



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE - FALL 2020

**AN2060 (A2): Introduction to Archaeology – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Shawn Morton, PhD  
**OFFICE:** C-402  
**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment

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**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

Basic principles of archaeology. Introduction to the nature, methods, and theory of anthropological archaeology, i.e. how archaeological remains are located, recovered, and interpreted. Emphasis in this course is on the principles of reconstruction of past societies from archaeological evidence.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** None

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Bahn, Paul & Colin Renfrew (2018) *Archaeology Essentials: Theories, Methods, and Practice*, 4th Ed. Thames & Hudson.

**FALL 2020 DELIVERY:** Remote Delivery. This course is delivered remotely. There are no face-to-face or onsite requirements. Students must have a computer with a webcam and reliable internet connection. Technological support is available through [helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca).

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

**After completion of this course, you will:**

- have a broad knowledge of how archaeological research is conducted.
- understand why and how archaeologists formulate research questions.
- Understand the ways in which they go about answering these questions.

**TRANSFERABILITY:** UA, UC, UL, AU, AF, CU, CUC, KUC, GMU

**\*Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide at <http://transferalberta.alberta.ca/transfer-alberta-search/#/audienceTypeStep>

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Assessment	Weight
8 reading quizzes, 5 points each, for 40 points total	20%
4 assignments, 25 points each, for 100 points total	50%
Final exam for 60 points total	30%
Total = 200 points	100%
Note: All points are weighted equally for 200 points total.	
Extra credit for up to 10 points	5%

**Reading Quizzes (8 reading quizzes at 5 points each for 40 points total)**

You will be given 8 reading quizzes covering your syllabus and chapters in our textbook throughout the semester. Each quiz will consist of a small number of questions (multiple choice, matching, etc.) and are intended to encourage you to keep up with your readings. Individual quizzes are not worth a whole lot of points in the grand scheme of things, but cumulatively, they add up; don't let them slip past you! **Reading Quizzes are to be completed on our myClass page, and will open Mondays at 8 am of the week assigned and close Sundays at 11:59 pm (see due dates on schedule).**

**Assignments (4 assignments at 25 points each for 100 points total)**

You will complete four minor assignments over the course of the semester. These assignments are intended to serve two primary purposes. First, they are intended to highlight the dynamic and developing possibilities within archaeological research and public dissemination. Second, they are intended to get you to engage critically and creatively with the materials that archaeologists produce (by writing short travelogues, reports, etc.). While the requirements of these assignments vary significantly with the topics covered and resources available, they are each intended to give you an opportunity to explore some of the various topics that archaeologists grapple with (their methods and subjects) in a less structured context. These are supposed to be fun, so jump in and enjoy! **Assignments are to be completed on our myClass page, and will open Mondays at 8 am of the week assigned and close Sundays at 11:59 pm (see due dates on schedule). Don't worry, no prep work is required!**

**Final Exam (60 points total)**

You will have a scheduled final exam in this class, HOWEVER, your exam WILL NOT require you to be physically present at the college. This Exam will invoke concepts that are foundational to the discipline of archaeology, it will build on the material covered throughout the course. Your final exam will be worth 60 points and consist of an essay question and response that will be provided in advance. **Your final is to be completed on our myClass page, and will open on the Monday (at 8 am) of the last week of scheduled classes. The exam is due and will close by 11:59 pm on the date scheduled by the registrar. Your instructor will let you know when this information is available.**

**Note:** I do NOT provide study guides. Significant quantities of research have served to demonstrate that it is not in a student's best interest to be provisioned with a study guide by the instructor. You may not like it, but the reality is that production of your own study guide is an important studying technique in its own right. Like eating vegetables, this is for your own good. That being said, you are encouraged to ask questions in class and to approach me in office hours for guidance. Although this isn't a course where you need to memorize a lot of information, you do need to be familiar with what we've covered and where you can find it. Use the tables of objectives included in each module to structure your study guide.

**Extra Credit (up to 10 points)**

Extra credit is as stated, extra points above and beyond your regular class assignments. These points are somewhat easy to acquire, but in order to receive any point you must do exactly as asked. Opportunities for extra credit (worth 5 points each) will be announced throughout the semester.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

