World Prehistory

Class Schedule, Assignments, Quiz Dates and Final Exam
Fall Quarter 2009

Office Hours: 11-11:30 T/Th
Social Science Division Office
E-mail: Nancy_Olsen@hotmail.com
L 13 Conference Room

Required Text: World Prehistory and Archaeology, by Michael Chazan, Allyn and Bacon, NYC. I will give you an identification and password to get into MyAnthroLab.com as a student so you can make use of the readings in MyAnthroLibrary about archaeology.

www.saa.org – is the official website for American archaeology. What timely topics do you find there?? What is interesting to you??
www.archaeological.org – is the official website of the Archaeological Institute of America with lots of interesting articles.
www.catalhoyuk.com/news – go to archived reports to find article entitled “This Old House” in the Natural History Magazine, June 2006 by Ian Hodder.
www.leakyfoundation.org – look up Olduvai Gorge, what are the projects that the Leaky Foundation supports right now?

We will use this website to turn in your research paper text. Other written assignments will be done in class.

Prehistory is the time before written records. Therefore, prehistory begins in different parts of the world at different times. Anthropology includes the study of people who lived in the past before written records and left fragments of their lives in the ground. By studying patterns of artifact distributions, artifact technologies and comparing them with contemporary descendents or people who share similar life-ways archaeologists can learn how people lived and try to explain why they lived as they did. Archaeology applies knowledge from cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, linguistics, geology, biology, ecology, astronomy, and chemistry to help archaeologists answer research questions based on scientific method of inquiry.

REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THE COURSE
Read assignments – we will discuss ideas in the assignments in class.
Ask questions about the reading assignments. There is no learning without asking questions!
Attendance: Three absences without contacting me will result in a drop. I will take attendance every class meeting. Be there, it’s the only way to stay involved with your own education!
Research report – through the first part of the quarter you will develop a research question and develop a research investigation. It may require talking to authorities or looking up articles in journals or both. Research report is due at the end of the quarter and will be given in class. This can be done as a team effort if you wish.
Two midterms – Take ‘em, pass ‘em. Midterms are taken from the reading assignments, from class discussions and lectures.
One final exam – take it, pass it!
GOALS FOR THE CLASS

- Prepare you for four-year colleges’ level of learning and participation.
- Become a critical reader! Exercise your brain! This is 24-Hour Fitness for Mind Muscles!! You’ll need to read with understanding and thoughtfulness. Do you believe what you are reading? Does it sound plausible? If not, ask questions. How does what you are reading differ from what you are familiar with?
- Critical thinking – by questioning what you’re reading and learning, you advance past the high school level of absorbing everything you are told and beginning to examine ideas for their value.
- Communication skills – we will concentrate particularly on writing as is expected in the Social Sciences in a four-year institution. There will be two forms of writing – learn to write essay answers in exams, extra credit assignments and other written assignments. This is an opportunity to improve your reading and writing skills – see the Reading/Writing Lab in the Computer Technology building.
- Learn that “all roads are good.” Learn how anthropology can provide answers for you in your relationships with others. See your own goals in relation to your inherited cultural standards and learn how relative those standards are because standards change with every culture around the world.

Expectations

Attendance

In order to make an A in this class you will need to be here regularly to participate in all the class discussions. You will need to be continually involved in ideas proposed in this class. You will need to work through the check points on the CD disk “Doing Archaeology.” Three absences in which you have not contacted me will result in your being dropped. You need to be present to answer when attendance is taken or you will be counted absent. If you arrive late, it’s your responsibility to let me know you are present at the end of class. Choose your absences wisely!! Email is the best way to reach me outside of office hours. It is your job to stay in touch!!

Respect your fellow students

- Talking to your neighbor during class is discouraged – it creates more disturbance than you realize and distracts other students around you who are trying to hear and learn.
- Turn off your cell phone before coming into class. If you are expecting an important call, put it on buzzer mode or voice mail. I do not tolerate students talking on cell phones in class!!
- Going in and out of the room while class is in session disrupts concentration of others. If you have to leave, do so quietly. Sit near the door so you can leave with as little disturbance as possible.

