

## ANCIENT PEOPLES AND PLACES (ANTH 2151)

Fall 2014

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Boyd

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### Course description:

An overview of Old and New World archaeology, with particular emphasis on the development of humans and culture from hunting/gathering to agricultural and ancient urban societies in Mesoamerica, Europe, Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Indus Valley, and China. *Class participation is encouraged!*

### Required text:

Fagan, Brian. People of the Earth: An Introduction to World Prehistory. Pearson/ Prentice Hall.

### Grading:

Written assignment (~10 pp): **30%**

For this assignment, you are required to: (1) find a news item from the last 5 years about an archaeological discovery anywhere in the world; (2) briefly summarize this news article (1-2 paragraphs); (3) discuss and assess the significance of this discovery, and provide its background context, using peer-reviewed resources (about 8-9 pages).

Midterm exam: **30%**

Final exam (December): **40%**

### Grade Distributions:

<b>A+</b>	90-100%	<b>B</b>	70-79%	<b>D</b>	50-59%	<b>F</b>	0-39%
<b>A</b>	80-89%	<b>C</b>	60-69%	<b>E</b>	40-49%		

- Students are responsible for ensuring that they are properly registered in this class.
- See the LU Calendar for information on academic integrity, examinations, grade appeals, and other important regulations of which you should be aware.
- Late term papers and other assignments will be deducted **10% per day** from the final grade for that assignment.

<b>Module</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1	Introduction to course Why study ancient civilizations?	Fagan ch. 1
2	Brief introduction to hominid evolution	Fagan ch. 2 & 3
3	Upper Paleolithic: general characteristics Film: "Lascaux: The Prehistory of Art" First peopling of Australia and the New World	Fagan ch. 4-6
4	Origins of agriculture (theories) Early food production in the Near East Early farmers in Egypt	Fagan ch. 7-9, 11
<b>Oct. 8</b>	<b>Midterm exam (75 min.)</b>	
5	The first European farmers	Fagan ch. 10
6	Early agricultural societies in China The first farmers in Mesoamerica Spread of agriculture into North America	Fagan ch. 12 & 13
7	Development of state-level societies (theories) Complex societies in Mesopotamia Film: "Mesopotamia: I Have Conquered the River"	Fagan ch. 14 & 15
8	Ancient Egypt Film: "Egypt: Journey to the Global Civilization"	Fagan ch. 16
9	Indus Valley tradition (Harappan civilization) Film: "Indus: the Unvoiced Civilization"	Fagan ch. 17
10	Early state-level societies in China Film: "China: Heritage of the Wild Dragon"	Fagan ch. 18
11	Complex societies in Mesoamerica (emphasis on Mayan civilization)	Fagan ch. 21
	<b>Written assignment due: last class</b>	
	<b>Final Exam (TBA)</b>	