Introduction to Archaeological Studies: Prehistory
ANT 304
31115; 31120; 31125; 31130

Spring 2013
CLA 0.112
MW 8-9 am

Instructor: Casey Hanson

Office: SAC 4.166
E-mail: cjhanson@utexas.edu
Office Hours: Monday 9-11

TAs:

Ms. Nadya Prociuk
Office: SAC 4.166
E-mail: nprociuk@utexas.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday 12:30-2:00

Ms. Robyn Dodge
Office: SAC 4.192
E-mail: rldodge@utexas.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday 12-2PM (or by appointment)

Lab Sections:
M (31115) 2:00-3:00 pm: SAC 4.174 – Ms. Dodge
T (31120) 2:00-3:00 pm SAC 4.174 – Ms. Prociuk
W (31125) 2:00-3:00 pm SAC 4.174 – Mr. Dodge
TH (31130) 2:00-3:00 pm SAC 4.174 –Ms. Prociuk

I. Course Description:

Archaeology is the study of past cultures and societies through their material remains. This introductory course examines archaeological theory, methods, and techniques to investigate, reconstruct, interpret, preserve, and ultimately, learn from the past. The semester is generally divided into three sections: 1. History of the discipline through theory; 2. Research methods, techniques, and archaeological practices; 3. Major themes in archaeology through case studies. Mondays and Wednesdays are "lecture" classes that will also regularly conclude with short discussions prompted by students' questions about the assigned readings, so the readings must be completed before each lecture. Lab section meetings provide the opportunity for students to engage in the archaeological practices discussed in lecture and the readings. An assignment accompanies each lab session and is turned in for a grade. Three labs are test reviews which are composed of student questions from readings, lectures, and labs.

II. Course Aims and Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history of archaeology as a discipline and how that shaped the theoretical landscape today.
- Display a critical understanding of archaeological theory.
- Achieve a practical understanding of the basic processes and practices of conducting archaeological research: survey, testing, excavation, analysis, and interpretation.
- Display a responsible and professional understanding of ethics in archaeology.
- Understand the core archaeological themes covered in the case studies.
- Develop an understanding of how archaeology makes the past relevant to the present.

III. Readings:

Renfrew, Colin and Paul Bahn
2012 *Archaeology: Theory, Method, and Practice*. Sixth Edition. Thames and Huston, London, U.K.

Supplemental Readings are assigned throughout the semester and appear throughout the syllabus. These readings will be available on blackboard: http://courses.utexas.edu.

IV. Course Structure

Labs:

- There are thirteen lab section meetings, some of which take place outdoors around campus. Announcements for these "in field" labs will be made prior to the assignment, and you are expected to come dressed appropriately (comfortable walking shoes, general hiking attire).

- Lab assignments will be due the following week at the beginning of the lab session. Lab assignments delivered late will suffer an automatic penalty of 50% of the lab grade. Students whose handwriting is very small or difficult to read must type their lab assignments. All students are encouraged to type their labs. Lab assignments sent by email will not be accepted, unless the student has obtained prior consent from the Teaching Assistant in charge of that lab

- Ten labs have assignments that are turned for a grade and make up 40% of the total grade.

- Three labs are used as test reviews that are composed of questions provided by the students. No grades will be assigned for test reviews.

- Lab attendance is mandatory and there will be no make-up lab assignments without a written medical excuse.

- Attending alternative lab sections is highly discouraged and requires permission from the TAs.

Tests:

- There will be three non-cumulative exams throughout the semester each worth 20% of the final grade.
- The exams will be a mix of multiple choice and short essay questions.
- There will be no make-up exams without a written medical excuse.

Evaluation
Lab Assignments: 40%
Test 1: 20%
Test 2: 20%
Test 3: 20%

Grading scale:		
	A	100-90
	B	89-80
	C	79-70
	D	69-60
	F	59 and below

*******NO +/- SYSTEM FOR FINAL GRADES*******

V. Important Class Information

- This syllabus is a contract, and while the schedule is flexible, grades, tests, and assignments will follow the syllabus directly.
- Reading assignments have to be completed before class.
- There are 13 lab sessions, but only 10 will be graded. Attendance to class and labs is required.
- In this class I use Blackboard—a Web-based course management system with password protected access at **http://courses.utexas.edu**. Power Point presentations will be uploaded to Blackboard after the class. You can find support in using Blackboard at the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

VI. Tentative Course Schedule: **This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester**, THOSE PLANS MAY NEED TO CHANGE** to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected**

Date	Main Topic(s)	Readings – to be completed before class
Week 1		
1/14	Introduction to Course: What do archaeologists do and why do we do it?	R&B: 12-18
1/16	History of archaeology as a discipline: Antiquarians and Culture History.	R&B: Ch1: 21-39
No Lab		

Meeting		
Week 2		
1/21	MLK Day-No Class	
1/23	Archaeology as a discipline continued: Processualism and Post-Processualism	R&B: Ch1: 40-48 Binford, Lewis R. 1988 Reviewed work(s): Reading the past: Current Approaches to Interpretation in Archaeology by Ian Hodder. *American Antiquity*, 53(4), 875-876. http://www.assemblage.group.shef.ac.uk/4/4halst8.html
No Lab Meeting		
Week 3		
1/28	Archaeological Survey Methods and Techniques: Background Research, Maps and Mapping, Remote Sensing, and Pedestrian Survey.	R&B: Ch3: 71-98
1/30	Archaeological Survey Methods and Techniques continued: Geophysical Survey, Geochemical Survey, and Geoarchaeological Survey.	R&B: Ch3: 98-103; Ch6: 230-238
Lab 1	Background Research/Survey Lab	http://www.txarch.org/pdf/fieldschool/FS2008_TexSiteForminstructions_2008-10-08.pdf
Week 4		
2/4	Archaeological Evidence, Site Formation Processes, Testing Methodologies.	R&B: Ch2: 48-70
2/6	Excavation: Why we excavate, when we excavate and Research Designs	R&B: Ch4: 104-120
Lab 2	Setting up excavation units and mapping units	
Week 5		
2/11	Excavation techniques: Features, burials, architecture, and deeply buried sites.	R&B: Ch4: 104-120
2/13	Dating Methodologies: Absolute Dating	R&B: Ch5: 128-166
Lab 3	Test Review	
Week 6		
2/18	Dating Methodologies: Relative Dating	R&B Ch5: 121-127
2/20	Test 1	
Lab 4	Relative Dating Lab	
Week 7		
2/25	Technology and Artifact Analysis	R&B: Ch8: 307-332
2/27	Technology and Artifact Analysis continued	R&B: Ch8: 332-346; Ch 9: 355-363
Lab 5	Ceramics Lab	

Week 8		
¾	Interpretation: Environmental Archaeology	R&B: Ch6: 239-253 Rosen, Arlene M. and Isabel Rivera Collazo 2012 Climate change, adaptive cycles, and the persistence of foraging economies during the late Pleistocene/Holocene transition in the Levant. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America Critical Perspectives on Historical Collapse Special Feature*. 3640-3645.
3/6	Interpretation: Subsistence and Diet	R&B: Ch7: 265-306
Lab 6	Pollen Analysis Lab	
Week 9		
3/11	Spring Break-No Class	
3/13	Spring Break-No Class	
No Lab	Spring Break-No Class	
Week 10		
3/18	Interpretation: Bioarchaeology	R&B: Ch11: 421-433; 441-454
3/20	Applying Theory: Explanation	R&B: Ch12: 467-484
Lab 7	Test Review	
Week 11		
3/25	Explanation Continued	R&B: Ch 12: 484-492
3/27	Test 2	
Lab 8	Human Burial Lab	
Week 12		
4/1	Social Complexity	R&B: Ch5: 169-173; 189-222 Kim, Nam C. and Chapurukha M. Kusimba 2008 Pathways to Social Complexity and State Formation in the Southern Zambezian Region, *The African Archaeological Review,* 25(3/4), 131-152.
4/3	Settlement Patterns	R&B: Ch5: 174-188 Wilson, Sam M. 1989 The Prehistoric Settlement Pattern of Nevis, West Indies, *Journal of Field Archaeology* 16(4), 427-450.
Lab 9	*The Perfect Corpse*	
Week 13		
4/8	Cognitive Archaeology	R&B: Ch10: 386-387; 389-416 Denbow, James 1999 Heart and Soul: Glimpses of Idology and Cosmology in the Iconography of Tombstones from Loango Coast of Central Africa, *The Journal of American Folklore:*112(445): 404-423
4/10	Trade and Exchange	R&B: Ch9: 347-354; 363-380 Creel, Darrell 1991 Bison Hides in Late Prehistoric Exchange in the Southern Plains, *American Antiquity:*56(1): 40-49.
Lab 10	Lithics Lab	
Week 14		

4/15	Texas Archaeology	TBA
4/17	Guest Lecturer	TBA
Lab 11	Artifact Distribution Lab	
Week 15		
4/22	Guest Lecturer	TBA
4/25	Cultural Contact: The end of prehistory	Rodríguez-Alegría, Enrique, Hector Neff and Michael D. Glascock 2003 Indigenous Ware or Spanish Import? The Case of Indígena Ware and Approaches to Power in Colonial Mexico. *Latin American Antiquity*, 14(1): 67-81.
Lab 12	Test Review	
Week 16		
4/29	Managing the Past: the Public, Ethics in Archaeology	R&B: Ch14: 535-548; Ch15: 549-566
5/1	Test 3	
Lab 13	Kennewick Man Debate	

VII. 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.

VIII. Academic Integrity

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.

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University of Texas Honor Code. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. For this course, collaboration is allowed in Lab Assignments.

You are encouraged to study together and to discuss information and concepts covered in lecture and the sections with other students. You can give "consulting" help to or receive "consulting" help from such students. However, this permissible cooperation should never involve one student having possession of a copy of all or part of work done by someone else, in the form of an e-mail, an e-mail attachment file, a diskette, or a hard copy.

Should copying occur, both the student who copied work from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will both automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Penalty for violation of this Code can also be extended to include failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

During examinations, you must do your own work. Talking or discussion is not permitted during the examinations, nor may you compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any collaborative behavior during the examinations will result in failure of the exam, and may lead to failure of the course and University disciplinary action.

IX. Other University Notices and Policies

Use of Blackboard in Class

- In this class I use Blackboard—a Web-based course management system with password-protected access at **http://courses.utexas.edu**. Power Point presentations will be uploaded to Blackboard after the class. You can find support in using Blackboard at the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Use of E-mail for Official Correspondence to Students

- All students should become familiar with the University's official e-mail student notification policy. It is the student's responsibility to keep the University informed as to changes in his or her e-mail address. Students are expected to check e-mail on a frequent and regular basis in order to stay current with University-related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time-critical. It is recommended that e-mail be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week. The complete text of this policy and instructions for updating your e-mail address are available at **http://www.utexas.edu/its/help/utmail/1564** .

Documented Disability Statement

Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at (512) 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone). Faculty are not required to provide accommodations without an official accommodation letter from SSD. *(Note to Faculty: Details of a student's disability are confidential. Faculty should not ask questions related to a student's condition or diagnosis when receiving an official accommodation letter.)*

- Please notify me as quickly as possible if the material being presented in class is not accessible (e.g., instructional videos need captioning, course packets are not readable for proper alternative text conversion, etc.).

- Please notify me as early in the semester as possible if disability-related accommodations for field trips are required. Advanced notice will permit the arrangement of accommodations on the given day (e.g., transportation, site accessibility, etc.).

- Contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone) or reference SSD's website for more disability-related information: http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/for_cstudents.php

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)

If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual's behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal.

Q drop Policy

The State of Texas has enacted a law that limits the number of course drops for academic reasons to six (6). As stated in Senate Bill 1231:

> "Beginning with the fall 2007 academic term, an institution of higher education may not permit an undergraduate student a total of more than six dropped courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education, unless the student shows good cause for dropping more than that number."

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 or those of class instructors.

Do not re-enter a building unless you're given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.