If you decide to add the class, it is your responsibility to follow through with the paperwork. You will need to show me your receipt from the Registrar for me to add your name to the class roster. If you decide to drop the class, it is your responsibility to follow through with the paperwork.

Homework

It is your responsibility to buy the textbook and read the assignments in a thoughtful manner. Be ready to discuss the issues in class! Save all your written assignments on disk, as a backup!! Questions are MOST WELCOME – no textbook author(s) has thought of everything!! We will spend time in class clarifying “muddy waters.” If you need help with reading or writing in English, take advantage of the TUTORIAL CENTER – L47 website: www.deanza.edu/tutorial. They have skills courses, adjunct study skills, and skills workshops. Phone 408-864-8253. Drop by and check out the hours and classes they offer to help you read, write and calculate better. If you are an ESL student I would seriously think about signing up for a skills class – it will help!
Above all BE KIND TO YOURSELF - give yourself enough time to do the assignments – 2 hours homework for every hour in class.

Tests
There will be 2 midterms and one final that is comprehensive. Tests are both multiple choice and essay. Tests cover both class room lectures/topics and textbook assignments. Bring a scantron and blue book with you for every test. Bring #2 pencils and pens with ink in them. Bring several just in case.
If you miss a test – it is your responsibility to get in touch with me within 24 hours of the missed test. Email is the quickest way to communicate. Schedules are tight this Winter Quarter, make-up testing puts a real burden on you to get it done. We’ll try to work something out for your emergency. If you miss a test and do not get in touch with me, I’ll assume you’ve dropped the class and follow through accordingly. If you know ahead of time that you’ll be out of town, please see me.

Research Report
Your research project will be due at the end of the quarter. The first few weeks of class, read assignments, look through the textbook to see what other topics are interesting to you. Decide on a question that is interesting to you! Example. How did corn become a domesticated plant? How did rice become a domesticated plant? What do paintings in Paleolithic caves mean? Who cracked the Mayan written code? What did they learn? If a city is abandoned, does mean that the culture has “fallen” or died? How did bronze working evolve in China? How was porcelain invented by Imperial potters of China? Japan? Why was the Great Wall built? What happened in the Indus River Valley to make it such a cradle of civilization? Did Polynesians really land in California? After the second week of the quarter you will need to submit a research topic and general outline for your report. What type of media you will use to give it? Read archaeological articles in journals to find what archaeologists have already learned about your topic. Use all that to write your final research paper. You are welcome to talk to me about your question or project during office hours before class or by email.

Grading Policy
I arrive at final grades mathematically through an accumulation of points. Two tests (50 pts each), a research topic and outline (total of 10 points), the research report (total of 50 possible points), a final (100 pts) make up the core. Class participation and attendance earn 50 more points (25 maximum each). All influence your final grade. Maximum total = 310 points for the quarter. Extra credit can be earned up to 20 points. These are included with assignments and often announced in class as we go along. I use www.Turnitin.com for your research paper submissions.

310 points or more is equivalent to an A+.
90% of 300 = 279. That is the cut-off total for an A, A- begins at 285-279.

An A begins at 286.
80% of 310 = 248 – that is the cut-off total for a B, B+ goes from 278-272,
B begins at 271 to 254. B- begins at 253 - 248;
70% of 310 = 217 – the cut-off total for a C, C+ goes from 247 - 242; C
goes from 241 – 223; C – begins at 222 – 217.
60% of 310 = 186 – the cut-off total for a D. D+ goes from 216 - 209. D
goes from 208 – 192; D – begins at 191 - 186.

