INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES
ANT 304
30385-30410

Fall 2015
Lecture: GSB 2.124, T/TH 9:30-10:30 am
Labs: SAC 4.174: 30385, M 2-3 pm; 30390, W 2-3 pm; 30395, T, 3-4 pm; 30400, TH 3-4 pm;
30405, T, 5-6 pm; 30410, TH 5-6 pm

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Office Hours: T/TH 10:30 am noon and by appointment. Please schedule on Canvas!

TAs: Jordan Bowers (30395 and 30405)
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Office hours: Tuesdays 4-5 pm, Thursdays 11 am - 12 pm; and by appointment

William Gblerkpor (30400 and 30410)
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Office Hours: Thursdays, 12-2 pm; and by appointment

Camille Weinberg (30385 and 30390)
Office: CLA 4.418; E-mail: cdsweinberg@utexas.edu
Office Hours: M 3-4 pm, W 12-1 pm; and by appointment

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I. Rationale: Archaeology covers a critical part of the human past—from the cultural
development of our hominin ancestors to the invention of writing (and beyond). Overlapping
with the time scales of both geology and history, archaeology uses the material record to tell the
story of how we became human, and how human societies developed from small bands of mobile
hunter-gatherers into the states and empires we know from the historical record. Archaeology
explores the global human experience, and its core themes remain important to understanding
today’s world: human-environment dynamics, the social construction of inequality, and the
social and ecological impact of urban life. Understanding the human experience from the
archaeological viewpoint offers a deep perspective on the world that we live in today.

Global Cultures Flag: This course carries the Global Cultures flag. Global Cultures courses are
designed to increase your familiarity with cultural groups outside the United States. You should
therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one non-U.S. cultural group, past or present.

II. Course Aims and Objectives:

Aims: Required readings, lectures, and lab sections are designed to work together to achieve several core aims. These include presentation of the basic facts of world prehistory, discussion of key conceptual issues in archaeology, and consideration of the methods that archaeologists use to reconstruct the past, and the limitations of archaeological knowledge.

Specific Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will:

- demonstrate mastery of the key facts of world prehistory by successfully answering multiple-choice questions drawn from required readings and lectures during exams.
- show a critical understanding of key issues in world prehistory by writing responses to a range of questions on long-term developments of human social organization.
- express a knowledge of important questions of archaeological methods and professional practice by successfully completing laboratory activities.

III. Format and Procedures: There are three important parts of this course. The first is individual preparation—each student is expected to come to lectures and lab sections having already read the required reading for that day (see below). The main required text has extensive web-based resources (http://wwnorton.com/college/archaeology/humanpast3/), including chapter summaries, quizzes, and additional links. Students are strongly encouraged to use these actively through the term, and multiple choice questions for the exams will be developed from these online materials. The second part of the course is lecture on Tuesdays and Thursdays, which will present a global overview of world prehistory and key concepts in archaeology. Lectures are not intended to regurgitate the facts of the required reading, but instead to frame it conceptually, to evaluate the kinds of evidence that archaeologists have for answering a particular question, and to talk about why a particular issue is relevant today. The third part of the course is a laboratory section meeting, which will focus on the methods of archaeology and aspects of professional practice. Students will engage in discussions and will work together to complete activities that encourage them to reflect on short readings assigned for each section meeting.

IV. Tentative Course Schedule: * Required article **This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION

Thursday, August 27: Course introduction

LAB: NO LAB

WEEK 2: ORIGINS

Tuesday, September 1: The Origins of Archaeology
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 1 (Introduction)

Thursday, September 3: Biology and Culture in the Human Line
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 2 (African Origins)
LAB 1: Discussion of the Origin and Aims of Archaeology
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 1 (Origins and Development of Archaeology)

WEEK 3: THE EMERGENCE OF HOMO SAPIENS
Tuesday, September 8: Foundations of Human Culture
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 3 (Hominin Dispersals in Old World)
Thursday, September 10: The Triumph of Human Culture
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 4 (The Rise of Modern Humans)
LAB 2: Survey Lab (NB: Monday section cancelled 9/7 for Labor Day; see table below for rescheduling for that section in the following weeks)
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 2 (Making a Date)

