

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
Anthropology 213-001
MWF 12:30-1:20pm, McElhaney 104
Spring Term, 2022

INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
World Archaeology
Instructor: Dr. Alexander J. Martin
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Office hours: MWF 11:30-12:30pm
McElhaney G1-G

SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

How do human societies work, and how did we get to this point? Humanity's astonishing story – from our origin in countless small hunter-gatherer bands to our contemporary globalized world – happened mostly before and beyond written records. Archaeologists decipher this story through the artifacts, structures, and bodies of people long dead. Their past cultures are fascinating in their own right, but on a more fundamental level they help us understand the patterns and the diversity in how human societies work and how they change through time.

In this course, we take a whirlwind tour of the most momentous turning points in human prehistory. This is interwoven with a basic introduction to the discipline and methods of archaeology.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Have a solid foundation in archaeological questions, methods, and ways of building knowledge, preparing you for upper-level courses in archaeology.
2. Have a better appreciation of the time depth and worldwide achievements of our ancient ancestors.
3. Be familiar with some of the most important transitions in the human past.
4. Be better able to evaluate claims about the deep past in the media and on-line.
5. Understand some of the ways in which archaeology can contribute in the present.

This course satisfies a core course requirement for Anthropology majors.

REQUIRED READING

Price, T. Douglas, and Gary Feinman. *Images of the Past* (8th ed.) **(P&F)**

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF THE CLASS

Week	Date	Topics	Readings / due dates
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1. PRINCIPLES OF ARCHAEOLOGY

1	1/17 M	NO CLASS	
	1/19 W	Intro and logistics	
	1/21	Why it matters	Fagan and Durrani, "Why Archaeology Matters" (excerpts)
2	1/24 M	The nature of our data	Renfrew and Bahn, "What is Left"
	1/26 W	The nature of our data (cont.)	
	1/28 F	How do we know? Archaeological interpretation	Ashmore and Sharer, "Reconstructing the Past"
3	1/31 M	How do we know? Archaeological interpretation (cont.)	Patel, "Where there's smoke..."
	2/2 W	How to do archaeology	Lippi, "Looking for sites in all the right places"
	2/4 F	Other people's garbage (ethnoarchaeology)	Rathje and Murphy, "Rubbish!" <i>Bring garbage list to recitation</i>
	<i>Quiz 1</i>		

2. THE DEEP PAST

4	2/7 M	In the beginning (Australopithecines)	P&F Chapter 2 to p. 67 (but skip the section on dating methods; read to p. 65 in the 7 th edition)
	2/9 W	In the beginning Part 2 (Genus Homo)	P&F Rest of Chap. 2
	2/11 F	In the beginning Part 2 (Genus Homo) (cont.)	
5	2/14 M	What is it to be human?	P&F Chap. 3 to p. 118 (p. 116 in 7 th ed.)
	2/16 W	DOCUMENTARY (No class)	<i>The Human Family Tree</i>
	2/18 F	Dating methods (No class)	P&F 50-51 (dating methods), 139-141 (radiocarbon dating) [P&F 48-49 (dating methods), 137-138 (radiocarbon dating) in 7 th edition]

3. SEEDS OF CHANGE

6	2/21 M	Mammoth: it's what's for dinner	P&F p. 119-138 (p. 136 in 7 th ed.)
	2/23 W	Mammoth: it's what's for dinner (cont.)	
	2/25 F	The human expansion	P&F p. 142-181 (p. 139-178 in 7 th edition)
<i>Quiz 2</i>			

7	2/28 M	Changing climate, changing culture	P&F Chapter 4 to p 212 (p. 208 in 7 th ed.)
	3/2 W	Studying Past Environments and Transitions to Farming	P&F 229-239 (7 th ed: 225-235)
	3/4 F	Research Methods Class Project	

4. THE RISE OF COMPLEXITY

8	3/7 M	First farmers	
	3/9 W	Studying Complexity	Renfrew and Bahn, "How are societies organized?"
	3/11 F	How do hierarchies happen?	Harris, "Life without chiefs"
		SPRING BREAK	
9	3/21 M	Early villages	P&F 213-225, 246-251 (7 th ed: 209-221, 242-246)
	3/23 W	Chiefs and Chiefdoms	P&F Chapter 5 to p. 282 (276 in 7 ed.)
	3/25 F	Chiefs and Chiefdoms (Cont)	
	<i>Quiz 3</i>		
10	3/28 M	Chiefdoms of ancient North America	P&F 287-297 (7 th ed: 281-291)
	3/30 W		
	4/1 F		

5. ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS IN ACTION

11	4/4 M	Explaining ancient states	P&F pp. 427-29, 491-494 (7 th ed: 419-422, 483-486)
	4/6 W	Explaining ancient states (cont)	
	4/8 F	First cities and states of Mesopotamia	P&F pp. 431-440 (7 th ed: 423-432)
12	4/11 M	The invention of writing	P&F 441-443, 329, 357-358 (7 th ed: 433-435, 323, 351-2) Explore http://www.ancientscripts.com/ws.html ; Origins, the Timeline, and Chinese and Mesoamerican Scripts
	4/13 W	First cities and states of Mesopotamia (cont)	
	4/15 F	First cities and states of Mesopotamia (cont)	
	<i>Quiz 4</i>		
13	4/18 M	Ancient Egypt: Symbols of power	P&F pp. 452-464 (7 th ed: 444-456)
	4/20 W	(cont)	
	4/22 F	(cont)	

6. PARTING THOUGHTS

14	4/25 M	Settlement and cities in ancient Mexico	P&F pp 309-313, 335-343, 366-376 (7 th ed: 303-307, 329-337, 360-369)
	4/27 W	(cont)	
	4/29 F	(cont)	
15	5/2 M	Concluding remarks	

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Grading

The following grading scale is utilized for student evaluation:

Quiz 1	10%
Quiz 2	10%
Quiz 3	10%
Quiz 4	10%
Quiz 5	10%
5 Projects	50%

PLEASE ARRANGE YOUR SCHEDULE TO ACCOMMODATE QUIZ DATES. With a class this size, quizzes cannot be rescheduled to fit your convenience. NO make-up quizzes will be given without prior arrangement or a doctor's note. Each exam consist of some multiple choice and some short-answer questions.

Credit for late assignments will drop by 5% or one-half of a letter grade each day after the due date.

Extra Credit

There is no extra credit available in this course.

Grading Scale

The following grading scale is utilized for student evaluation:

A	90% and above
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	59% and below

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

You are expected to attend all classes. Attendance is required for satisfactory progress through the course. If you are unable to attend a class, notify me in advance.

Department of anthropology statement on writing

The Department of Anthropology is committed to developing student writing throughout the curriculum. In this class you will complete writing assignments and activities designed to improve your communication skills in the profession.

Important

Indiana University of Pennsylvania and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, the University requires faculty members to report incidents of sexual violence shared by students to the University's Title IX Coordinator. The only exceptions to the faculty member's reporting obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project.

Faculty members are obligated to report sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred to the Department of Human Services (1-800-932-0313) and University Police (724-357-2141). Information regarding the reporting of sexual violence and the resources that are available to victims of sexual violence is set forth at: <http://www.iup.edu/social-equity/policies/title-ix/>

Department of anthropology statement on race and diversity

The Anthropology Department is committed to combating racism through fostering inclusive and welcoming spaces for diverse students, and fostering student learning outcomes that expand the understanding of race: particularly, that race is not a biological reality, but that race and racism are cultural and social constructs that intersect with social class and other forms of social positionality to produce harm for people of color in our society and globally.