Any total grade that falls short of 186 will receive an F. Opportunities for extra credit abound!! If you are having trouble keeping up, please see me!!! Most students who have trouble keeping up have not allowed themselves enough time for reading, study, thinking. Be kind to yourself – you’re demanding a lot of yourself just to be in college!!! If you have a learning disability that has been identified, please see me. If you are an English-as-a-second-language student, please see me during office hours or contact me by e-mail.
SCHEDULE OF CLASS TOPICS, READING ASSIGNMENTS, AND TESTS

Sept. 21  What is Anthropology – where does Prehistory fit?  
Getting acquainted, finding out learning styles. Extra Credit: Write a two-page autobiography – where are you from? What is your ethnic heritage? What about your heritage is most interesting to you?  
Read Part 1 – “The Past is a Foreign Country: Getting from Here to There – Chap. 1. ALSO - This week, go to website: www.mnh.si.edu/arctic/html/kennewick_man/html. Read about the debate that erupted. Who do you think should prevail?? Write a 1 page argument and turn in for extra credit. MyAnthroLab/MyAnthroLibrary go to “Bare Bones Anthropology,” by Clark Spenser Larsen and “Ethics in Archaeology” by Mark J. Lynott. Read, take quiz, print out results, bring to class for extra credit.

Sept. 22  Archaeological Ethics – Kennewick Man, NAGPRA, Native American involvement in archaeology.

Sept. 23  Indiana Jones Day – how many “no-no’s” can you spot? Make a list to turn in for extra credit!

Sept. 24  Getting Started – Reading the Landscape – Survey, Site Formation Processes, Recovery Methods and GIS

Reading Assignment - Chapter 2 for next week. Watch PBS – KQED Sunday Sept. 27 - The National Parks Series – at 4pm and again at 8 pm – this is a case of preservation!  
MyAnthroLab/MyAnthroLibrary – “Archaeological Survey in the Mixtec Area” by Laura Finsten OR “Archaeologist at Work” by Richard Blanton. Read and then take quiz. Print out results and bring to class for extra credit.

Sept 28  Origins of archaeology - organizing time – establishing the antiquity of man, developing method and theory – Stratigraphy and Culture History.– archaeologists who defined the field of archaeology.

Sept. 29  Archaeology as Science – The Myth of the Moundbuilders  
The Scientific Method – Cultural Materialism, Evolution.  
Archaeology as Anthropology - What is Culture?? The Structure of Archaeological Inquiry – Three levels of theory  
- low level theory, middle-range theory, general theory. Data, taphonomy, ethnoarchaeology, experimental archaeology, What’s a paradigm?? Cultural Materialism

Sept. 30  Archaeology as Humanism – Post-Processual Archaeology such as Agency, Archaeology of the Mind,
Oct. 4  **Ohlone Gathering at Coyote Hills** – Making use of many sciences to understand ecological adaptation of Bay Area Native Californians. Making a living in Santa Clara Valley in Prehistory. Beverly Ortiz, Naturalist, Acorn soup-making, dancing

**Read Chapter 3, 4, & 5 for next week.**


Oct. 5  **Early Hominins** – Fossil record, Africa, Lower Paleolithic

Oct. 6  **Tools, Hunting/Gathering, Expansion**

Oct. 7  **Homo Erectus to Neanderthals** – Ice Age – Acheulian Problem Adaptation

Oct. 8  **Origin of Modern Man** – Out of Africa Debate – What is modern man?? In Africa – in Middle East

**Reading Assignment – continue Chap. 5, read Chap. 6**

MyAnthroLab/MyAnthroLibrary: “Lithic Analysis: Chipped Stone Tools and Waste Flakes in Archaeology,” by Robert L. Kelly or “The Natural History and Evolutionary Fate of Homo Erectus,” by Andrew Kramer. Read, take the quiz, print out results and bring to class for extra credit. Google: La Brea Tar Pits, Paleolithic Europe, Lascaux, Altamira. Write a one page reflection on what you learned.

**Research Question due next week!**

Oct. 12  **Arrival of Modern Humans in Europe** – what happened to Neanderthals???

Oct. 13  **Upper Paleolithic** - France

Oct. 14  **Upper Paleolithic** - Spain, Explaining the Upper Paleolithic

Oct. 15  **REVIEW** – for Midterm 1 on Monday - Essays posted today by 1pm. It’s ok to start working on your essay right away. It’s ok to post it early. The due date is midnight on Oct. 19.

