INTRODUCTION TO PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY

ANTHROPOLOGY 304 ** ARCHAEOLOGY 301
FALL 2010, MW 11 - 12, WEL 2.246

Instructor*:	Fred Valdez	471-0060 office
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TA contact information (office hours and other data), will be provided at the lab meetings.

Office for TAs: **EPS 2.136**
Phone for TAs: **232-4609**

* Please note that Prof. Valdez and the TAs are available beyond the listed office hours, just ask and make an appointment.

TEXTS: Required – **World Prehistory and Archaeology** by M. Chazan
Chapter assignments are listed on a separate page.

COURSE CONTENT: This course will introduce "Prehistoric Archaeology" beginning with a discussion of the types of archaeology in practice today. A brief history of the discipline will be presented as well as summaries of certain field and analytical techniques.

The major emphasis of the course will be the study of human prehistory. Included in the topics of discussion are human origins, the peopling of the New World, hunters-and-gatherers, plant and animal domestication, the development of complex societies, and the decline of ancient civilizations.

Among the ancient cultures examined in the class are Paleo-Indians of the New World, the Shang of China, the Anasazi of the American Southwest, the Maya and Aztecs of Mesoamerica, and the Inca of Peru. Class lectures and readings will be supplemented by guest lectures, demonstrations/hands-on experience, and films/slides where appropriate.

A schedule of planned topics is presented on a separate (bright color) page. This serves primarily as a guide to the order of topics. The actual amount of time spent on a particular issue or culture will vary according to the needs of the class. Given the available time near the semester's end, we may discuss a case or two of "fantastic" archaeology (for example, the story of Atlantis or the "evidence" for extra-terrestrial presence/influence in ancient times, etc.).

COURSE GRADING: Evaluation in this course will be through five tests. The five (5) tests and please note that there are **NO MAKE-UPS** since the lowest grade will be dropped after all five (5) tests have been taken. The top four (4) scores are averaged to equal 90% of your grade. **IF** special circumstances require a "make-up" test, the new test will be evaluated with an automatic 10 point reduction. The 10% balance of the course grade is based upon participation in the lab component section. The lab component may be hands-on activities as well as films, etc. There are **NO MAKE-UP Lab classes**. *If you miss three (3) or more lab sessions, you automatically receive a "F" for the lab component. An "F" for the lab component also means an "F" for the course, regardless of your class average.*

Tests are multiple choice, true-false, and fill-in-the-blank. The tests are not cumulative, there is no "final exam" for this course. When tests are returned, any questions or need of modification to the evaluation must be done within two class meetings of the returned test. Test results will not be reevaluated at the end of the semester. Any questions, confusion about the course grading, etc. should be clarified/settled with Prof. Valdez as soon as possible.

ANTHROPOLOGY 304 -- ARCHAEOLOGY 301
FALL 2010 -- SCHEDULE OF CLASSES*

Dates	Topics, Subjects, Tests, Readings
Aug. 25 – Sept. 15	Introduction, Hist. of Archaeology, Human Origins, etc. Read: Chaps. **1, 2, 3, 4**
September 6	Labor Day holiday – No Class Meeting
September 15	**Test 1**
Sept. 20 – Oct. 6	Early Societies, Neolithic, Domestication, etc. Read: Chaps. **5, 6, 7**
October 6	**Test 2**
Oct. 11 – Oct. 27	Farmers, Complex Society, etc. Read: Chapter **8, 9**
October 27	**Test 3**
Nov. 1 – Nov. 17	Civilizations, State Organizations, etc. Read: Chaps. **10, 11, 12**
November 17	**Test 4**
Nov. 22 – Dec. 1	Other Archaeologies, Fantastic Archaeology, etc.
November 24	No Class Meeting
November 25 - 26	Thanksgiving holiday Read: Chapter **13**
December 1	**Test 5**

*This schedule is an approximation of dates for topics, tests, etc. Any significant changes will be announced as early as possible. Included within the schedule is the showing of films, slides, guest presentations, and any other activities deemed appropriate for this course.