ANTH 2232

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University of New Orleans

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Course Description:

This course offers a survey of world archaeology, from evidence for the earliest humans to the civilizations of the ancient Near East and Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas. The methods and tools used by archaeologists will be introduced, as will major themes in archaeological theory and in the history of the discipline. Particular archaeological culture areas and groups will serve as examples through which to critically explore archaeological inference: how we know what we think we know about the past. In addition, contemporary issues and new data on a wide range of archaeological issues will be discussed, including hominid evolution and Neanderthal/human contacts; the earliest Americans and the Kennewick debate; the origins of agriculture, cities, symbolic art, monumental architecture, and writing; diffusion and cross-cultural influence; and looting, grave robbing, cultural heritage, and the related ethical questions in archaeological practice.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

When you leave this class you will be able to:

• define key concepts in archaeology
• demonstrate a knowledge of the methods used in archaeology
• analyze archaeological reasoning and the chains of inference used in archaeological analyses
• map major landforms and cultural areas in the world
• recognize and describe the patterns that exist between place and resource exploitation
• recognize and describe some of the different archaeological periods and explain them in terms of differing environmental, social, political, ideological, and other factors
• analyze social, economic, and political behaviors in prehistory
• identify key cultural manifestations in the prehistory of the world
• discuss the relationship between power, contemporary politics, and the interpretation of the past

Class Text:


This text is a bit pricey, so an extra copy will be on reserve at the library should you want to copy/scan chapters as we go. In addition, the 6th Edition covers much of the same material and is available much more cheaply should you want to order it used. Just be aware that the chapters are organized a bit differently, so you will be responsible for making sure that you cover all of the necessary material.

Course Structure:

This is an online course, incorporating readings, taped lectures, videos, and on-line discussions. Each week, I will post a lecture meant to accompany and supplement the textbook readings for the week. I will also post a discussion topic or question, to which you will be expected to respond each week, drawing upon the readings and lectures. There will also be links to supplemental materials, some required and some optional. I will also regularly post study guides with key words and concepts from the text and lectures. You will need to access the course via Moodle every week, and you will need to regularly mark activities as completed on Moodle.

If you would like to attend the taping of the lecture each week for a more traditional classroom experience, you are more than welcome. I’ll post the hours for taping on Moodle; this will likely be at a regular time each week, but this is still being determined by the Office for Online Instruction.

This is the first time that I have offered this student in an on-line format. It will be a learning experience for me as well, so please feel free to send suggestions and comments as we go. You
are also welcome to visit me in my office or in the archaeology lab on campus (in 272 Liberal Arts) any time.

**Grading:**

Grading is on a ten-point scale (89.5+ = A; 80-89.5 = B; 70-79.5 = C; 60-69.5 = D; 0-59.5 = F.). Test scores are not on a curve. Make-up exams are not possible without extenuating circumstances. If you are caught cheating, you will receive an "F" for the course.

**Final grades will be determined as follows:**

- **Quizzes/Assigned Essays (3):** 10% each (30% total)
- **Midterm Exam:** 20%
- **Final Exam:** 30%
- **Weekly Discussion Forum Contributions/Other Activities:** 20%

Quizzes and assigned essay assignments will cover only the previous week’s readings and classes, but exams are cumulative and comprehensive, drawing upon information covered in class lectures and in assigned readings. I will be regularly posting study guides that list terms and concepts with which you should make sure that you are familiar.

**Academic Dishonesty Policy and Expectations for Students:**

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Cases of cheating will be taken to the university honor council for possible expulsion from the University. You will receive an F for any test or assignment on which you are caught cheating, and your academic record will be documented accordingly. Further information about policies regarding academic dishonesty can be found at:


I fully expect everyone in the class to uphold the University honor code with regards to academic honesty. Students are expected to treat their fellow students with civility, tolerance,
and respect, and all discussions, online or otherwise, should be conducted in such a fashion. No
harassment, sexual or otherwise, will be tolerated.

For further clarification of university policies governing student conduct, see:

http://www.uno.edu/studentaffairs/student-policies/

To ensure academic integrity, all students enrolled in distance learning courses at the University
of New Orleans may be required to participate in additional student identification procedures.
At the discretion of the faculty member teaching the course, these measures may include on-
campus proctored examinations, off-site or online proctored examinations, or other reasonable
measures to ensure student identity. Authentication measures for this course are identified
below and any fees associated are the responsibility of the student.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Students who qualify for services will receive the academic modifications to which they are
entitled, and the instructor will make every effort to accommodate any other special needs. It
is the responsibility of the student to register with the Office of Disability Services (UC 260) each
semester and follow their procedures for obtaining assistance.

Communications Policy and Moodle:

It is the student's responsibility to obtain access information (username and password) for a
UNO email account. To simplify matters in communication I will use only the email address that
is registered to you on Moodle. The Computer Help Desk personnel (280-HELP) can help you set
your UNO email system up to forward mail to you if you do not want to access your UNO
account regularly.

OUTLINE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 [SEMESTER OFFICIALLY BEGINS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19th]
INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY
Introductions and online forum opening

WEEK 2 (AUGUST 24th)
METHOD AND THEORY IN ARCHAEOLOGY
Reading: Images of the Past, Chapter 1 (pg. 1-34)
WEEK 3 (AUGUST 31st)
ORIGINS OF MODERN HUMANS
Film: “The Mind’s Big Bang”, PBS
Readings: Images of the Past, Chapter 2 (pg. 35-98)
Quiz #1

WEEK 4 (SEPTEMBER 7th; LABOR DAY HOLIDAY)
HUNTER-GATHERERS, PART I
Readings: Images of the Past, Chapter 3 (pg. 99-138)

WEEK 5 (SEPTEMBER 14th)
HUNTER-GATHERERS, PART II
Readings: Images of the Past, Chapter 3 (pg. 139-178)

WEEK 6 (SEPTEMBER 21st)
ORIGINS OF AGRICULTURE AND SETTLED VILLAGE LIFE
Readings: Images of the Past, Chapter 4 (pg. 179-248)
Quiz #2

WEEK 7 (SEPTEMBER 28th)
NATIVE NORTH AMERICA PART I
Readings: Images of the Past, Chapter 5 (pg. 249-280)
Controversies in Archaeology: Kennewick Man

WEEK 8 (OCTOBER 5th)
MIDTERMS

WEEK 9 (OCTOBER 12th)
MID-SEMESTER BREAK ON OCT. 15 & 16
NATIVE NORTH AMERICA PART II
Readings: Images of the Past, Chapter 5 (pg. 281-302)
Controversies in Archaeology: Looting and Ownership

WEEK 10 (OCTOBER 19th)
ANCIENT MESOAMERICA
Readings: Images of the Past, Chapter 6 (pg. 303-372)

WEEK 11 (OCTOBER 26th)
ANCIENT SOUTH AMERICA
Readings: Images of the Past, Chapter 7 (pg. 373-418)
WEEK 12 (NOVEMBER 2nd)
STATES AND EMPIRES IN AFRICA AND ASIA PART I
MESOPOTAMIA AND HARAPPA
Readings: *Images of the Past*, Chapter 8 (pg. 419-443)
Quiz #3

WEEK 13 (NOVEMBER 9th)
STATES AND EMPIRES IN AFRICA AND ASIA PART II
EGYPT AND GREAT ZIMBABWE
Readings: *Images of the Past*, Chapter 8 (pg. 444-456, 474-487)

WEEK 14 (NOVEMBER 16th)
STATES AND EMPIRES IN AFRICA AND ASIA PART III
CHINA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Readings: *Images of the Past*, Chapter 8 (pg. 457-473)

WEEK 15 (NOVEMBER 23rd)
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
PREHISTORIC EUROPE
Readings: *Images of the Past*, Chapter 9 (pg.489-542)
Make-Up Quiz/Optional Quiz

WEEK 16 (NOVEMBER 30th)
THE PAST AS PRESENT AND FUTURE
Readings: *Images of the Past*, Chapter 10 (pg. 543-556)

WEEK 17 (DECEMBER 7th)
FINAL EXAMS