

**ANTHROPOLOGY 103
ARCHAEOLOGY**

FALL 2008

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Office: 155 Pettengill, 786-6080
Office hours: T,Th 1-2:30 & by appointment

About the Course:

This course will introduce you to the study of archaeology. Class work will consist of lectures, discussion sessions, laboratories, films and field trips. Your **attendance** and active **participation** in class work will be important to your success in the course. Plan to complete assigned readings **before** the next scheduled class, and be prepared to discuss them. Your grade will be based mainly upon two exams and a computer simulation.

Course materials:

Sharer, R. and W. Ashmore 2003 Archaeology: Discovering Our Past. McGraw Hill.

Price, D. and G. Gebauer 1996 Adventures in Fugawiland. Mayfield.

Reserve Reading (2 hr):

Bourque, Bruce J. 2002 "Maine Shell Midden Archaeology (1860-1910) and the influence of Adolphe von Morlot." In: D. L. Browman and Stephen Williams, ed. New Perspectives on the Origins of Americanist Archaeology, pp. 148-163. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press.

Jackson, et al. 2001 "Historical Overfishing and the Recent Collapse of Coastal Ecosystems, *Science* 293:629-638.

Resources on the web:

For the latest news about archaeology around the world go to
<http://www.tamu.edu/anthropology/news.html>

For access to all kinds of archaeology on the web go to
<http://ArchNet.asu.edu/><http://ArchNet/news/featured/changes95.html>.

Class and Reading Schedule:

Before the first class, get a preview of what archaeology is about by going to http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/signsoflife_300kW.html.

- 4 Sept. **Introduction**, course description, requirements, and procedures. Read Sharer and Ashmore Introduction, chapter 1, pp. 10-22, 26-38. For an outline of North American archaeological history go to <http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/archaeology/archaeology/timeline/history2.html> and **download the timeline**. To learn about the destructiveness of archaeological vandalism go to <http://agutie.homestead.com/files/Sipan.htm>. Watch “Pathways to Archaeology” at the Archaeology Channel.
- 9 **Archaeology, History and Culture. Film:** “Archaeology: a Journey into the past” on the **Archaeology Channel**. Listen on BBC 4 (on the web) to an interesting discussion of the origins of archaeology: http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/history/inourtime/inourtime_20050414.shtml. Read Sharer and Ashmore, chapter 2, pp. 43-63, Bourque 2002.
- 11 **Origins of archaeology. Paleoindians.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 3 pp. 64-86. Watch these at the Archaeology Channel: http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/Gila300k_W.html, http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/lostcanyon_700kW.htmlhttp://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/Besh300k_W.html.
- 16 **Contemporary approaches. Southwest chiefdoms. Film:** The Mystery of Chaco Canyon. Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 3, pp. 86-96. Watch http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/poverty_300kW.html at the Archaeology Channel.
- 18 **Contemporary approaches. Southeast chiefdoms.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 4, pp. 120-147.
- 23 **What are archaeological data?** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 5, pp. 151-160.
- 25 **Research Design. Local research case study: The Fox Islands Archaeological Project.** <http://www.museum.state.il.us/research/faunmap>. Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 6, pp. 194-203.
- 30 **Lab: Interpreting field data. Introduction to GPS.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 6, pp. 203-234. Watch <http://www.e-trimblegps.com/gps101.htm> http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/archjourney_700kW.html at the Archaeology Channel.

- 2 Oct. **Field lab: Reconnaissance and survey.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 7, pp. 246-308.
- 7 **Field trip to Maine State Museum.** Read Sharer & Ashmore chapter 8, pp. 269-308.
- 9 **Lab: Excavation, Field Processing and Classification.**
- 14 **Midterm exam.** Read Sharer and Ashmore <http://www.webmuseen.de/14C.html>. Chapter 9, pp. 310-332.

Fall Recess: 15-19 October

- 21 **Temporal frameworks.** Read Sharer and Ashmore <http://www.webmuseen.de/14C.html>. Chapter 9, pp. 332-347.
- 23 **Lab: Temporal frameworks/ radiocarbon calibration.** To learn about the oldest trees in the world go to <http://www.rmtr.org/oldlist.htm>. To learn more about radiocarbon dating go to <http://www.c14dating.com/>. <http://www.webmuseen.de/14C.html>. <http://www.museum.state.il.us/research/faunmap/>. Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 10, pp. 354-385.
- 28 **Analysis of artifacts.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 11, pp. 391-409. Watch “Ancient Fires at Cliff Palace Pond” on the Archaeology Channel. To learn about faunal analysis (also called zooarchaeology) go to <http://www.museum.state.il.us/research/faunmap/>.
- 30 **Analysis of ecofacts. Begin Fugawiland.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 12, pp. 412-429. To learn about features at an important early colonial site in Maine go to <http://www.archaeologychannel.org/popham.html>. To learn about an experimental approach to archaeology in the American Southwest go to http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/HopiFires_700kW.html.
- 4 Nov. **Analysis of features. Pottery making!** To see some prehistoric pots go to <http://www.civilization.ca/archo/ceramiq/cerart1e.html>. Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 13, pp. 431-455.
- 6 **Analogy and interpretation. Maritime adaptations.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 14, pp. 457-478. For a look at prehistoric symbolic landscapes go to http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/shiloh_300kW.html.
- 11 **Exchange, settlement archaeology, population reconstruction.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 15, pp. 483-519.

- 13 **Ideological and symbolic systems.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 16, pp. 526-551.
- 18 **Frameworks for the past. Hand in Fugawiland.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 17, pp. 556-592. To see a video about the world's earliest complex society go to http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/catalhoyuk_700kW.html.
- 20 **Early states.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 18, pp. 594-619, Read Jackson et al. 2001.

Thanksgiving Recess: 22-30 Nov.

2 Dec. **Archaeology and the new ecology.**

4 **Review for exam.**