

ANTHROPOLOGY 334 “Ancient North America”
University of Massachusetts, Boston
Fall 2011

SCHEDULE

Mondays, Wednesdays 4:00-5:15 pm Wheatley-01-004

INSTRUCTOR

Professor: Stephen Silliman
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Office Hours: Mondays 2:00-3:00; Wednesdays, 2:00-4:00; or by appt
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PURPOSE

This course is an archaeological survey of Native North America, from the late Pleistocene over 14,000 years ago to interactions with Europeans beginning in the late 1400s in some areas and extending well into the 1800s across the continent. Topics include subsistence, mobility, migration, trade, settlement patterns, religion, material culture, social inequality, identity, gender, domestication, and colonialism in Native North America using archaeological case studies from several regions in the US and Canada. Following a consideration of archaeological theory, history, and politics, the course outline provides a regional categorization, but lectures, assignments, and discussions center on key issues in archaeology more broadly, such as the origins of social inequality, the role of the physical environment in adaptation, the significance of gender and ideology, the role of daily practice and social agency, and the factors influencing cultural change and continuity. The course devotes the final section of the course to the archaeological study of culture contact and colonialism in North America as they relate to indigenous people.

Anth 334 meets the World Cultures distribution area through its focus on the processes of culture change and the comparisons of diverse cultures across North America during the last 14,000 years. The latter comparisons deal with religious traditions, politics, economic behavior, and environmental adaptation. The course also addresses two General Education capabilities: (a) Effective communication in writing and (b) critical reading and analysis. *Effective communication in writing* is addressed through a combination of the response papers, a critical take-home midterm essay, final take-home essay, and an annotated research bibliography. *Critical reading and analysis* is achieved in the course through the use of response papers that test the student's reading comprehension and critical evaluation of the texts assigned for that particular day as well as through take-home essay exams.

PREREQUISITES

Anthropology 107 (“Introduction to Archaeology”) or equivalent; or approval of instructor.

REQUIRED TEXT

Pauketat, Timothy R. and Diana DiPaolo Loren, editors
2005 *North American Archaeology*. Blackwell Publishing, London and Malden.

Several articles are also required for this course and available in PDF (Adobe) format at www.faculty.umb.edu/stephen_silliman/coursematerials/Anth334/articles/ with the login “student” and password “JabNak.3”. You can view, print, or download these readings anywhere that you have Internet access (e.g., campus, home, work). You will not find the readings on hard-copy reserve. I would recommend not necessarily printing all of these if you are comfortable reading them on a computer screen and taking notes, just because of the toner and paper required. Also preview them before printing to watch for those that might be image-heavy since these will use up printer ink quickly! These reserve readings are just as mandatory as the textbooks and should be completed by the day for which they are assigned. In addition, you are responsible for information provided in handouts, overheads, videos, slides, and lectures.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

- 20% Five reading response papers. Assigned according to schedule in syllabus, so please keep track. Students will bring to class a one-page, single-spaced, typed response to a reading or set of readings based on a guiding question provided ahead of time. Be prepared to use these as discussion points for the topic on the due date.
- 25% Take-home midterm essay exam. Assigned **October 19** and due **October 26**.
- 25% Take-home final essay exam. Assigned **December 12** and due **December 19**.
- 20% Annotated bibliography. Students will select a topic (with approval from the instructor) and prepare an annotated bibliography of 12-15 journal, book, or chapters from edited books. None of these references can come from the course material, and none of them can date before the year 1995. Each reference’s annotation will include a summary and evaluation in the range of 250-500 words, and it cannot simply repeat the abstract of that article or chapter. The bibliography will also begin with a 750-1000 word introduction of the issue and how these readings all fit together. The topic is due on or before **November 9**. The final annotated bibliography is due **December 5**.
- 10% Attendance and participation.

POLICIES

Classroom Respect

I intend for this course to serve students from diverse backgrounds, to treat the diversity of students as a resource and benefit, and to address students' learning needs both inside and outside of class. Similarly, I intend to present materials that respect gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, culture, and perspective. Keep in mind that the instructor and students may diverge in opinions or beliefs and that a healthy exchange of ideas may involve debate, as well as requirements of evidence and critical thinking. I ask that students respect the opinions and beliefs of fellow classmates and the instructor, as I will always try to do the same. I encourage you to share with me any suggestions about how to improve the course in light of these elements.

Students must respect the classroom and instructor by turning off cell phones before the beginning of class. You are not permitted to take calls in the classroom, nor are you allowed to text message. You may use handheld and laptop computers, but for note-taking only. If you intentionally or repeatedly violate any of these policies, you will be asked to leave the classroom and will receive an unexcused absence for the day.

Attendance, Tardiness, and Participation

Attendance is required, and I expect it. Attendance will be noted daily, and you are eligible for the full 10 points only if you miss no more than THREE days throughout the semester. These points decline by one for every absence thereafter. This means that missing five more than the allowable two will mean an automatic drop in your final grade by half of a letter. *It does not matter why you miss and you need not explain your*

reasons to me. Only extended absences will require that you document the reasons, and I can adjust your points accordingly. You and you alone are responsible for getting lecture notes, handouts, or assignments that you might miss. Class participation is also crucial, and you can gain a few points toward this 10% portion of your grade by regularly participating in class discussions and exercises. Significant participation will be rewarded in cases of borderline grades. Being on time is expected as well. Those who come in late on a regular basis should expect a lowering of the participation and attendance part of the course grade.