WEEK 4: THEORIZING HUMAN LIFE IN THE HOLOCENE
Tuesday, September 15: Holocene Transformations
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 5 (The World Transformed); Gignoux et al. 2011*
Thursday, September 17: Cities, States, and Their Local Alternatives
Readings: Redmond and Spencer 2012*
LAB 3: Lithics Lab
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 3 (Technology)

WEEK 5: TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST
Tuesday, September 22: From Foraging to Farming
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 6 (From Foragers to Complex Societies in SW Asia)
Thursday, September 24: Cities, States, and the Invention of History
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 12 (Peoples and Complex Societies of Ancient SW Asia)
LAB 4: Gender Lab
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 4 (How did People Live?)

WEEK 6: EUROPE FROM COLONIZATION TO THE ROMAN EMPIRE
Tuesday, September 29: The Spread of Farming in Europe
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 11 (Holocene Europe)
Thursday, October 1: Social Power and the Rise of Empire
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 13 (The Mediterranean World)
LAB: Review for Exam 1
Readings: None

WEEK 7: ANCIENT EGYPT
Tuesday, October 6: EXAM I
Readings: None
Thursday, October 8: Ancient Egyptian Civilization
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 10 (Holocene Africa), pp. 370-380
LAB 5: Burial Lab
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 5 (How did People Think?)

WEEK 8: HOLOCENE AFRICA AND SOUTH ASIA
Tuesday, October 13: Holocene Africa
Readings: Finish Scarre, Ch. 10 (Holocene Africa)
Thursday, October 15: South Asia
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 14 (South Asia from Early Villages to Buddhism)

LAB 6: Material Evidence of Social Organization
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 6 (Settlement and Society)

WEEK 9: EAST ASIA UNTIL THE HAN EMPIRE
Tuesday, October 20: Transitions to Agriculture in East Asia
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 7 (East Asian Agriculture and Its Impact)
Thursday, October 22: Emergence of Urbanism and Statecraft
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 15 (Complex Societies of East and Southeast Asia)
LAB 7: Stratigraphy Lab
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 7 (How and Why did Things Change?)

WEEK 10: HUMAN COLONIZATION AND COMPLEXITY ACROSS OCEANIA
Tuesday, October 27: Human Colonization and Survival in Ancient Australia
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 8 (Australia and the Pacific Basin during the Holocene)
Thursday, October 29: Domestication and Migration in New Guinea and Polynesia
Readings: Finish Scarre, Ch. 8; Denham 2011*; Wilmshurst et al. 2011*
LAB 8: Campus Monumentality
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 8 (Minorities and Sororities)

WEEK 11: NORTH AMERICAN PREHISTORY
Tuesday, November 3: Peopling of North America
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 9 (Origins of Food-Producing Economies in Americas)
Thursday, November 5: Domestication, Diffusion, and Social Complexity
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 18 (Complex Societies of North America)
LAB 9: Visit to Andes Collection in Art Library
Readings: Bahn, Ch. 9 (Presenting the Past to the Public)

WEEK 12: MESOAMERICAN PEOPLES BEFORE THE CONQUEST
Tuesday, November 10: Origins of Mesoamerican Farming and Village Societies
Readings: Review Scarre, Ch. 9; Neff 2011*
Thursday, November 12: The Mesoamerican Civilizations
Readings: Scarre, Ch. 16 (Mesoamerican Civilization)
LAB: Review for Exam II
Reading: None

WEEK 13: PATTERNS IN PREHISTORY
Tuesday, November 17: EXAM II
Readings: None
Thursday, November 19: Dynamics of Ancient Complex Societies
Readings: Carballo et al. 2014*
LAB 10: Processual and Post-processual Archaeology
Readings: Earle and Preucel 1987*; Smith et al. 2012*

WEEK 14: THE RISE OF ANDEAN CIVILIZATIONS
Tuesday, November 24: Human Survival in the Andes
Readings: Review Scarre, Ch. 9; Jolie et al. 2011*; Dillehay et al. 2012*
LAB: NO LAB (THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY) (NB: Monday section meets for Lab 10)

