

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTHROPOLOGY 2229G – PRINCIPLES OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Course Outline, Winter 2017

Credit Value: .5

Prerequisite: Anthropology 1020E, or Anthropology 1025F/G and 1026F/G.

Anti-requisite: none

Meeting Times: Mondays 10:30 am– 12:30 pm, Wednesdays 10:30 – 11:30 am

Meeting Room: SSC 2257

Instructor: Peter Timmins

Office: SSC 3213

Phone: 661-2111 ext. 85097

e-mail: ptimmins@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Mondays 12:30 - 1:30 pm, Wednesdays 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

T.A.: Scott Eckford

Email: seckford@uwo.ca Office: Great Lakes Archaeology Lab (SSC 3254A)

Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 - 10:30 am

COURSE CONTENT

This course provides an overview of the method and theory of anthropological archaeology. The main goal of the course is to demonstrate how archaeologists work with the material remains of past peoples to make inferences about conditions and events in the human past. In doing this the course will also illustrate how archaeology is uniquely suited to answer questions of general anthropological interest. The focus is on the nature of archaeology as a discipline and how archaeologists make sense of their data, rather than field techniques or major archaeological discoveries.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Discuss the history of archaeology with specific reference to developments in American anthropological archaeology;
- Understand the structure of archaeological inquiry and scientific approaches applied in archaeology;
- Explain the nature of the archaeological record and how archaeologists acquire their data through survey and excavation;
- Outline the principles of important absolute and relative dating methods used in archaeology;
- Discuss the analytical dimensions of time, space and form in archaeology;
- Understand basic principles of taphonomy, experimental archaeology and ethnoarchaeology;
- Describe basic analytical approaches to plant remains and animal remains recovered from archaeological contexts;

- Discuss bioarchaeological approaches to human skeletal material from archaeological contexts;
- Explain how archaeologists reconstruct past social and political systems;
- Understand archaeological approaches to cognitive archaeology or the archaeology of the human mind;
- Discuss major themes in historical archaeology; and
- Describe current trends in the practice of archaeology and applied archaeology.

REQUIRED TEXT AND READINGS

Most readings will be taken from one comprehensive text, available in the bookstore:

Kelly, Robert L. and David Hurst Thomas
 2014 *Archaeology: Down to Earth, Fifth Edition.* Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, Belmont, CA.

In addition to the basic text, a number of required supplementary readings are noted by author and title in the course schedule below. These readings will all be made available in .pdf format through the course OWL site. One or two additional readings may be added and will be announced in lectures in advance of the date they are discussed.

EVALUATION

Students will be required to attend classes and participate in discussions, write a mid-term exam, a final exam, and complete two assignments. The due dates and percentage values of these components are outlined below.

Assignment 1	Released Feb. 5 th , due in class Mar. 6 th .	20%
Mid-term Exam	Feb. 13 th in class.	20%
Assignment 2	Released Mar. 8 th , due in class Mar. 29 th .	20%
Participation	Class attendance and participation in discussions	15%
Final Exam	In the Final Exam Period	25%

Notes: The final exam will only cover material taught after the mid-term exam.

ASSIGNMENTS

Students will be required to complete two assignments based on the course material. The assignments will involve the application of analytical techniques discussed in class. The results are to be presented in a report format.

LATE POLICY

There will be a 2% reduction of the assignment grade for each day that an assignment is late (including weekends and holidays). Assignments that are not handed in within three weeks of the due date may receive a grade of zero.

PARTICIPATION

Participation marks will be based on attendance in class and participation in class discussions. Interim participation marks will be posted on OWL by February 28, 2017, and final marks will be posted at the end of the course.

OWL

OWL is Western's online course management program. The OWL course webpage will be used to communicate with the class. Students are advised to check the OWL page for announcements and important course materials. PowerPoint presentations used in lectures will be made available online through OWL after or prior to each lecture. The course syllabus and assignments will also be available through OWL. In addition to submitting a hard copy of assignments in class, students will be expected to submit electronic copies of assignments through OWL prior to the assignment due date. While marked hard copies of assignments will be returned to students, assignment grades will also be posted in the gradebook on the course OWL site. Mid-term exam marks, final exam marks and final course grades will also be posted in the OWL gradebook.

STATEMENT ON THE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

As a matter of courtesy, please mute phones during lectures. Laptops and tablets may be used for note-taking and when the instructor makes use of online resources during class. If you wish to record lectures, please seek permission from the instructor. No electronic devices (including but not limited to laptop computers, cell phones, iPods, etc...) will be allowed during examinations unless expressly authorized by the instructor.

UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC POLICIES:

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies are outlined (with links to the full policies) at:

http://anthropology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/course_information/academic_policies.html

COURSE OUTLINE

Dates	Topics and Readings
Jan. 9 & 11	Lecture 1: Introduction and the History of Archaeology Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 1 Supplementary Reading: Lewis Binford (1962) <i>Archaeology as Anthropology</i>
Jan. 16 & 18	Lecture 2: The Structure of Archaeological Inquiry Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 2
Jan. 23 & 25	Lecture 3: The Archaeological Record, Archaeological Survey and Excavation Kelly and Thomas, Chapters 3 and 4 Supplementary Readings: Michael Schiffer (1972) <i>Archaeological Context and Systemic Context</i>

Jan. 30 & Feb. 1	Lecture 4: Relative and Absolute Chronology in Archaeology Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 5
Feb. 6 & 8	Lecture 5: Time, Space and Form in Archaeology Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 6 ** Assignment # 1 released Feb. 8th
Feb. 13	Mid-Term Exam in Class
Feb. 15	Lecture 6, Pt. 1: Taphonomy, Experimental Archaeology and Ethnoarchaeology Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 7
Feb. 20	No class – Reading Week
Feb. 27	Lecture 6, Pt. 2: Taphonomy, Experimental Archaeology and Ethnoarchaeology Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 7
Mar. 1 & 6	Lecture 7: People, Plants and Animals in the Past Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 8 ** Assignment # 1 due in class March 6th
Mar. 8 & 13	Lecture 8: Bioarchaeological Approaches Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 9 ** Assignment # 2 released March 8th
Mar. 15 & 20	Lecture 9: Reconstructing Social and Political Systems Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 10
Mar. 22 & 27	Lecture 10: The Archaeology of the Human Mind Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 11
Mar. 29 & Apr. 3	Lecture 11: Historical Archaeology Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 12 Supp. Reading: Theresa Singleton(1995) <i>The Archaeology of Slavery in North America</i> ** Assignment # 2 due in class March 29th
Apr. 5	Lecture 12: Current Trends and the Future of Archaeology Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 13 Supp. Readings: Joe Watkins (2003) <i>Beyond the Margin: American Indians, First Nations and Archaeology in North America</i>