

# Lakehead UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
ANTH 2137 FAO Fundamentals of Archaeology  
*Fall 2016*

**Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:30-10:00 am**

**OA 2006**

Instructor: Dr Timothy Kaiser

## CONTACT INFORMATION

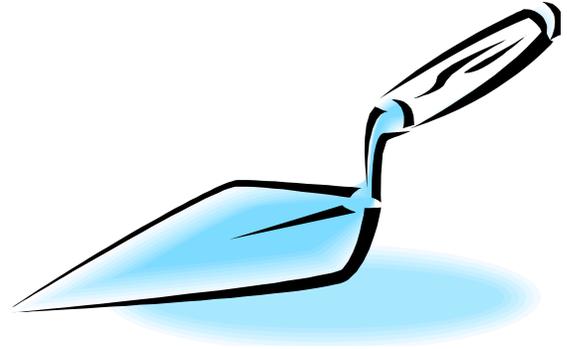
Office: OA 3008

Office Hours: Tu Th 11:30-12:30, or by appointment

Email: [tkaiser@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:tkaiser@lakeheadu.ca)

Phone Number: 705.330.4008 ext 2611

Supplementary Course Website: Desire2Learn



## COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to modern archaeological methods. Topics include: chronometric dating, archaeological survey and excavation techniques, artifact analysis, environmental archaeology (archaeobotany, geoarchaeology and zooarchaeology), ethnoarchaeology, social archaeology, cognitive archaeology, and the archaeology of ethnicity.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Prerequisite(s): Anthropology 1032 or permission of the instructor

<http://navigator.lakeheadu.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&topicgroupid=9634&entitytype=CID&entityid=57723&loadusercredits=False>

## SUPPLEMENTARY COURSE DESCRIPTION

Archaeology is in some ways one of the forensic branches of anthropology. That is, archaeologists are engaged in the scientific, systematic study of past human behavior, which they infer or reconstruct from the material remains of the past. The recovery of ancient material remains (usually through excavation) has led to some remarkable discoveries about the human past. This half-course introduces you to the methods and theories of archaeology – the fundamental concepts and practices that structure all archaeological research.

Using tangible evidence, the material traces of past behaviors or events, archaeologists piece together an understanding of ancient peoples. How is this done? How is the leap made from mute objects to a vivid depiction of life long ago and far away?

This course looks at how information about the past is preserved, how it is recovered, and how it is interpreted. Topics covered include fieldwork, artifact analysis, dating techniques, environmental reconstruction, settlement analysis, and the explanation of change. How do archaeologists deal with topics ranging from the origin of humans to the rise of civilizations? This course surveys their experiences and contributions.

Active learning is encouraged in this course. To that end, students are expected to participate in fieldwork exercises on campus. These exercises will teach methods of excavation and observation and will take place in October, weather and other circumstances permitting. Details to follow.

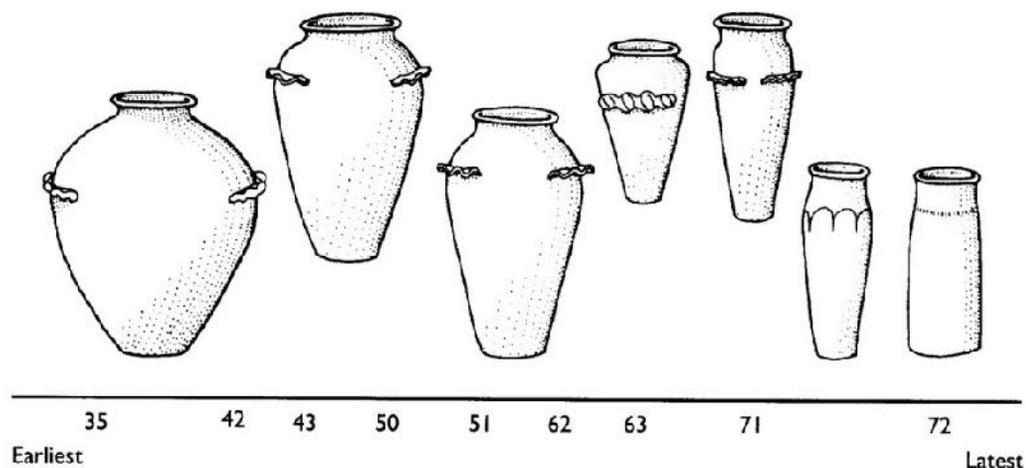
## COURSE OUTCOMES

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

- demonstrate a practical and conceptual understanding of archaeological method and theory
- articulate general and specific levels of knowledge of the nature of archaeological inquiry
- critically evaluate existing research results and methods of archaeologists present and past

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

Colin Renfrew and Paul Bahn, (2016) *Archaeology: Theories, Methods, and Practice*, 7th ed., New York: Thames and Hudson.



## EVALUATION

Component	Value	Date	Individual/Group
<b>Problem set 1: Ordering the past.</b> Discussion and analysis of a hypothetical archaeological data set.	10%	Sept 29	Individual
<b>Problem set 2: Sandbox 101.</b> A field exercise in the recovery and analysis of mock archaeological data. Your participation in and conduct of archaeological fieldwork as well as your analysis of the specific problem set will be evaluated (see rubrics)	40%	Nov 3	Both
<b>Essay.</b> Compare and contrast any two of the five case studies presented in the Archaeology, Ch 13.	20%	Nov 24	Individual
<b>Participation.</b>	5%	Continuous	Individual
<b>Final examination.</b> Date and time TBA, the final examination will be take-home and will consist of short, essay-answer questions.	25%	TBA	Individual



<http://www.archaeologydigs.blogspot.ca/>

## ANTH 2137 FAO Fundamentals of Archaeology 2016 Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to modification as circumstances require.