WEEK 15: ARCHAEOLOGY AFTER WRITING
Tuesday, December 1: Andean Statecraft to Inca Times
  Readings: Scarre, Ch. 17 (From Village to Empire in South America)
Thursday, December 3: The Future of the Past
  Readings: Scarre, Ch. 19 (Retrospect and Prospect); Bahn, Ch. 10
LAB 11: Discussion of the Future of Archaeology (NB: Monday Lab meets 11/30)

FINAL EXAM: Saturday, December 12, 9 am – 12 pm (tentative)

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<th>Table of Graded Class Activities by Section Number</th>
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V. My Assumptions

I approach this course with the assumption that most students have no prior background, and that most are taking the course to fulfill a university curriculum requirement or to explore a curiosity about archaeology. I try to teach with this in mind, so I focus the content on basic facts and concepts, as well as a discussion of key sites and controversies. For me, one of the most important things about archaeology is that the story of the human past is still being discovered, so I try to teach this class in a way that helps students to know how we know what we know, and how we might learn more in the future.

VI. Course Requirements:
1. Class attendance and participation policy:
   Although attendance in lecture is not part of your course grade, advance preparation and on-time attendance are strongly recommended. There will be activities and information relevant to exams presented in class. Lab attendance is required, and any student who misses more than four labs, regardless of performance in the rest of the class, will automatically receive an F in the class. Respect is a central expectation for lectures and labs. This means appropriate use of
technology and refraining from distracting or disruptive behavior. Laptops and tablets are permitted in the lecture hall for the purposes of note-taking only—please switch off the wi-fi capabilities of these devices prior to the start of class and limit your use of them for activities in this class. Mobile phones should be switched off or into silent mode, and should not be used in the classroom. Appropriate use of technology communicates respect for other students and for the instructor; failure to do so may result in a revision of class policies allowing computers and tablets. This course studies the breadth of the human experience, and the principle of respect extends to every individual in our class, and to all human societies that we will learn about.

**Religious Holy Days**

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

2. **Course Readings/Materials:** Almost all course readings will come from two required books, which should both be available from the Co-op:

Scarre, Chris, ed. 2013. *The Human Past*, 3rd edition. Thames and Hudson. This is a world prehistory text that will be read alongside class lectures. There is a very useful set of online study materials for the course at [http://wwnorton.com/college/archaeology/humanpast3/](http://wwnorton.com/college/archaeology/humanpast3/). Multiple choice questions based on the readings will appear on exams, and it will be necessary to use details from the readings on essay questions for exams.


In addition to the required books, the following articles are required readings for the course. These are freely available through UT’s electronic journals subscriptions, and if possible, a pdf file of each reading will be placed on Canvas prior to the class meeting. Students are responsible for accessing these readings.


### 3. Assignments, Assessment, and Evaluation

Lab Work: Because most lab work is collaborative, there are no extensions or make-ups for missed labs. Students must protect lab equipment and teaching collections and use them according to the rules that we will specify during the lab orientation. Labs are required to pass the class.

Make-Up Exams: Ordinarily, there will be no make-up exams. If you anticipate missing an exam for a valid reason, it is your responsibility to speak with the professor or a TA in advance about making alternative arrangements. If you miss an exam, please bring documentation of the reason to the professor so that we can discuss whether a make-up is warranted. Please feel free to redact sensitive personal information (e.g., medical diagnosis, SSN) from your documentation.

Final Exam: The Registrar has scheduled our final exam for Saturday, December 12 from 9 am to 12 pm ([http://registrar.utexas.edu/students/exams](http://registrar.utexas.edu/students/exams)).

Grade Issues: If you feel that your work has been evaluated inaccurately or unfairly, it is your responsibility to bring this to the attention of your TA or the professor within one week after your graded work is returned to you. Please review your graded work when it is returned and let us know if you feel that there are any problems.

### 4. Use of Canvas in class:

This class uses Canvas for a number of Web-based course management functions. Canvas can be accessed at [http://canvas.utexas.edu/](http://canvas.utexas.edu/). The university provides support and tutorials for interested students—it is your responsibility to learn and access the site in order to prepare for classes, labs, and exams. For this course, Canvas will be used primarily as a place to post the course syllabus, slides from lectures, exam review sheets, required journal articles, and lab assignments.

