

ANCIENT PEOPLES AND PLACES (ANTH 2151)

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.

Required text:

Chazan, M. 2018. World Prehistory and Archaeology: Pathways Through Time. 4th Edition. New York: Routledge.

Grading:

- Written assignment (~10 pp): **30%**
 - For this assignment, you are required to: (1) find a news article from the last ~5 years about an archaeological discovery anywhere in the world; (2) describe and discuss the archaeological significance of this discovery using peer-reviewed resources (journal articles and/or academic books).
- Midterm exam: **30%**
- Final exam: **40%**

Grade Distributions:

A+	90-100%	B	70-79%	D	50-59%	F	0-39%
A	80-89%	C	60-69%	E	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.

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