## COURSE SCHEDULE AND TIMELINE:

Week	Date	Topic(s)	Format	Reading(s)
1	Sep. 2	Introduction to course.	Zoom	Syllabus
Homework:		Reading Quiz 1 - Due Sep. 6, 11:59 pm		
2.1	Sep. 7	Labour Day - No Classes		
<b>Module 1: What is Archaeology?</b>				
2.2	Sep. 9	Archaeology as anthropology.	Zoom	
3.1	Sep. 14	The history of archaeology.	Zoom	Chapter 1
3.2	Sep. 16		On Your Own	
Homework:		Reading Quiz 2 - Due Sep. 20, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 2: What is Left?</b>				
4.1	Sep. 21	Taphonomy and the nature of archaeological evidence.	Zoom	Chapter 2
4.2	Sep. 23		On Your Own	
Homework:		Assignment 1 - Due Sep. 27, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 3: Where?</b>				
5.1	Sep. 28	Survey and excavation.	Zoom	Chapter 3
5.2	Sep. 30		On Your Own	
Homework:		Reading Quiz 3 - Due Oct. 4, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 4: When?</b>				
6.1	Oct. 5	Dating methods and chronology.	Zoom	Chapter 4
6.2	Oct. 7		On Your Own	
Homework:		Reading Quiz 4 - Due Oct. 11, 11:59 pm		
7.1	Oct. 12	Thanksgiving - No Classes		
7.2	Oct. 14	Fall Break - No Classes		
<b>Module 5: How were Societies Organized?</b>				
8.1	Oct. 19	Social archaeology.	Zoom	Chapter 5
8.2	Oct. 21		On Your Own	
Homework:		Assignment 2 - Due Oct. 25, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 6: How did People Support Themselves?</b>				
9.1	Oct. 26	Environment, subsistence, and diet.	Zoom	Chapter 6
9.2	Oct. 28		On Your Own	
Homework:		Reading Quiz 5 - Due Nov. 1, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 7: How did Technology Develop? How did it Spread?</b>				
10.1	Nov. 2	Technology, trade, and exchange.	Zoom	Chapter 7
10.2	Nov. 4		On Your Own	
Homework:		Assignment 3 - Due Nov. 8, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 8: What were People Like?</b>				
11.1	Nov. 9	The bioarchaeology of people.	Zoom	Chapter 8
11.2	Nov. 11	Remembrance Day - No Classes		
Homework:		Reading Quiz 6 - Due Nov. 15, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 9: What did People Think?</b>				
12.1	Nov. 16	Cognitive archaeology.	Zoom	Chapter 9
12.2	Nov. 18		On Your Own	
Homework:		Reading Quiz 7 - Due Nov. 22, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 10: Why did Things Change?</b>				
13.1	Nov. 23	Explanation in archaeology.	Zoom	Chapter 10
13.2	Nov. 25		On Your Own	
Homework:		Reading Quiz 8 - Due Nov. 29, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 11: Whose Past is it Anyway?</b>				
14.1	Nov. 30	The ethics of archaeological inquiry.	Zoom	Chapter 11
14.2	Dec. 2		On Your Own	
Homework:		Assignment 4 - Due Dec. 6, 11:59 pm		
<b>Module 12: How do we Future-Proof the Past?</b>				
15.1	Dec. 7	Heritage management.	Zoom	Chapter 12
15.2	Dec. 9		On Your Own	
Final Exam - Due Date TBD				

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Late Assignment/Make-up Policy: You are expected to follow the schedule as posted and **late assignments will not be accepted**, except with permission of the instructor. Contrary to a popular idiom, it is always better to ask for permission than forgiveness; if you know that you are going to miss a deadline, please let your instructor know in advance.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance will not be taken, and no part of your grade is directly tied to attendance/participation. You are paying good money for this class and committing a significant amount of time to it. In order to get the most for your money and effort, **attendance is strongly encouraged**.

Classroom Climate Expectations: In order to create and maintain a safe and productive learning environment in the classroom, standards of behaviours are expected as follows:

1. **Listen** attentively and **take notes**.
2. **Communicate** clearly and actively when asking questions or during discussions.
3. **Be respectful** when asking questions/discussing topics with everyone.
4. **Refrain** from excessive talking or use of technology for **NONACADEMIC PURPOSES**. You are supposed to be in class, so **BE IN CLASS**.
5. **Keep your mic muted** unless directly interacting with the class. Kids and pets are welcome, but please be mindful of disrupting your classmates.

If you choose to violate the above expectations, either once or repeatedly the following consequences will be enforced:

1. Verbal warning
2. Mandatory meeting after class/in office hours, or
3. Request to leave class immediately for that day, or
4. Dropping from the class roster (i.e. mandatory withdrawal from the class), or
5. More significant official action (only if repeated warnings and interventions and unsuccessful).

A Note on Netiquette: Some topics that we'll be covering in this course may be difficult/controversial for some people. When interacting with your classmates online during class time, students are expected to be considerate and respectful. This does not mean that you need to agree with all of the views/opinions expressed, but note that there is a difference between being critical or engaging in a productive conversation, and being confrontational or abusive.

## **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the section on Plagiarism and Cheating in the College policy titled Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic at (<https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=68>).

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments.