

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY ANTH 2151 WAO Ancient Peoples and Places

Winter 2020

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4-5:30 pm

OA 2018

Instructor: Dr Timothy Kaiser

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: OA 3008

Office Hours: Tu Th 12-1 pm, or by appointment, or by chance

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Supplementary Course Website: Desire2Learn

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.

[http://navigator.lakeheadu.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=vi
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duseredits=False](http://navigator.lakeheadu.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=vi
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SUPPLEMENTARY COURSE DESCRIPTION

To the list above, add North and South America.

This course is a survey of world prehistory. In comparative perspective, we will take up fundamental questions concerning the origins and development of culture after the appearance of *Homo sapiens*. What were Ice Age hunter-gatherers like? When and why did people become farmers? Why did urban settlements develop? What beliefs and customs characterized ancient societies? These questions will be examined in the light of the archaeological records of Africa, Eurasia, and the Americas. As we shall see, archaeologists have learned a lot about the lives of our ancestors. Along the way, they have uncovered a set of fascinating stories tracing humankind's path from past to present. This course delves into these stories.



Mayan "eccentric" flint (ca. 500-900 CE) H: 23 cm.
Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection.

COURSE OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate a practical and conceptual understanding of how archaeological methods and theories have been applied in the study of prehistory
- articulate general and specific levels of knowledge regarding world prehistory
- critically evaluate existing research results and methods

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Kenneth L. Feder (2019) *The Past in Perspective: An Introduction to Human Prehistory*. 8th edition. Oxford University Press. Available in paperback or as an e-book.

Other materials on line.

EVALUATION

- Term Project annotated bibliography 10%
- Term Project 30%
- Midterm Exam 25%
- Participation 5%
- Final Exam 30%



Tomb 1 at Tell Umm el-Marra, Syria, 2300 BCE.
http://www.naturalhistorymag.com/htmlsite/master.html?http://www.naturalhistorymag.com/htmlsite/0507/0507_feature.html

Term Project:

This semester you will complete a project concerning an ancient people and/or an ancient place. Your project will (a) summarize the archaeological evidence underpinning the culture history of an ancient people or (b) review what is known about a prehistoric site as revealed by archaeological excavation. *Your project will go beyond the textbook's account: it will provide a more extensive description, a fuller synthesis of current archaeological knowledge, and an assessment of the subject's significance.* Your project may be realized in one of four different genres: a documentary, a design for an exhibition, a school teaching & learning unit, or a popular science article. In all cases, a preliminary annotated bibliography will be submitted by February 27. Detailed instructions are posted on Desire2Learn. The project is due on March 27, 2020.

Midterm Exam:

The in-class midterm exam on February 13, 2020 will consist of multiple choice and short answer / essay format questions.

Participation:

Learning demands your active participation – it is not something that lends itself to osmosis. Students are expected not only to show up for classes but also to be engaged with the subject matter. Aspects that will be considered for grading include how often you show up, how often you speak up, and how often your contribution(s) advance(s) the conversation.

Final Examination:

The final examination will consist of short answer/essay questions. It will focus on material covered after the midterm exam.

Important Dates:

Winter Study Break: Monday, February 17 – Friday, February 21, 2020. No classes.

Final Day to Drop This Course: Friday, March 6, 2020

Exam Period: Monday, April 6, 2020 - Sunday, April 19, 2020 (10 days - No exams April 10-13) **DO NOT MAKE ANY TRAVEL PLANS UNTIL AFTER THE EXAM DATE FOR THIS COURSE HAS BEEN POSTED.**

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/enrolment-services/timetables>

IF APPROPRIATE, TELL YOUR FAMILY!

