ANTHROPOLOGY 4429F-9110A

Principles of Applied Archaeology

Fall 2020

Brief Course Outline

Instructor: Peter Timmins

Synchronous class time: Mondays 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.

Mode of Delivery: For 2020 this course will be conducted online, synchronously, using Zoom technology. Presentations and discussions will be done in weekly Zoom meetings during class time.

Antirequisites: None

Prerequisites: Registration in fourth year in Anthropology and permission of the instructor via application. Anthropology 2229F/G is recommended.

Note: This course is cross-listed with graduate and undergraduate students and has limited enrolment. Undergraduate students must apply using an online application provided by the Anthropology Department.

Course Description:
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. 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 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, archaeological survey, and the concept of archaeological potential;
- 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. A small number of additional readings may be assigned as the course progresses.

**Evaluation:**

Presentations on Readings - 25%

Participation – 25%

Conference Session on Critiques of Applied Archaeology Practices – 20%

Final Paper – 30%