Late Assignments

All assignments must be completed by their announced due date and time. Late assignments will be accepted after the due date, but I highly discourage them. The reason is simple: You will lose 1 point per day that they are late. These are not class days, but actual ones. This means that after one day, you will be eligible for only 24 instead of 25 for the midterm essay (for example); after two days, only 23 points; etc. This translates roughly into a half of a letter grade per day. All work not received by the final day of class will be given a zero.

Plagiarism and Cheating

Students know that cheating is dishonest and disrespectful, and I remind you because cheating is also against university policy and I exact harsh penalties for anyone caught doing it. As detailed in the UMass Boston Code of Student Conduct (http://www.umb.edu/life_on_campus/policies/code/), academic dishonesty covers many topics. Cheating and plagiarism are two of the most common, and I tolerate neither. For any assignment in which I catch them, you will receive a zero. A form of cheating is plagiarism, which is the act of claiming someone else's work or idea as your own. It violates UMass Boston policies on academic honesty and carries severe penalties. Therefore, I do not tolerate plagiarism of any kind, and I will report infractions to the Dean of Students. Avoid plagiarism by citing all of your sources, whether books, periodicals, web sites, and manuscripts. You cannot use someone else's ideas or words as your own, nor can you simply shuffle words to try to make them "your own." If you are unclear about what constitutes plagiarism or how to cite your sources, please consult with the instructor or visit here: http://www.umb.edu/academics/vpass/undergraduate_studies/writing_proficiency/advice_students/.

Student Referral and Special Needs

If you are having trouble with course material or graded assignments, you should discuss these issues with me. If it seems that you may not pass the course, I may refer you to Linda Hamilton, Program Coordinator of the Student Referral Program. She or her staff may be able to assist you in overcoming the difficulties that are interfering with your success in the class. If you have a disability or special need pertinent to the class structure, assignments, or exams, you must inform me as soon as possible. With documentation from the Ross Center for Disability Services, located in the Campus Center, Second Floor, 2100 Street, Room 110 (phone: 287-7430; website: <http://www.umb.edu/academics/vpass/disability/>), every effort will be made to accommodate your situation.

COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE	LECTURE	READINGS
9/7, W	Syllabus, course expectations	Optional... Neusius and Gross, "Archaeological Laboratory Methods" and "Archaeological Fieldwork"
9/12, M	North American archaeology – history	Fagan, "Culture History and North American Archaeology" and "North American Archaeology Since the 1960s"
9/14, W	North American archaeology – theory	NAA: Chapter 1 (Pauketat and Loren)
9/19, M	North American archaeology – evidence	Whiteley, "Archaeology and Oral Tradition" Response Paper #1 Due
9/21, W	North American archaeology – practice	NAA: Chapter 14 (Watkins)
9/26, M	Peopling of the Americas	NAA: Chapter 2 (Adovasio and Pedler) Erlandson et al, "The Kelp Highway Hypothesis"
9/28, W	Peopling of the Americas	Straus et al., "Ice Age Atlantis" Bradley and Stanford, "Solutrean-Clovis Connection"
10/3, M	Peopling of the Americas	Grayson and Meltzer, "Requiem for Overkill" Fiedel and Haynes, "A Premature Burial" Response Paper #2 Due
10/5, W	Kennewick Man Controversy	Jones and Stapp, "An Anthropological Perspective" King, "The Law is an Ass" Minthorn, "Human Remains Should be Reburied"
10/10, M	<i>Columbus Day Holiday</i>	NO CLASS
10/12, W	Lecture: "Mythologizing the Colonial 'Encounter': The Impact on Indigenous People" (M-1-409)	Optional... Hitt, "Mighty White of You"
10/17, M	West and Northwest Coast	NAA: Chapter 3 (Ames)
10/19, W	West Coast	Luby et al. "Shell Mounds and Mounded Landscapes" Arnold and Bernard, "Negotiating the Coasts" Response Paper #3 Due Take-Home Midterm assigned
10/24, M	Southwest: An overview	NAA: Chapter 9 (Hegmon)
10/26, W	Southwest: Chaco Canyon and beyond	NAA: Chapter 10 (Lekson) Van Dyke, "Memory, Meaning, and Masonry" Take-Home Midterm due
10/31, M	Southwest: Mesa Verde and Cannibalism(?)	Billman et al., "Cannibalism, Warfare, and Drought" Dongoske et al., "Critique of the Claim of Cannibalism" Response Paper #4 Due
11/2, W	Plains / Great Basin	NAA: Chapter 7 (Henning)
11/7, M	Archaic Southeast	NAA: Chapter 4 (Sassaman) Gibson, "Navels of the Earth"
11/9, W	Adena and Hopewell	NAA: Chapter 5 (Dancey) Annotated Research Bibliography Topic due <i>Pass/Fail Deadline Tomorrow...</i>

11/14, M	Mississippians	<i>NAA</i> : Chapter 8 (Pauketat)
11/16, W	Mississippians	Cobb, "Mississippian Chiefdoms: How Complex?" Response Paper #5 Due
11/21, M	Northeast	<i>NAA</i> : Chapter 6 (Chilton)
11/23, W	Thanksgiving Holiday begins	NO CLASS
11/28, M	Northeast	Kapches, "The Iroquoian Longhouse"
11/30, W	Northeast	Jones, "Continuity Versus Change"
12/5, M	Contact & Colonialism: Overview	<i>NAA</i> : Chapter 11 (Silliman) <i>NAA</i> : Chapter 12 (Loren) Annotated Research Bibliography due
12/7, W	Contact & Colonialism: New England	Silliman, "Continuity and Change, Practice and Memory"
12/12, M	Contact & Colonialism: West Coast	Lightfoot et al., "Daily Practice and Material Culture" Take-Home Final assigned
12/14, W	Future of North American archaeology	
12/19, M	Finals Period	Take-Home Final due