

ANTH 2030 – ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE



INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Ben Davies

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Office hours: Tuesday 11 am – 12 pm MST and Wednesday 2 – 3 pm MST (via Zoom)

COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS: Our knowledge of variation in prehistoric human behavior is based almost exclusively on archaeological analyses of the physical remains left behind by ancient peoples. This course reviews the history, goals, theories, and methods of archaeological research, with a focus on archaeological methods derived from the natural sciences. Substantive examples are drawn from a diverse set of time periods and geographical locations. **Students will gain the basic skills needed to explain key methods, evaluate archaeological research, and reconstruct past human behavior from its material remains.**

LECTURES: This class is online and asynchronous. Each week, I will post a series of 20-30 minute mini-lectures with the expectation that students will view them throughout the week as their schedules permit. There will be lectures covering the textbook content and additional context, and occasional guest lectures by experts in that week’s method. A weekly quiz based on these lectures and your readings will also be posted and must be completed by 11:59 pm MST each Sunday.

COURSE MATERIALS: Throughout the semester, you are assigned book chapters from the class textbook (see below), as well as peer-reviewed publications pertinent to the week’s topic. PDFs of these articles will be posted each week and can be downloaded from Canvas.

Textbook: Price, T.D. and K.J. Knudson. 2018. *Principles of Archaeology*, 2nd ed. Thames & Hudson, London.

Office Hours: Two, one hour-long Zoom office hours will be held each week; one on **Tuesdays at 11 am – 12 pm MST** and the other on **Wednesdays at 2 – 3 pm MST**. Please come with any questions about course materials, assignments, or logistics. I am here to help you learn and succeed!

GRADING: Your grade in this class is based upon several items – weekly quizzes, two writing assignments/activities, and two tests (a midterm and final exam).

Weekly Quizzes	30%	Weekly quizzes will be based on lectures and readings and must be completed by 11:59 pm MST each Sunday to receive credit. Quizzes will be in multiple choice format. Using notes and readings is encouraged!
Tests	30%	You will have two tests – a midterm and final exam. These will cover lectures and readings. Tests will consist of several short answer/paragraph questions. The midterm covers material through week 6. The final exam is cumulative. Using notes and readings is encouraged! Midterm is due by 11:59 pm MST on October 10th. Final exam is due by 11:59 pm MST Dec 17th.
Writing assignments	40%	You will have two “Archaeology Project” assignments (these are projects found in your textbook at the end of each chapter.) CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE! Select any two of these projects and submit them by 11:59 pm MST December 9th.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

WEEK DAYS	LECTURES	READINGS
1 8/23-27	Course Introduction Intro to Arch, History of Arch, Arch Interpretation	Preface Ch. 1, 2, 3
2 8/30-9/3	Archaeological questions and the record	Ch. 4, 5
3 9/6-10	Ethics, preservation, and public outreach	Ch. 16 Douglass 2019

4	9/13-17	Fieldwork Guest Lectures: Dr. Shannon Boomgarden	Ch. 6
5	9/20-24	Artifact classification and conservation Guest Lecture: Dr. Simon Bickler	Ch. 7 Bickler 2021
6	9/27-10/1	Dating	Ch. 8
7	10/4-8	Geoarchaeology, geomorphology, stratigraphy MIDTERM (finish by 11:59 pm MST on 10/10)	Ch. 9 Ward and Larcombe 2003
8	10/11-15	FALL BREAK	
9	10/18-22	Lithic analysis Guest Lecture: Dr. Sam Lin	Ch. 10 Lin et al. 2017; Holdaway and Douglass 2012
10	10/25-29	Ceramic analysis Guest Lecture: Dr. Josh Emmitt	Ch. 11 Emmitt 2020

11	11/1-11/5	Archaeobotany	Ch. 12 Esteban et al. 2017
12	11/8-12	Zooarchaeology Guest Lectures: Dr. Tyler Faith	Ch. 13 Faith et al. 2019
13	11/15-19	Bioarchaeology	Ch. 14 Larsen 2002; Franklin and Wilson 2020
14	11/21-22	Archaeochemistry Guest lecture: Dr. Alex Greenwald Note: this is a short week. Take a breather!	Ch. 15 Greenwald et al 2016
15	11/29-12/3	Synthesizing archaeological data	
16	12/6-12/10	ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECTS (due by 11:59 pm MST Dec 9 th)	
17	12/13-12/17	FINAL EXAM (finish by 11:59 pm MST on 12/17)	

Communication: I am committed to providing timely feedback and support to help you succeed in this class. Please note, however, that with a class this size, it is not practical or possible to answer emails immediately. *I will do my best to respond to emails within two business days.* Please plan accordingly. Emails, in this context, are professional correspondence and should use appropriate language and greetings. **Please include “ANTH 2030” in your email subject line.** If you have questions that require more than a short answer, please attend office hours. I can better explain course material or resolve logistical problems face to face (virtually).

DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

ADA Statement: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

Wellness Statement: Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student’s ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness (www.wellness.utah.edu; 801-581-7776).

Student Code: (Policy 6-400) All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code (<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>). Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in §II of the Code. The Code also specifies standards of behavior (§III) and academic conduct (§V). “Students must adhere to generally accepted standards of academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, research misconduct, misrepresenting one’s work, and/or inappropriately collaborating” (§VB). According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.

Incomplete Policy: An “I” will only be given for work not completed because of circumstances beyond the student’s control, providing the student is passing the course and needs to complete 20% or less of the work. Valid reasons for an “I” grade include: (a) An illness (documented by a

medical statement) that precludes the ability of the student to perform; (b) an accident or situation that prevents the student from physically being present (documentation may be required); (c) Extreme emotional or other mental circumstances that are severe enough to interfere with a student's normal academic performance. If you do receive an "I", do not register for the course again. You must complete the required work in the time agreed by you and the instructor. If the work is not completed within one year, the grade will change to an "E". Faculty will not accept additional work to change the grade after that one-year period. If student's have a problem with a course, it must be dealt with immediately. It is the student's responsibility to contact instructors and submit necessary forms. If students delay, there may be nothing that the Department or University can do.

Repeating a Course: Any course taken at the University may be repeated. If you wish to attend a class again, you must register for it and pay tuition for that semester. Note that some courses may be taught infrequently or discontinued.

Note: The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification.