

Course Title: Great Discoveries in Archaeology – A Global Cultures Flag Course

Spring 2012

ANT 326F (Unique #31355)

EUS 346 2 (Unique #36330)

MWF 9:00-10:00

UTC 3. 134

Instructor: Dr. Mariah F. Wade

Office: SAC 4.142

Office Hours: **M 11:00 – 1:00 PM or by appointment**

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Course Description:

Archaeology shapes the way we understand the human past, and the history of archaeology was shaped by the great discoveries in archaeology and the people who made them. This course surveys the stories and myths behind some of those discoveries as well as the background of the discoverers. In the process we will discuss how they acquired knowledge, formulated hypotheses, and the impact their early discoveries had on the ways we know the world, think about ourselves, and on how archaeology is practiced today. For instance, things that today we take for granted, such as travel agencies and postcards, or how we understand the politics of modern archaeology and our role in them, or the claims of countries for the return of art objects are all connected to the history of archeology and its discoverers.

This course carries the **Global Cultures flag**. Global Cultures courses are designed to increase your familiarity with cultural groups outside the United States. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one non-U.S. cultural group, past or present.

Requirements: Upper division standing or consent of the instructor.

Required Text Books:

1996 or any other edition *Eyewitness to Discovery* edited by Brian Fagan

Frauds, Myths and Mysteries, Science and Pseudoscience in Archaeology Kenneth L. Feder (*most recent edition*).

Both books are available at the UT CO-OP

Feder's textbook has a website

http://higher.ed.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0072869488/information_center_view0/

Supplementary Readings and other materials on Blackboard

Policies and Administrative details

- **Pre-requisites** There are no pre-requisites for this course other than those shown above.
- **Attendance** Attendance is required and absences will result in a lower grade. Attendance will be taken after the first week of classes. Each class
- **Class participation** Students who do not participate in the class discussions will not be penalized, but those who do will be rewarded as their questions and comments will enhance the discussion and benefit everyone.
- **Blackboard** Lecture materials will be placed on Blackboard after the class. Other course materials also will be placed on Blackboard.
- **Test policy** There will be no make-up tests, except when the absence is unavoidable in which case the student is expected to contact me, and I will require proof of the problem.
- **Tests** Exams will include a mixture of short answers, identifications and mini-essays. Fact sheets provided before the exam will include material for questions and topics for the mini-essays.
- **Object Project** Information on the Object Project will be given later in class.
- **Scholastic honesty** Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and the rules of the University of Texas will apply.
University of Texas Honor Code: The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.
- **Plagiarism** You may also want to see these other sites, which include information about plagiarism and how to deal with web sources. Use of web material, particularly text, has to be referenced as completely as if you were dealing with a library book. For more information please visit this site:
<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/services/instruction/learningmodules/plagiarism>
- **Computers** Students have access to the Student Microcomputer Facility (SMF). Please visit this site for more information: <http://www.utexas.edu/smf/>

- **Disabilities** Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone) or <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd>. If you have a disability please let me know at the beginning of classes.
- **Religious Holy Days** By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.
- **Cell phones** Please make sure that your cell phones are turned off while in the classroom.
- According to University Rules any recording of lectures is not permitted, unless the instructor has granted permission.
- **Contact:** You can contact me by **email**, by coming to the **office hours**, or by **appointment**. E-mail is recognized as an official mode of university correspondence; therefore, you are responsible for reading your e-mail for university and course-related information and announcements. You are responsible to keep the university informed about changes to your e-mail address. You should check your e-mail regularly and frequently—I recommend daily, but at minimum twice a week—to stay current with university-related communications, some of which may be time-critical. You can find UT Austin’s policies and instructions for updating your e-mail address at <http://www.utexas.edu/its/help/utmail/1564>
- Emails received after 9:00 pm will not be answered until the following day.
- **Emergency Evacuation Policy** Occupants of buildings on the UT Austin campus are required to evacuate and assemble outside when a fire alarm is activated or an announcement is made. Please be aware of the following policies regarding evacuation: Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of the classroom and the building. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when you entered the building.
- If you require assistance to evacuate, inform me in writing during the first week of class. In the event of an evacuation, follow my instructions. Do not re-enter a building unless you are given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.

Evaluation and Grading:

Tests #1 and # 2: 20 points each. Students can elect to drop, or not to take, one of these 2 tests. Only one test grade counts to the final grade.

Test # 3 -compulsory: 30 points

Object Project - 3 to 5 page length report: = 30 points (clean, typed and double spaced).

Class attendance and participation = 20 points (1/2 point per class; 40 class periods=20 points)

Assignments:

- Reading assignments have to be completed before class.
- There are no make – up tests (see above)
- Class attendance is required

Schedule

Week 1

January 18-20

Introduction

Week 2

January 23-27

Human Origins

Week 3

January 30-February 3

Time is of the essence: Bones, tools and humankind

Week 4

February 6-10

Whose skull is it, anyway?

Week 5

February 13-17

Egypt and the Near East

Week 6

February 20-24

Egypt and Near East

Week 7
February 27- March 2
Egypt and Near East

Week 8
March 5-9
The Aegean

Week 9

Week 9 - March 12-17 Spring Break

Week 10
March 19-23
The Aegean

Week 11
March 26-30
Europe

Week 12
April 2-6
Europe

Week 13
April 9-13
Africa / Asia and Pacific

Week 14
April 16-20
North America

Week 15
April 23-27
South America

Week 16
April 30-May 4 –Last Day of Class

What you should expect to get (and know!) when you finish this course

A sense of history and the importance of archaeology to the understanding of humankind and its achievements and failures

- The history of archaeology and its relevance to modern thought: archaeology helps us to understand how humans leave their footprints in the physical world.**
- The interconnectedness of scientific thought: the history of archaeology is part of the history of geology, paleontology, biology, zoology, geography, political history...**
- The discoverers, their discoveries, and the historical context that affected both.**
- How and why the early history of archaeology raised questions that led to the development of modern archaeological techniques.**
- A synthetic chronology of major archaeological discoveries and events.**
- The politics and reasons that lead modern countries to claim the return of art objects.**
- A deeper understanding of how colonization affected the development of archaeology and archaeological thought, and how the politics of gender directed the ways archaeologists viewed humankind and its achievements.**
- The historical links between archaeology and travel, photography, social media, politics, and spying.**