

ANTHROPOLOGY 4429F/9110A
Principles of Applied Archaeology
COURSE OUTLINE
Fall 2020



Excavation of an Iroquoian longhouse. Image courtesy TMHC.

Instructor: Dr. Peter Timmins (he/him)

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Office Hours: Wednesday 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, EST, on Zoom

Credit value: 0.5 credit

This course is cross-listed with graduate and undergraduate students.

Mode of delivery: For 2020/2021 this course will be conducted online, synchronously, using Zoom videoconferencing technology, with discussions to take place weekly during the scheduled synchronous class time.

Synchronous class time: Mondays 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. EST.

Calendar Course Description: This course will examine the principles and concerns that are integral to the practice of applied archaeology in North America and the role of applied archaeology in heritage management. The course will review legislation and professional practices that govern applied archaeologists who undertake Cultural Resource Management (CRM).

Antirequisites: None.

Prerequisites: For Anthropology 4429F, registration in fourth year in Anthropology. Application required for Undergraduate students. For Anthropology 9110A, admission to the Graduate program in Anthropology.

Course Syllabus:

This course will examine the global practice of applied archaeology with a focus on North America. The course will review legislation and professional practices that govern Cultural Resource Management (CRM) or Archaeological Resource Management (ARM) archaeology, which is usually carried out by consultant archaeologists in advance of land development or resource extraction. The readings will draw on the experience of applied archaeology from around the world and we will draw comparisons between global trends and applied archaeology as currently practiced in Ontario.

Over the last 5 decades CRM archaeology has grown to dominate the practice of archaeology in North America and now constitutes the majority of all archaeology conducted, while also providing employment for the majority of professionals in the field. The course will explore how applied archaeology meshes with heritage conservation and land use development laws and policies. We will examine how applied archaeology is conducted and regulated and, specifically, how the 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* that govern the practice of CRM archaeology in Ontario have been implemented, augmented and challenged by current practice. We will critically examine the logic and assumptions underlying the Standards and Guidelines and will discuss several issues inherent in applied archaeology, ranging from determinations of archaeological potential, site significance, ethics, dispute resolution, and contested claims to archaeological heritage. The increasingly important role of engagement with non-archaeologists, including the public, developers/proponents, and descendant communities will also be considered. A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

Learning Outcomes:

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

- Define applied archaeology as it is practiced globally;
- Describe the legislative framing of archaeology in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom;
- Summarize the nature of the work of cultural resource management archaeologists in Canada, the United States and the U.K.;

- Explain the practice and process of archaeological background studies, the concept of archaeological potential, archaeological survey, site-specific assessment, and archaeological mitigation through excavation and/or preservation;
- Describe and assess the practices of dissemination of archaeological data and collections management in CRM archaeology;
- Discuss issues of policy, business and professionalism in CRM archaeology;
- Understand the concerns, practices and roles of descendant communities and other stakeholders in CRM archaeology;
- Illustrate the many ways in which applied archaeology and heritage become entangled in the practice of cultural resource management;
- Enumerate and discuss future challenges for applied archaeology.

Course Materials:

There is no single textbook that covers all of the topics discussed in this course, however, there is an extensive literature on the issues and practice of applied archaeology. Weekly readings will provide us with the broad context needed to fully explore the topics and issues raised. All required readings will be made available through the Course Readings tool on OWL or through links to online sources. Registered students will be able to access details on the course readings through the course's on-line OWL site before the first day of class. A small number of additional readings may be assigned as the course progresses.