**Research Question due today!!**

**Assignment – STUDY notes, textbook, flash cards.**

Oct. 19  **Midterm 1. Bring a scantron and pencil to class. Essay will be due tonight at midnight on Turnitin.com.**

**Reading assignment, Chapter 6 “Peopling of Australia and the New World.”**

Oct. 20  Return scantrons,, discuss answers.

Ross Johnson will demonstrate electronic tools used by archaeologists in remote sensing.
Searching for the First Americans (1980’s version) video – take notes for later discussion!!

America’s Stone Age Explorers (2000’s version) video – take notes, write a one-two page comparison.

Reading Assignment: Part 3 Perspectives on Agriculture, Chapter 7 Towers, Villages and Longhouses  
Chapter 8 Mounds and Maize  
Chapter 9 A Feast of Diversity – Africa, New Guinea, Asia  

Domestication of plants and animals – European Neolithic

Late Neolithic

Domestication of corn – MesoAmerica and North America – the American Southwest  Bandelier National Monument – farmfields, Tuyonyi, Talus Pueblos, Infrared photography of rock art.

Eastern North America – Adena-Hopewell and Mississippian Cahokia  
Research outlines due today –

Agriculture in Africa

Farmers in New Guinea

Farming in Indus Valley and East Asia

**Review for Midterm #2**  Research Outlines returned with suggestions. Essay posted on Turnitin.com as of noon today. Begin working on it – it is due at midnight Nov. 9. You may bring a printed backup of your essay to class on Monday IF YOU WISH.

Midterm #2 – bring scantron and #2 pencil.  
**Essay is due tonight at midnight on Turnitin.com.**

Reading Assignment for next week Part 4, Developing Social Complexity, Chapt. 10 Complexity Without the State

Stonehenge

Chaco Canyon – roads, Pueblo Bonito, steps, macaw farming

Africa – The Great Zimbabwe

Reading Assignment for next week: Chap. 11 Urban States Mesopotamia, Maya

Guidelines for writing your research report.

Mesopotamia/ Crete

MesoAmerica – Teotihuacan (Highlands)

Maya (Lowlands)

Shang China

Reading assignment for next week: Chapter 12 Enigmatic States. **Research paper – submit a rough draft for comments!!**
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Egyptian States – Upper and Lower Nile, Africa</td>
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<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>Indus Valley - India</td>
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<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>Jenne-Jenno – Ghana, Africa</td>
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<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td><strong>Thanksgiving Holiday!!</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Research paper due next week!!</strong></td>
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<td>If you get your research paper in early the week before, you have a</td>
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<td>good chance of getting it back early!!!</td>
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<td>How people fit into the archaeological picture. Suppose you do dig</td>
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<td>a cemetery, for example – what can we learn about the people from</td>
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<td>their physical remains?</td>
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<td><strong>Reading Assignment next week: Chapter 13 – Empires</strong></td>
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<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>Research papers are due this week!!</td>
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<td>Inca Empire - Peru</td>
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<td>Dec. 1</td>
<td>Aztec Empire – MesoAmerica</td>
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<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Aztec continued – Cortez and the Spanish Invasion</td>
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<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>American Southwest and the Spanish Invasion</td>
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<td><strong>Last day to turn in research papers!!</strong></td>
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<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td><strong>Review for final - Last Day!!</strong></td>
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<td>Review sheet for final handed out. Bring questions!! Last chance to</td>
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<td>ask!!! Essay question will be posted today at noon. It is due on Dec.</td>
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<td>your essay to the final if you wish.</td>
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<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM –7:00-9:00 am.</strong> Research papers will be returned– or</td>
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<td><strong>L-75 - And it’s all over but the shouting!!</strong></td>
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<td>If you would like your papers, tests and extra credit papers</td>
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<td>back bring a manila envelope, self addressed and two $.39 cent stamps!</td>
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<td>I will include your final grade. Let the mailman do the walking!!</td>
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