



DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
ANTH 2137 FAO Fundamentals of Archaeology
Fall 2024

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:30 am-1 pm
OA 1025

Instructor: Dr Timothy Kaiser

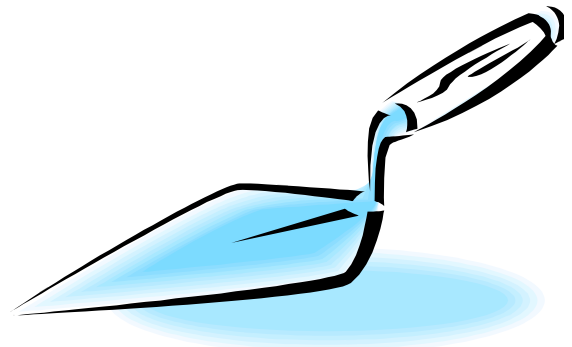
CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: OA 3008

Office Hours: By appointment or by chance

Email: tkaiser@lakeheadu.ca

Supplementary Course Website: MyCourseLink



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](#) and [1034](#) or permission of the Chair of the Department of Anthropology

<https://csdc.lakeheadu.ca/~Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=29&topicgroupid=31364>

SUPPLEMENTARY COURSE DESCRIPTION

For the most part archaeologists engage 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 September-October, weather and other circumstances permitting. *Taking into account whatever weather awaits and the certainty that you will get dirty, be sure to dress appropriately.* Details to follow.



COURSE OUTCOMES

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

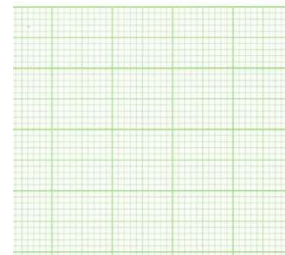
- demonstrate a practical and conceptual understanding of archaeological method and theory
- articulate general and specific levels of knowledge of the nature of archaeological inquiry
- critically evaluate existing research results and methods of archaeologists present and past



REQUIRED MATERIALS

T. Douglas Price & Kelly J. Knudson, (2018) *Principles of Archaeology*, 2nd ed. New York: Thames and Hudson.

A pack of millimeter graph paper (Has faint lines making 1-cm squares subdivided by 1-mm lines. DO NOT use quadrille paper, which is divided into 1/4-inch squares. Archaeology is metric!)



EVALUATION

Component	Value	Date
Assignments		
Set A. Two short exercises in archaeological thinking.	10%	September 26
Set B. 'Sandbox 101.' 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.	30%	October 24
Set C. Tombstone seriation. After carrying out your own fieldwork, you will analyze the chronology of a cemetery's grave markers.	25%	November 14
Final Examination	25%	TBA
Participation	10%	Continuous

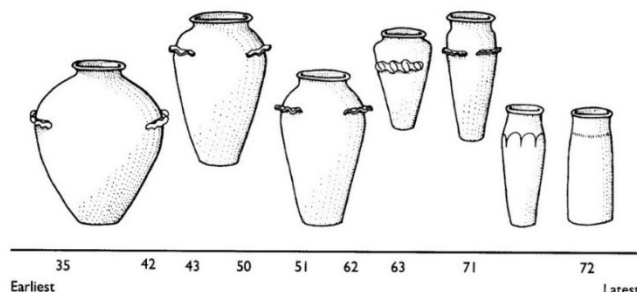
Important Dates:

Fall Study Break: October 14– 18, 2024. No classes.

Final Day to Drop This Course: Friday, November 8, 2024.

Exam Period: December 6 - 16, 2024.

DO NOT MAKE ANY TRAVEL PLANS UNTIL AFTER THE EXAM DATE FOR THIS COURSE HAS BEEN POSTED. IF APPROPRIATE, TELL YOUR FAMILY.



ANTH 2137 FAO Method & Technique in Archaeology 2024 Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to modification as circumstances require.

Week	Date		Topic, readings, and viewings
1	Sept 3	¹	Introductions
	Sept 5	²	Archaeology and archaeologists: then and now Price & Knudson (2018) <i>Principles of Archaeology</i> , Ch. 1-2. View <i>Principles of Archaeology – Video 1</i> (henceforth “PrinArcVid”) (D2L) View <i>PrinArcVid-2</i> (D2L)
2	Sept 10	³	Archaeological questions <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 4
	Sept 12	⁴	The archaeological record <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 5
3	Sept 17	⁵	Introduction to field survey and excavation <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 6
	Sept 19	⁶	Fieldwork practicum begins Dress appropriately. For those who wish (and have time after 1:30), fieldwork sessions may be extended for another hour. If it is raining, we will meet in the classroom. Watch: <i>Archaeological Methods: Set up a 1m grid square</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNdFDzQzqPk Watch: <i>Archaeological Methods: How to excavate a test-pit</i> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_Itaza4lUA
4	Sept 24	⁷	Fieldwork practicum
	Sept 26	⁸	Fieldwork practicum Classification <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 7
5	Oct 1	⁹	Fieldwork practicum