Evaluation:

Presentations on readings (weekly or bi-weekly presentations on readings) – 30%

Participation (weekly participation in class discussions) – 20%

Conference Session on Critiques of Applied Archaeology Practices (Nov. 16th class) – 20%

Final Paper (due Dec. 16th at 5 p.m.) – 30%

Evaluation Details:

Presentations on Readings - 30%

This course will be conducted as a seminar using the Zoom videoconferencing platform and will involve in class presentations on selected readings followed by class discussions to explore the ideas raised in the readings be assigned for each week. We will take regular breaks in our weekly Zoom meetings to minimize "Zoom fatigue". The class will read and discuss three articles each week. Students enrolled in Anthropology 9110A will make a presentation and lead the discussion on a total of 6 articles each, while students enrolled in Anthropology 4429F will be expected to make presentations and lead the discussion on three articles each. Students will select the readings that they will lead discussion on from a pre-determined weekly reading list in advance of each class. You will be expected to provide a brief synopsis of the reading, highlighting key themes, and formulate discussion questions to guide the class discussion and critique. Further details, including a list of weekly topics and readings will be made available through the course's online OWL site before the first day of class. You will be marked on your presentations, your ability to identify key issues and generate discussion, and your ability to lead the class discussion. Graduate student

presentations are expected to be more critically nuanced than undergraduate presentations. Your Presentations grade for the first half of the course will be posted to the Course OWL site by November 9, 2020.

Participation – 20%

Students are expected to attend every online class, read all of the assigned readings, and participate fully in discussions that will be led by other students and the instructor. You will be marked on your ability to engage with the material presented and participate in the class discussions. Your Participation grade for the first half of the course will be posted to the Course OWL site by November 9, 2020.

Conference Session on Critiques of Applied Archaeology Practices – 20%

In CRM archaeology many activities are done routinely to comply with specific standards, without giving much thought to possible issues with the practice. For this assignment you will be asked to consider such a routine practice, and then conduct a review of it beyond what is required in consulting practice. You will be expected to substantiate your findings with reference to existing literature concerning these archaeological methodologies or practices. *You will present your findings as a 15-20 minute conference paper, complete with a PowerPoint presentation, in the November 16th class.* Each presentation will be followed by a discussion in which you may be asked questions by members of the class.

You are required to submit a 7-10 page written summary of your conference paper on the day of the presentation. Submissions will be made electronically using the Turnitin.com function on the OWL Assignments page. *Topics should be selected by the October 19th class,* allowing you four weeks to prepare this presentation. You will be marked on your description of the practice in question, identification and critique of the assumptions inherent in the practice, and discussion of viable alternatives to the current practice (if they exist). Graduate student presentations are expected to be more critically nuanced and draw upon more sources than undergraduate presentations. Examples of practices that can be critiqued will be provided on the course OWL site before the first day of classes.

Final Paper – 30%

The final assignment for the course will be a research paper on a topic broadly related to applied archaeology. This paper may examine any contemporary issue in applied archaeology, therefore, the range of possible paper topics is very large. The paper should be comparative and should examine the topic within the broader global context of practice, including how the topic relates to the broader discipline of archaeology and anthropology. The final paper for Anthropology 4429F students should be approximately 3000 words long, while Anthropology 9110A students should submit a 3500 word paper. Graduate student papers are expected to be more critically nuanced and draw upon more sources than undergraduate papers. *You will be expected to submit a 1-2 page paper outline by November 9th, along with a preliminary list of references you plan to use. The paper will be due December 14th.*

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).

Course Specific Conditions Required to Pass this Course

In order to pass this course students must submit the final paper and receive a passing grade in the course.

In order to pass an essay course, the student must exhibit some minimal level of competence in essay writing and the appropriate level of knowledge of the content of the course. Students must submit and receive a passing grade on the final paper.

Course Specific Statements and Policies:

Use of OWL

This course will be delivered using OWL, Western's online course management program. The OWL course website will be used for providing the syllabus (using the Syllabus page). Synchronous classes will be conducted using the OWL Zoom tool. The Resources page and/or the Course Readings tool will be used to provide links to weekly readings. The Assignments page will be used to release, submit and return assignments. Communication with the class will make use of the Announcements and Messages tools. Office hours will be conducted using the OWL Zoom function. Students are encouraged to drop in to the Zoom office hours to discuss any aspect of the course. All grades will also be posted in the OWL Gradebook.

Statement on Seeking Special Accommodations:

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

Institutional Statements and Policies

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding medical accommodation, accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences in Western's Academic Calendar by clicking on this link:

<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/academicPolicies.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>

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