

ARCHAEOLOGY

This course introduces the basic field methods and techniques of archaeology. Specific methods (*e.g.*, excavation strategies, typologies, technical analyses of artifacts, dating procedures, etc.) are related to interpretative approaches for understanding the archaeological record. Specific methods of historical archaeology are introduced through an examination of an archaeological site from New England. Students are taught to analyze material culture remains and to "piece together the past" by solving workbook exercises (see **TAW** below) and discussing "case studies" of important prehistoric sites (as presented principally in **SMIP** below). The course also presents a general overview to world prehistory, beginning with developments in the Old Stone Age (or Palaeolithic) through the development of sedentary communities and the beginnings of agriculture to the rise of state-structured societies (or early civilizations) in both the Old and New Worlds.

The investigation of a prehistoric pueblo site in the American Southwest (Life in the Pueblo or **LIP** below) will be studied to illustrate contemporary archaeological field procedures. Contemporary theoretical and social developments in archaeology will be presented, including issues of gender in archaeology, a consideration of archaeology's relationship with nationalism, the antiquities market and the plundering of the past, and the growing phenomenon of archaeological tourism. A class field trip may visit a nearby archaeological site or museum before Nov. 5th.

Class participation is very important and required, particularly for discussion of the workbook exercises and for the analysis of those readings listed separately as CASE STUDIES (see Course Outline below). Two archaeological workbook exercises (2-3 pages) will be turned in during the course of the term: the first on **Oct. 14th** - (**TAW, problem 8**); and the second [EITHER **TAW, problem 11** OR (*student option*) **TAW, problem 12**] will be turned in on **November 30th**. An essay quiz (with identifications) will be given in class on **Oct. 29th** and a second quiz *may possibly* be given on the last day of classes, **Dec. 10th** (cf. Course Outline). ***There will be no final exam.*** Students will write a c.12-15 page term paper on a topic of their choice (in consultation with Mr. Kohl). Students are urged to meet with Mr. Kohl to discuss possible topics for their term papers before the mid-term. ***The final term paper is due at the end of the exam period on Dec. 21st before 4:30 PM.***

Grading for the course will be calculated roughly as follows:

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| 1) Class participation, particularly for CASE STUDY Discussions – | 10% |
| 2) Two written assignments during term, each @ 15% or total - | 30% |
| 3) Two quizzes given in class, each @ 15% or total - | 30% |
| 4) Final written assignment | 30% |

If the final quiz on the last day of classes is not given,

two written assignments will be calculated each @ 15%	
of total or	- 30%
final written assignment	- 35%
one mid-term quiz given in class	-25%
and student participation in class	- 10%

Students are invited to meet with Mr. Kohl at any time in Pendleton East 345, particularly during his office hours which are Mondays and Thursdays 3:00-4:00 PM (office extension: 2146).

Books Available for Purchase at the Bookstore

LP – *Linking to the Past: a brief introduction to archaeology* by K. Feder, 2nd edition.

SMIP – *Selected Material from Images of the Past*, 5th edition, by T. Douglas Price and Gary M. Feinman

TAW - *The Archaeology Workbook* by S. Daniels and N. David

VO - *A Village of Outcasts* by K. Feder (prepared xerox packet)

LIP - *Life in the Pueblo: understanding the past through archaeology* by K. Kemp

GA – *Gender in Archaeology* by S.M. Nelson, 2nd edition

COURSE OUTLINE

I. Introduction: the History of Archaeology and the Archaeological Record (readings through October 5TH):

A. The development of archaeology and its relation to the disciplines of history and the exact and natural sciences

(readings to be completed by Sept. 21st):

SMIP – pp. 1-6

LP – chapters 2, 3, and 1 (in that order)

TAW, problem 1, Falasia and problem 2, the Hacienda Plain

Video: Sept. 17th - The Moundbuilders (in class)

CASE STUDY discussion: Sept. 21st TAW Problem 1, Falasia and problem 2, Hacienda Plain (**write 2 page answer to Hacienda Plain exercise for discussion in class on Sept.21st, NOT GRADED**)

B. The nature and preservation of archaeological data and its acquisition and classification; field (surveying, excavation) and laboratory (classification and analytical) techniques; dating methods in archaeology; explaining the archaeologically ascertained past

(readings to be completed by October 5th):