	Oct 3	¹⁰	Fieldwork practicum Start reading <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 8
6	Oct 8	¹¹	Fieldwork practicum ends.
	Oct 10	¹²	Dating <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 8 J. Deetz and E.S. Dethlefsen (1967) Deaths Head, Cherub, Urn and Willow. View <i>Renfrew Video - Radiocarbon</i>
	Oct 14-18		FALL STUDY BREAK
7	Oct 22	¹³	Dating, continued Richter, D. et al. (2017) The age of the hominin fossils from Jebel Irhoud, Morocco, and the origins of the Middle Stone Age. <i>Nature</i> 646 (7657) Bennet, M.R., et al. (2021) Evidence of humans in North America during the last glacial maximum. <i>Science</i> 373 : 1528-1531. Oktaviana, A.A., Joannes-Boyau, R., Hakim, B. et al. (2024) Narrative cave art in Indonesia by 51,200 years ago. <i>Nature</i> 631 , 814–818
	Oct 24	¹⁴	Geoarchaeology <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 9
8	Oct 29	¹⁵	Lithic analysis <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 10
	Oct 31	¹⁶	Ceramic analysis <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 11
9	Nov 5	¹⁷	Archaeobotany <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 12
	Nov 7	¹⁸	Archaeozoology <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 13
10	Nov 12	¹⁹	Bioarchaeology <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 14

			View <i>PrinArcVid-5</i> (D2L)
	Nov 14	²⁰	Archaeological chemistry <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 15 View <i>PrinArcVid-4</i> (D2L)
11	Nov 19	²¹	Interpretation <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 3 View <i>PrinArcVid-3</i> (D2L)
	Nov 21	²²	Social systems and ancient cultures C. Renfrew and P. Bahn (2018) <i>Archaeology Essentials</i> , Ch 5. How were societies organized? View <i>Renfrew Video – Social Organization</i> (D2L) View <i>Renfrew Video – Trade</i> (D2L)
12	Nov 26	²³	Ethics <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 16 View <i>PrinArcVid-6</i> (D2L)
	Nov 28	²⁴	Conclusion



COURSE POLICIES

- It is your responsibility to attend classes and to do the readings. Regular absences may seriously affect your grade in this course.
- Any important announcements, including changes in due dates, will be announced in-class, and posted on MyCourseLink (D2L).
- To aid your review, course material will be posted on MyCourseLink at regular intervals.
- Any course work not submitted on time ***will be subject to a 5% deduction per day of unexcused lateness. No course work that is more than 10 days late will receive a mark.***

GenAI Use Prohibited

Generative artificial intelligence (Generative AI or GenAI) is a category of AI systems capable of generating text, images, or other media in response to prompts. These systems include ChatGPT and its variant Bing (built by OpenAI) and Bard (built by Google) among several others. Other Generative AI models include artificial intelligence art systems such as Stable Diffusion, Midjourney, and DALL-E. Any use of GenAI systems to produce assignments for this course is not permitted. All work submitted for evaluation in this course must be the student's original work. The submission of any work containing AI generated content will be considered a violation of academic integrity ("Use of Unauthorized Materials").

Academic Integrity

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 are strongly advised to familiarize themselves with the Student Code of Conduct - Academic Integrity ("[The Code](#)") - and, in particular, sections 26 and 83 through 85. Non-compliance with the Code will NOT be tolerated in this course and the Code will be adhered to in terms of disciplinary action. The Code provides a full description of academic offences, procedures when Academic Integrity breaches are suspected and sanctions for breaches of Academic Integrity.

Exam/Assignment Integrity

By being registered in ANTH 3235 you understand and agree that:

(a) Unless otherwise allowed by the course instructor, you must complete the assignments in this course without the assistance of anyone else.

(b) Unless otherwise allowed by the course instructor, you must not access any sources or materials (in print, online, or in any other way) to complete any course exam.

You further understand and agree that, if you violate either of these two rules, or if you provide any false or misleading information about my completion of course assignments or exams, you may be prosecuted under the Lakehead University Student Code of Conduct – Academic Integrity, which requires students to act ethically and with integrity in academic matters and to demonstrate behaviours that support the University's academic values.

Copyright Compliance

By being registered in ANTH 3235, you agree to the following conditions of copyright compliance:

You understand and agree that all instructional, reference, and administrative materials to which you are given access in this course (the "course materials"), whether they consist of text, still or kinetic images, or sound, whether they are in digital or hard copy formats, and in whatever media they are offered, are protected in their entirety by copyright, and that to comply with this copyright and the law:

(a) You may access and download the course materials only for your own personal and non-commercial use for this course; and (b) You are not permitted to download, copy, store (in any medium), forward or share, transmit, broadcast, show, post or play in public, adapt, or change in any way any text, image, or sound component of the course materials for any other purpose whatsoever except as expressly authorized, and only to the extent authorized, in writing, by the course instructor.

You further understand and agree that, if you infringe the copyright of the course materials in any way, you may be prosecuted under the Lakehead University Student Code of Conduct – Academic Integrity, which requires students to act ethically and with integrity in academic matters and to demonstrate behaviours that support the University's academic values.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities/medical conditions. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities/medical conditions to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability/medical condition 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 email sas@lakeheadu.ca or visit <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>

We respectfully acknowledge that Lakehead University campuses are located on the traditional lands of Indigenous peoples. Lakehead Orillia is located on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg. The Anishinaabeg include the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatomi nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. Lakehead University acknowledges the history that many nations hold in the areas around our campuses, and is committed to a relationship with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples based on the principles of mutual trust, respect, reciprocity, and collaboration in the spirit of reconciliation.