### VII. Grading Procedures:

Grades will be based on:

- **(a) Exam I (20%).** This in-class exam will take place on Wednesday, October 8, and consist of multiple-choice and written responses for material covered up to that point.
(b) Exam II (20%). This in-class exam will take place on Wednesday, November 19, and consist of multiple-choice and written responses for material covered after the first exam.

(c) Lab (30%). The lab grade will be based on ten (10) assignments conducted during lab sections. (There are 11 graded lab activities, and the highest 10 grades will be counted.) Students are expected to attend the lab section for which they are registered, and all work will be due at the end of the meeting in which it is assigned.

(d) Final Exam (30%). The final exam will be held on its assigned date and time. It will be a cumulative test of all course readings and lecture materials, in the form of multiple-choice and written responses.

Grade Scale:

- B+: 80.00-82.99
- B: 83.00-86.99
- C+: 77.00-79.99
- C: 73.00-76.99
- D+: 70.00-72.99
- D: 67.00-69.99
- D-: 60.00-62.99
- F: Below 60.00

Note: Grades will not be rounded

VIII. Academic Integrity

University of Texas Honor Code

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit must be the student's own work. Collaboration is an important part of some aspects of this course, and it is important to state precisely when collaboration is acceptable, and when it is not.

Lab Work: Students will work together for group projects during their labs, and the group size and nature of the collaboration will be stated in the assignment. Students may only collaborate with members of their group on lab assignments, unless expressly granted permission to do otherwise by the TA. Copying lab work by members of other groups constitutes a violation of the Honor Code. Should copying occur, both the student who copied work from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will both automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Penalty for violation of this Code can also be extended to include failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

Study and Review: Students are strongly encouraged to work together to prepare for lectures, and to discuss course materials prior to lectures. Collaborative review is encouraged to prepare for exams, and there will be reviews for exams during some lab meetings.

Exams: NO form of collaboration or copying is permitted during exams, and no outside materials may be consulted during exams without the express permission of the professor. Talking or discussion is not permitted during the examinations, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any collaborative behavior during the examinations will result in failure of the exam, and may lead to failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

IX. Other University Notices and Policies

Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities

Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is
the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination lab for making up the work.

Use of E-mail for Official Correspondence to Students

- All students should become familiar with the University's official e-mail student notification policy. It is the student's responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in his or her e-mail address. Students are expected to check e-mail on a frequent and regular basis in order to stay current with University-related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time-critical. It is recommended that e-mail be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week. The complete text of this policy and instructions for updating your e-mail address are available at [http://www.utexas.edu/its/help/utmail/1564](http://www.utexas.edu/its/help/utmail/1564).

Documented Disability Statement

Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at (512) 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone). Faculty are not required to provide accommodations without an official accommodation letter from SSD.

- Please notify me as quickly as possible if the material being presented in class is not accessible (e.g., instructional videos need captioning, course packets are not readable for proper alternative text conversion, etc.).

- Please notify me as early in the semester as possible if disability-related accommodations for field trips are required. Advanced notice will permit the arrangement of accommodations on the given day (e.g., transportation, site accessibility, etc.).

- Contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone) or reference SSD’s website for more disability-related information: [http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/for_cstudents.php](http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/for_cstudents.php)

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)

If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual’s behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit [http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal](http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal).

Q drop Policy

The State of Texas has enacted a law that limits the number of course drops for academic reasons to six (6). As stated in Senate Bill 1231:

“Beginning with the fall 2007 academic term, an institution of higher education may not permit an undergraduate student a total of more than six dropped courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education, unless the student shows good cause for dropping more than that number.”

Emergency Evacuation Policy

Occupants of buildings on the UT Austin campus are required to evacuate and assemble outside when a fire alarm is activated or an announcement is made. Please be aware of the following policies regarding evacuation:

- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of the classroom and the building. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when you entered the building.

- If you require assistance to evacuate, inform me in writing during the first week of class.

- In the event of an evacuation, follow my instructions or those of class instructors.

Do not re-enter a building unless you’re given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.

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