LP – chapters 5-8

SMIP – pp. 7-33

TAW – problems 4 and 5

CASE STUDY discussion: October 1st Problem 4, The Kara Kavan (**write 2 page answer to Kara Kavan exercise for discussion in class on October 1st, NOT GRADED**)

Case Study discussion: October 5th: dating methods in archaeology TAW Problem 5, Petristan – just for discussion, no write-up

II. An Introduction to Historical Archaeology: its value and methods

(reading for October 8th):

VO – entire

CASE STUDY discussion: October 8th - VO

FIRST GRADED WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT DUE–October 14th (n.b. Monday schedule): TAW: PROBLEM 8 – The Pitts River Basin and the Wulliweela Range (2-3 page typed answer)

III. Human Origins and an Introduction to Palaeolithic Archaeology:

(readings through October 19th): the reconstruction of ancient environments, technologies, and exchange networks (trade)

A. The Old Stone Age: African roots, the emergence of the genus *Homo*, and the earliest archaeological remains; Introduction to Palaeolithic Archaeology

Readings to be completed by Oct. 19th:

The Human Past, 2nd edition, ed. by C.Scarre: chapter 2 "African Origins" by N. Toth and K. Schick; and chapter 3 "Hominin Dispersals in the Old World" by R. Klein

LP – chapter 9

Video Oct. 19th - Archaeologist in the Laboratory

B. The Advent of anatomically modern humans (*Homo sapiens*); the Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition; and Upper Palaeolithic hunters and gatherers; the great diaspora or the human settling of the world

(readings to be completed by October 29th):

LP – chapter 10

SMIP – chapters 4 and 5

CASE STUDY discussion: October 26th – sites of Klasies River Mouth Caves, Valley of the Neanderthals, Lascaux, and Dolni Vestonice (all in SMIP)

FIRST ESSAY and ID QUIZ – THURSDAY OCT. 29th:

IV. Post-Pleistocene Prehistory: the advent of permanent settlements and the “Neolithic Revolution” – the domestication of plants and animals; the reconstruction of subsistence techniques and the sourcing of archaeological materials: the reconstruction of ancient subsistence systems (ancient diets), skeletal remains, and social structures, including religious practices and ethnicity

(readings to be completed by November 12th):

LP – chapters 11, 13, and 12 in that order

SMIP – chapters 5 and 6

LIP - entire

CASE STUDY discussion: Nov. 9th: LIP

CASE STUDY discussion in class on November 12th: TAW Problem 7 - The Adrar Abu (write 2 page answer to the Adrar Abu exercise for discussion in class on Nov. 12th

NOT GRADED)

**SECOND GRADED WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT DUE–NOVEMBER 30th: EITHER
TAW PROBLEM 11 – The Kurgans of Nalevo (2-3 page typed answer) OR TAW
PROBLEM 12 - The Cemetery of Bilj (2-3 page typed answer)**

V. The Archaeology of Complex Societies and Early Civilizations:

The evolution of the state and the origins of social inequality; a summary consideration of early civilizations in the Old and New World; settlement pattern studies and the reconstruction of past ideological systems; explaining the intangible past through material culture remains; the limits of neo-evolutionary archaeology; gender in archaeology: a critical analysis; contemporary uses and abuses of the remote past (readings to be completed by November 30th):

SMIP – chapters 8 and 10

AE – chapter 8

GA – entire

CASE STUDY discussion: November 23rd – sites of Teotihuacan, Palenque, and Tenochtitlan; Uruk and Harappa and Mohenjo-daro (all in SMIP);

CASE STUDY discussion: November 30th – GA (entire)

VI. On Being an Archaeologist: some ethical issues 1) problematic relations between American archaeologists and Native Americans - what is known, what is contested; 2) Contemporary archaeology: the politics and protection of the material past; the antiquities market; repatriation; salvage archaeology; and archaeology and tourism; Readings to be completed by Dec. 7th:

LP – chapter 4

SMIP – Kennewick Man (p. 157)

LP – chapter 14 and Epilogue

SECOND POSSIBLE QUIZ - DEC. 10th????

(or CASE STUDY WORKBOOK DISCUSSION - GOLDEN EARS ROCK - handout?)

FINAL ASSIGNMENT:

c. 12-15 PAGE TERM PAPER on TOPIC of ONE'S CHOICE (in consultation with Mr. Kohl)

FINAL ASSIGNMENT DUE - DEC. 21st before 4:30 PM.