### Week 1

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- Sept 6 Introduction to the course  
Sept 8 Archaeology and archaeologists
- Colin Renfrew and Paul Bahn, (2016) *Archaeology: Theories, Methods, and Practice*, 7th ed., [henceforth **Archaeology**] Ch 1

### Week 2

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- Sept 13 Traces of the past: what archaeological evidence is. Formation processes.  
Sept 15
- Renfrew & Bahn, **Archaeology**, Ch 2

### Week 3

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- Sept 20 Survey and excavation  
Sept 22
- Renfrew & Bahn, **Archaeology**, Ch 3

### Week 4

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- Sept 27 Dating the past  
Sept 29
- Renfrew & Bahn, **Archaeology**, Ch 4
    - *Problem set 1, Ordering the past, due*

### Week 5

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- Oct 4 Field exercise [8 am – 10 am]  
Oct 6
- Renfrew & Bahn, **Archaeology**, Ch 5

### Week 6

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- Oct 18  
Oct 20
- Renfrew & Bahn, **Archaeology**, Ch 6

### Week 7

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- Oct 25 Field exercise finishes (?)  
Oct 27 Discussion and review of Renfrew & Bahn, **Archaeology**, Ch 4-6.

**Week 8**

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**Nov 1** Subsistence and diet  
• Renfrew & Bahn, *Archaeology*, Ch 7

**Nov 3** Technology  
• *Archaeology*, Ch 8  
▪ *Problem set 2, Sandbox 101, due.*

**Week 9**

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**Nov 8** Trade and Exchange  
**Nov 10**  
• Renfrew & Bahn, *Archaeology*, Ch 9

**Week 10**

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**Nov 15** Cognitive archaeology; Art; Religion  
**Nov 17**  
• Renfrew & Bahn, *Archaeology*, Ch 10

**Week 11**

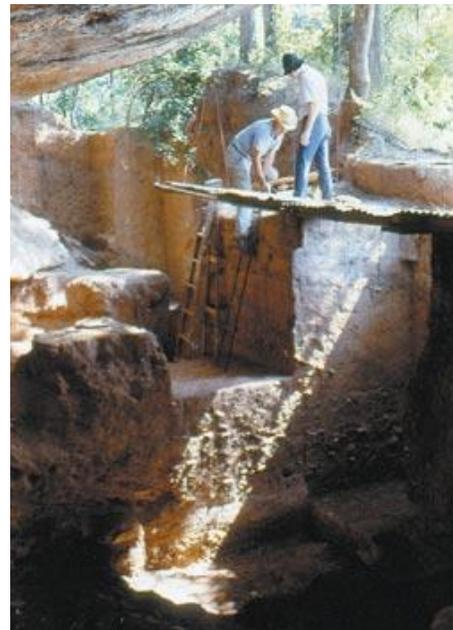
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**Nov 22** Explaining change  
**Nov 24**  
• Renfrew & Bahn, *Archaeology*, Ch 12

**Week 12**

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**Nov 29** Pasts present and future  
**Dec 1** *Essays due*  
• Renfrew & Bahn, *Archaeology*, Ch 14-15



## **COURSE POLICIES**

It is your responsibility to attend classes and to do the readings. Regular absences will seriously affect your grade in this course.

1. Your participation in the fieldwork exercises, which will be conducted on campus but outside the classroom, is expected and required on the dates indicated in the Course Schedule or amendments. On these days we will start at 8 a.m., and finish by 10 (so that you have time to clean up before your next class). It is recommended that you give some thought to wearing weather- and terrain-appropriate clothing. Expect to get a little dirty. In case of moderate to heavy rain (but not light drizzle) we will not meet outside, but in the regular classroom instead.
2. To aid your review, Powerpoint slides from lectures and other course material will be posted at regular intervals.
3. In case of un-excused lateness, submissions will have 2% deducted from the mark for every day of lateness. No assignment that is more than ten days late will be accepted.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Student Affairs (Orillia) coordinates services and facilitates reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Academic accommodations are provided on the basis of documentation of a disability. Additional information is available at the following campus website:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-services/accessibility/>

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

The University takes a most serious view of offences against academic honesty such as plagiarism, cheating and impersonation. Penalties for dealing with such offences will be strictly enforced.

A copy of the "Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures" including sections on plagiarism and other forms of misconduct may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.

The following rules shall govern the treatment of candidates who have been found guilty of attempting to obtain academic credit dishonestly.

- (a) The minimum penalty for a candidate found guilty of plagiarism, or of cheating on any part of a course will be a zero for the work concerned.
- (b) A candidate found guilty of cheating on a formal examination or a test, or of serious or repeated plagiarism, or of unofficially obtaining a copy of an examination paper before the examination is scheduled to be written, will receive zero for the course and may be expelled from the University.

Students disciplined under the Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures may appeal their case through the Judicial Panel.

Note: "Plagiarism" shall be deemed to include:

1. Plagiarism of ideas as where an idea of an author or speaker is incorporated into the body of an assignment as though it were the writer's idea, i.e. no credit is given the person through referencing or footnoting or endnoting.
2. Plagiarism of words occurs when phrases, sentences, tables or illustrations of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a writer's own, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on the format followed) are present but referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given.
3. Plagiarism of ideas and words as where words and an idea(s) of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a written assignment as though they were the writer's own words and ideas, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on format followed) are present and no referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given.

A listing of University Regulations can be found at:

<http://calendar.lakeheadu.ca/current/contents/regulations/univregsintro.html>

The code of student behaviour and disciplinary procedures can be found at:  
<http://policies.lakeheadu.ca/policy.php?pid=60>