Paleoindian Period/Transitional Archaic.

Week 6
October 1 -3
**PP 9** - Late Paleoindian Period/ Early Archaic. East and Central Texas.
**PP 10** - The Late Paleoindian Period/ Transitional Archaic -Climate and life changes.

**Module 3 covers Weeks 5 and 6.**

Week 7

**October 8 – TEST ONE**

October 10
**PP 11** - The Late Paleoindian Period/ Transitional Archaic. The Lower Pecos. Microbotanical evidence to reconstruct the environment.
Week 8  
October 15 -17  
**PP 12** - The Middle and Late Archaic Periods. Landscape and Resources.  
**PP 13** - The Middle and Late Archaic Periods. Dwellings and structures.  
Coastal, Trans-Pecos, Lower-Pecos.  

**Module 4 covers Weeks 7 and 8.**

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Week 9  
October 22 -24  
**PP 14** - Late Archaic and Early Prehistoric, general characteristics: Central, South,  
**PP 15** - Woodlands - The Middle and Late Archaic Periods - Mound Building, Burial Customs.  

**Ethics Workshop (see schedule above)**

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Week 10  
October 29-31  
**PP 16** - The Late Archaic and Prehistoric Periods: Texas Panhandle.  

**Module 5 covers Weeks 9 and 10.**

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Week 11  
November 5 - 7  
**PP 18** - Trade and material culture - The Lower Pecos and Trans-Pecos.  
**PP 19** - Late Prehistoric in Central Texas – Austin and Toyah Phases.

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Week 12  
November 12 -14  
**PP 20** - The Jornada Mogollon and Hueco Tanks  
**PP 21** - Hueco Tanks and La Junta de los Rios.  

**Module 6 covers Weeks 11 and 12.**

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Week 13  
November 19  

**November 19 - TEST TWO**  
**November 21 – 24 Thanksgiving Holiday**

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Week 14  
November 26 -28  
**PP 22** - Historic Period: European Encounters.  
**PP 23** - The Spanish Colonial Mission Period.  

**Field Trip to The Bullock Museum**

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Week 15  
December 3 -5

Module 7 covers Weeks 14 and 15.

Week 16
December 10

December 10 - TEST THREE

December 10: last day of class.
Course Expectations and Outcomes:
You will not become a Texas Archeologist, but we hope you become one in the future.
You will learn about Texas environmental and archaeological diversity and the ways native inhabitants made use of the state’s natural resources;
You will learn about Texas connections to other archaeological areas and why present state boundaries are pointless in terms of archaeology;
You will handle and learn about how prehistoric and historic Texas Inhabitants made a living and the materials they used in their daily lives;
You will have a comprehensive understanding of the methodologies and techniques archaeologists use to date sites, discover clues about the ancient environment, classify and study lithic tools and ceramics and contribute to the preservation and conservation of archaeological artifacts;
By the end of this course, we hope you have develop admiration and respect for the past Texas inhabitants and are knowledgeable to contribute to the preservation of the archeological objects that are Texas legacy.
You will become aware of TARL as a curatorial facility and TARL’s superb archaeological collections.