



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

Winter 2025

Time: Mondays & Wednesdays 11:30 am - 1 pm

ZOOM

Instructor: Dr Timothy Kaiser

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: OA 3008

Virtual Office Hours: by appointment

Email: tkaiser@lakeheadu.ca

Supplementary Course Website:

MyCourseLink



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 catalogues. 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

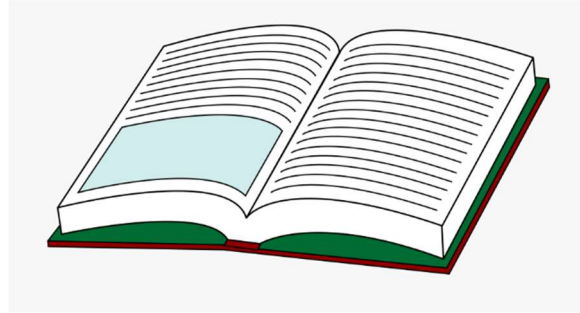
By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 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. \$50.99 180-day ebook 26.99

Other materials on line.



EVALUATION

- Five biweekly writing assignments in weeks 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 (16% x 5 = 80%)
- Participation (20%)

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 *with cameras on* 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, 2025 - Friday, February 21, 2025.

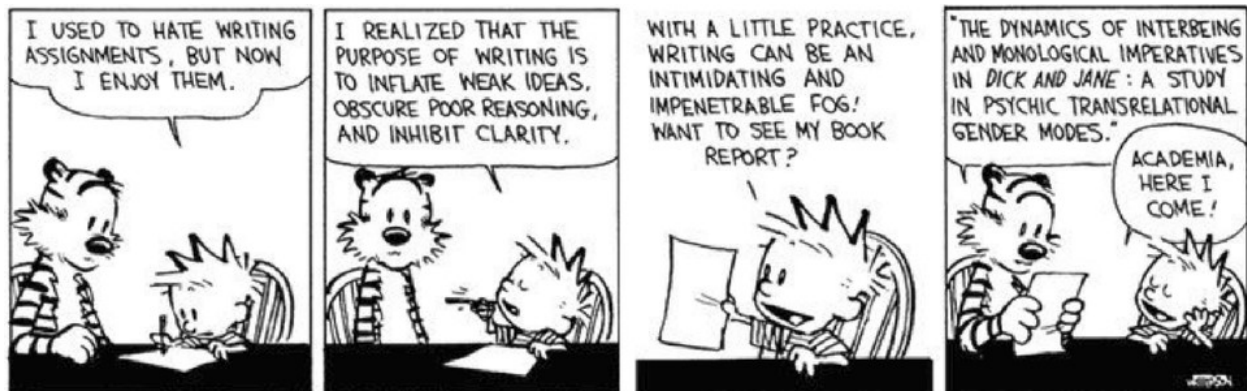
Final Day to Drop This Course: Friday, March 7, 2025

Exam Period: April 7, 2025 - April 17, 2025

Schedule

| Week | Date | Topic | Reading, mostly TBA |
|------|------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Jan 6, 8 | Introduction | |
| 2 | Jan 13, 15 | "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> . C. Kusimba (1997) "A time traveler in Kenya." <i>Natural History</i> (June 1997), pp. 38-47. |
| 3 | Jan 20, 22 | 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, 29 | Literature reviews | Brown (2017) Ch. 4. <i>Annual Reviews in Anthropology</i> |
| 5 | Feb 3, 5 | Critical research papers | Brown (2017) pp.91-111 <i>American Anthropologist Antiquity</i> |

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| 6 | Feb 10, 12 | IMRD research papers | Brown (2017) pp. 112-127 <i>Archaeometry</i> <i>Journal of Archaeological Science</i> <i>Journal of Field Archaeology</i> |
| Feb 17-21 | | READING WEEK – No Class | |
| 7 | Feb 24, 26 | Grant and other proposals | See MyCourseLink for selected grant proposals |
| 8 | Mar 3, 5 | Field notes and CRM reports | See MyCourseLink for selected reports of Ontario archaeology |
| 9 | Mar 10, 12 | Fieldwork report monographs | A.M.T. Moore (2000) <i>Village on the Euphrates</i> |
| 10 | Mar 17, 19 | Popular science publications and documentary scripts | See MycourseLink for selected materials |
| 11 | Mar 23, 25 | Museums; The online environment | www.rom.on.ca Others TBA |
| 12 | Mar 31, Apr 2 | 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, notes and other 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 work will be accepted that is ten or more days tardy.**

GenAI Use Prohibited

This is a course about writing in archaeology: writing by humans, not computers. 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.

Assignment Integrity

By being registered in ANTH 4813 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 4813, 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>

Lakehead University respectfully acknowledges its campuses are located on the traditional lands of Indigenous Peoples. Lakehead Thunder Bay is located on the traditional lands of the Fort William First Nation, Signatory to the Robinson Superior Treaty of 1850. 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



Red Figure kotyle, 5th c. BCE, Vilina Cave, Croatia