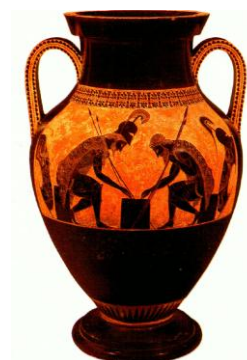**METHOD AND TECHNIQUE IN ARCHAEOLOGY (ANTH 2137)**

Instructor: Dr. M. Boyd
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Office hours: by appointment (in person or Zoom)

Course description:

This course will introduce you to the practice and application of modern archaeology, focusing on archaeological methods. Topics include: chronometric dating; methods of archaeological survey and excavation; analysis of pottery and stone tools; environmental archaeology (archaeobotany, geoarchaeology and zooarchaeology); and settlement patterns and spatial analysis. *Class participation is encouraged*!

Course Learning Outcomes

- Obtain an understanding of fundamental methods (and their theoretical underpinnings) in archaeology including: artifact analysis, absolute and relative dating, environmental archaeology, paleoenvironmental reconstruction, diet and subsistence
- Develop academic research, critical thinink, and writing skills through a written assignment.
- Obtain hands-on experience in archaeology through artifact analysis, and an archaeological fieldtrip.

Required text:

Renfrew, C. & Bahn, P. Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice. New York: Thames & Hudson. Latest Edition. Price: $143. Previous edition is acceptable.

Grading:

1. Attendance ("hands-on" sessions 2 and 3 only): **5%**

2. Written assignment: **25%** (about 10 pp. double spaced, not including references/figures)

> ➢ Write a scholarly paper using peer-reviewed sources on any topic covered in this class or your textbook (i.e., any archaeological method, broadly defined).
> ➢ Style guide: APA. No abstract or keywords are required. See: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html
> ➢ I encourage you to talk to me about your term paper idea so I can provide some guidance, although this isn't required.
> ➢ Grading will employ a rubric that will be posted on D2L.
> ➢ I am willing to read a rough draft of your paper as long as you provide me with a copy at least 1 week before the deadline. My comments on your rough draft will be general in nature.

3. Midterm exam: **30%**

4. Final exam (December): **40%**

Grade Distributions:

A+	90-100%	B	70-79%	D	50-59%	F	0-39%
A	80-89%	C	60-69%	E	40-49%		

- 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.

- The written assignment should be submitted online, using D2L under the "Assignments" tab.

- **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.

- **Artificial intelligence policy**: I see generative AI tools as both useful and problematic in the context of academic work. As a result, there are some ways in which AI may be used by students in this course, and other uses that are prohibited.

    o Allowable uses of AI: brainstorming topics for the term paper; and as a 'study buddy' when preparing for the tests in this course. Note: the information used to train AI models may be flawed, incomplete, or biased.

    o Prohibited uses of AI: you are not allowed to use genAI tools such as ChatGPT, Bard, etc. to generate content for exams, written assignments, or labs. All work submitted for evaluation 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"). You are also not allowed to use AI tools to perform basic research activities such as finding sources, summarizing information contained within academic sources, critiquing sources, generating research ideas and interpretations, and similar activities.

- As a university student, you may sometimes experience mental health concerns or stressful events that interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily activities. All of us can benefit from support during times of struggle. If you or anyone you know experiences academic stress, difficult life events or feelings of anxiety or depression, Lakehead has resources available to you. Check in with the WellU Key to find the mental health resources you are looking for. Remember that getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do- for yourself, for those you care about, and for those who care about you. Getting support sooner rather than later is almost always helpful.

- 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 [Support for Students with Disabilities | Lakehead University](#).

- There is one, non-mandatory, outdoor event on campus. Please wear boots or old shoes with good ankle support; long pants (no shorts); rain gear (depending on weather). Please let me know if you require accommodations to fully participate.

Topic	Contents	Readings
1	Introduction to course; What is archaeology?	Introduction
2	A short history of archaeology	Ch. 1
3	The nature of the archaeological record The concept of culture Archaeological data (artifact, assemblage, site, settlement patterns, etc.)	Ch. 2
4	Chronometric dating: Relative dating (stratigraphy, seriation) Absolute dating (e.g., K-Ar; radiocarbon; U series)	Ch. 4
HANDS-ON 1	**Tour of an archaeological site on campus (voluntary)**	
Oct 13-17	**Study break (classes cancelled)**	
Oct. 20	**Midterm exam**	
5	Finding and assessing archaeological sites: Archaeological survey; remote sensing Site assessment Archaeological excavation: Importance of multidisciplinary teams Types of excavation Process of excavation	Ch. 3
6	Artifact typology and classification Lithic technology and analysis	Ch. 8
HANDS-ON 2	**Lithic artifacts**	
7	Ceramic technology and analysis Other types of artifacts	Ch. 8
HANDS-ON 3	**Pottery**	
8	Reconstructing subsistence & diet: Zooarchaeology Archaeobotany	Ch. 7
9	Environmental change and human adaptation Mechanisms and scales of climate change Methods	Ch. 6
10	Ethnoarchaeology Social organization/ social archaeology	Ch. 5 & 9
Nov. 17	**Written assignment due**	
TBA	**Final exam**	