Schedule

Week	Date		Topic	Reading
1	Jan 7	1	Introduction to archaeology and the past	Feder, Ch. 1
	Jan 9	2	Basic concepts in archaeology	Feder, Ch 2
2	Jan 14	3	Piecing together the past: case studies	
	Jan 16	4	Origin of modern humans	Feder, Ch 5
3	Jan 21	5	The Upper Palaeolithic	Feder, Ch 6
	Jan 23	6	Upper Palaeolithic art	P. Bahn and P. Vertut, <i>Images of the Ice Ages</i> , pp 68-148 D2L Scarre, R. "Lascaux" D2L http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/arcnat/chauvet/en/
4	Jan 28	7	Peopling of new worlds: Australia, the Pacific and the Americas	Feder, Ch 7 Swaminathan, N. (2014) "America, in the beginning." <i>Archaeology</i> 67(5): 22-29. Moreno-Mayar, J. V. et al. (2018). Early human dispersals within the Americas. <i>Science</i> 08 Nov 2018 eaav2621 DOI: 10.1126/science.aav2621
	Jan 30	8		
5	Feb 4	9	Post-glacial developments and the origins of food production	Feder, Ch 8
	Feb 6	10	Early Neolithic societies	O. Dietrich, et al. (2012) The role of cult and feasting in the emergence of Neolithic communities: new evidence from Göbekli Tepe, south-eastern Turkey. <i>Antiquity</i> 86: 674–95. https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003598X00047840
6	Feb 11	11	Expanding Neolithic worlds	T.D. Price (2013) <i>Europe Before Rome</i> , pp. 124-127; and pp. 155-165.
	Feb 13	12	MIDTERM EXAM	
	Feb 18-22		READING WEEK	

7	Feb 25	13	Origins of Complex Society: Çatal Hüyük and Stonehenge	Feder, Ch 9
	Feb 27	14	Central and South American complex chiefdoms Annotated project bibliography due.	BBC Lost Kingdoms of Central America: Kingdom of the Jaguar – The Olmecs. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTuab0SNuPA BBC Horizon The Lost Pyramids Of Caral Full Documentary https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymW9ylyNNAo
8	Mar 4	15	Models of urban state origins; Mesopotamia	Feder, Ch 10
	Mar 6	16	Mesopotamia, continued	Lawler (2013a) The everlasting city. <i>Archaeology</i> 66(5): 26-32. Editors (2016) The world's oldest writing. <i>Archaeology</i> 69(3): 26-33. J. Oates, et al. (2007). Early Mesopotamian urbanism: a new view from the north. <i>Antiquity</i> 81: 565-600.
9	Mar 11	17	Egypt	Scarre & Fagan 2003: 87-117 D2L
	Mar 13	18	Other early states: Minoan Crete and Mycenaean Greece	Lobell (2015) The Minoans of Crete. <i>Archaeology</i> 68(3): 28-35.
10	Mar 18	19	Asian state formation and early civilizations	Feder, Ch 11 Scarre & Fagan 2003:147-164; 170-196 D2L Lawler (2013b) Mohenjo-Daro's new story. <i>Archaeology</i> 66(1): 32-37.
	Mar 20	20	Mesoamerican highlands: Teotihuacán	Feder, Ch 12
11	Mar 25	21	Mesoamerican lowlands: the Maya	Jennings, et al. (2011) <i>Maya: Secrets of their ancient world</i> . D2L Zorich (2013) Uncovering a Maya warrior queen. <i>Archaeology</i> 66(3): 31-35.
	Mar 27	22	Andean states and empires TERM PROJECT DUE	Feder, Ch 13
12	Apr 1	23	North American complex societies	Feder, Ch 14
	Apr 3	24	Conclusion	
TBA		FINAL EXAMINATION		

COURSE POLICIES

- It is your responsibility to attend classes and to do the readings. Regular absences will seriously affect your grade in this course.
- Any important announcements, including changes in due dates, will be announced in-class and posted on Desire2Learn.
- To aid your review, Powerpoint notes from lectures and other course material will be posted on Desire2Learn at regular intervals.
- Any course work not submitted on time will be subject to a 5% deduction per day of unexcused lateness.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The Student Affairs Office 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 <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

A breach of Academic Integrity is a serious offence. The principle of Academic Integrity, particularly of doing one's own work, documenting properly (including use of quotation marks, appropriate paraphrasing and referencing/citation), collaborating appropriately, and avoiding misrepresentation, is a core principle in university study. Students should view the Student Code of Conduct- Academic Integrity - for a full description of academic offences, procedures when Academic Integrity breaches are suspected and sanctions for breaches of Academic Integrity.

The student code of conduct (academic) can be found at:

https://www.lakeheadu.ca/sites/default/files/policies_procedures/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Academic%20Integrity_0.pdf



http://www.davidrowan.co.uk/solar/moonlight_stonehenge.html