

ANCIENT PEOPLES AND PLACES (ANTH 2151)

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Boyd

E-mail: matthew.boyd@lakeheadu.ca

Office: BB-2001-F

Office hours: by appointment



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, Michael, World Prehistory and Archaeology: Pathways Through Time [latest edition]

Grading:

- Written assignment (10-12 pages double spaced, not including figures or references): **30%**
 - A written report describing, and discussing, any topic of interest directly related to the course (world prehistory). Research should be based only on peer-reviewed resources (journal articles and/or academic books). Evaluation will focus on the quality of your writing, the depth of your research, organization, and other criteria. Follow the APA style guide for formatting your paper. A rubric will be posted online.
 - The subject of your term paper is open but examples include: description of a fossil hominin species (e.g., *Homo naledi*, *H. floresiensis*, the Neanderthal); summary of findings from a recent archaeological discovery (e.g., the shipwrecks of the Franklin expedition; Norse sites in North America); description of an ancient writing system and the history of its decipherment; discussion of an archaeological monument (e.g., Egyptian pyramids, the function and construction of Stonehenge, Gobekli Tepe); summary of an archaeological culture or period (e.g., the Classic Maya, Mississippian tradition); discussion of a major ancient human "event" (e.g., the first peopling of the Australia; the origins of agriculture in a region). I'm happy to discuss your term paper topic in order to provide suggestions about how to make it as successful as possible.
 - **Due date:** last class (April 6)
- Midterm exam: **30%**
 - Format to be determined
 - Test questions will be derived from the lecture material and required textbook
 - **Date:** February 16
- Final exam: **40%**
 - Cumulative but focused on post-midterm material
 - Format to be determined
 - Test questions will be derived from the lecture material and required textbook
 - **Date/time:** scheduled by the Registrar's Office (April exam period)

Other information

- 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.
- In this course, in the context of remote instruction and participation, video and audio recordings of class activities will be made to ensure students' and instructors' easy and comprehensive access to those activities. The recordings are confidential and are intended only for the use of the course students and instructors. They may otherwise not be used or disclosed. During recording, to protect others' privacy, each student should ensure that no one else is present in the location where they are being recorded without that non-student's consent. The recordings are made under the authority of sections 3 and 14 of *The Lakehead University Act, 1965*. Questions about the collection of the images and sounds in the recordings may be directed to Dr. Todd Randall, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies, Thunder Bay campus.
- **STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES** Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please visit <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>.

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 First peopling of Australia and the New World	Chazan ch. 5 & 6
(Feb 16)	Midterm exam (75 min.)	
5	The origins of agriculture (introduction) Early food production in the Near East	Chazan ch. 7
6	The first European farmers	Chazan ch. 7
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	Chazan ch. 10 & 11
9	Ancient Egypt	Chazan ch. 11
10	Indus Valley tradition (Harappan civilization)	Chazan ch. 12
11	Early state-level societies in China	Chazan ch. 12
	Term paper due: April 6	
	Final Exam (TBA)	