



**DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
ANTH 4813 WAO Writing Archaeology**

Winter 2020

Time: Mondays, 2:30-5:30 pm

Room: OA 2008

Instructor: Dr Timothy Kaiser

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: OA 3008

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

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Supplementary Course Website:
Desire2Learn



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Writing is an activity that is central to all archaeological work. Why? Since archaeology can be a fundamentally destructive endeavour (an excavated site cannot ever be actually reconstituted) it is incumbent upon archaeologists to preserve what they recover in a variety of forms. The primary means of archaeological knowledge curation is writing. This can involve a number of genres, including scholarly books and articles; government-mandated reports; popular science journalism; documentary scripts; and museum exhibition text panels and catalogs. Writing is integral to the doing of archaeology as well, from producing a successful grant application to the recording of field observations. As a seminar, this course will explore various genres of archaeological writing, from classics of reporting and analytic synthesis to the construction of thesis and grant proposals. *How* we as archaeologists write is as important as *what* we write.

COURSE OUTCOMES

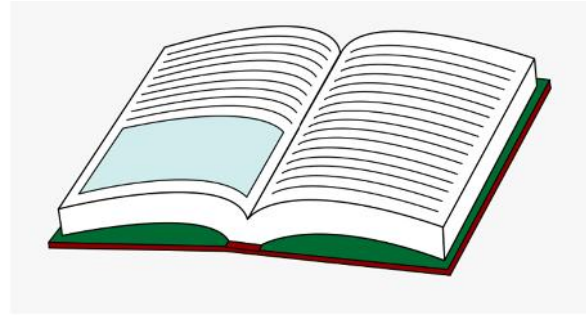
By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate a practical and conceptual understanding of the extent to which archaeological writing acts to preserve archaeological data
- distinguish between different genres of archaeological writing and to write in those genres
- critically evaluate existing research results and methods as conveyed in writing

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Shan-Estelle Brown (2017) *Writing in Anthropology: A Brief Guide*. Oxford University Press.

Other materials on line.



EVALUATION

- Five biweekly writing assignments (12% x 5 = 60%)
- Five biweekly editing assignments (5% x 5 = 25%)
- Participation (15%)

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.

Important Dates:

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

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

Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading, mostly TBA
1	Jan 6	Introduction	
2	Jan 13	"The past is a foreign country"	K.V. Flannery (ed.) (1976) <i>The Early Mesoamerican Village</i> . J. Robb (2007) <i>The Early Mediterranean Village</i> .
3	Jan 20	Critiques, Responses, Reviews	S-E Brown (2017) <i>Writing in Anthropology</i> , Ch. 1-2. J. Clifford & G.E. Marcus (1986) <i>Writing Culture: the Poetics and Politics of Ethnography</i>
4	Jan 27	Literature reviews	Brown (2017) Ch. 4.
5	Feb 3	Critical research papers	Brown (2017) pp.91-111
6	Feb 10	IMRD research papers	Brown (2017) pp. 112-127
	Feb 17	READING WEEK – No Class	

7	Feb 24	Grant and other proposals	See MyCourseLink for selected grant proposals
8	Mar 2	Field notes and CRM reports	See MyCourseLink for selected reports of Ontario archaeology
9	Mar 9	Fieldwork report monographs	A.M.T. Moore (2000) <i>Village on the Euphrates</i>
10	Mar 16	Popular science publications and documentary scripts	TBA
11	Mar 23	Museums; The online environment	TBA
12	Mar 30	Conclusion	

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.
- Any course work not submitted on time will be subject to a 5% deduction per day of unexcused lateness.

ACCOMMODATIONS

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

