



Archaeology - ANTH& 204 - On-Line
Bellevue College
Summer Quarter 2012
Syllabus



IT'S NOT WHAT YOU FIND; IT'S WHAT YOU FIND OUT!

David Hurst Thomas

Welcome to Archaeology!

What is it like to go on a dig and do archaeology? What does one typically find on a dig? Why do archaeologists dig? How do we know where to dig? How do we know how old something is and from where it comes? What makes archaeology a science? How are we able to piece together the past from fragmentary remains? Why do archaeologists sometimes choose not to dig? How do you become an archaeologist?

Stay tuned to find out the answers to these questions and more!

What topics are covered in this course?

We'll look at the kinds of remains that archaeologists find and how we classify them. We'll study why some types of remains are more common than others and why. We'll learn how archaeology developed as the premiere science to understand the past. We'll look at how archaeologists conduct fieldwork and how we determine how old something is. The methods and theories that archaeologists use will be discussed as well. Theoretical issues will be illustrated with world-wide examples. Much first-hand information about ancient Mesoamerica will be offered through two archaeology blogs, as well as a personal account of the rewards and challenges of conducting archaeological fieldwork.

Who is teaching this course?

I'm Dr. Nancy Gonlin, a Mesoamerican archaeologist, specializing in the ancient cultures of the Aztec, Maya, and many other peoples of Mexico and Central America. *Hablo Español*. I have a Ph.D. in anthropology from Penn State and I am a registered professional archaeologist (RPA). I've got lots of teaching experience: 14 years at BC and 26 years in total. Theoretically, my research examines households, gender and class, ritual, tropical rainforest biomes, and human-environment relations. My fieldwork has focused primarily on Latin America since the 1980s, and I have traveled extensively around the globe. Later this year, I'll be visiting India and Brazil. Here I am pictured at one of the thousand ruins in Egypt. I hope you take the opportunity to visit the exhibit on King Tut at the Pacific Science Center. If you are Interested in the exciting field of archaeology, come in & talk with me!



What textbook are we using for Archaeology?

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Ashmore, Wendy and Robert J. Sharer

2010 *Discovering Our Past: A Brief Introduction to Archaeology*, 5th edition. McGraw-Hill, Boston.

USE THE ISBN NUMBER WHEN ORDERING: 978-0-07-353099-4.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU BUY THE **FIFTH** EDITION OF THIS TEXTBOOK. PLEASE BE SURE TO GET THE CORRECT ONE.

How do you contact your professor?

Contact information: The best way to get in contact with me is through our Blackboard Vista class mail. I will check it regularly.

In an emergency, you can send me an e-mail: nan.gonlin@bellevuecollege.edu. Be sure to provide your full name, course number & section, and contact information in such circumstances and the nature of your crisis. I will be out of the office most of summer, so please do not call my office as I may not receive your message.

Course Catalog Description

Finding and digging sites is just the beginning of unearthing the past. Archaeologists are scientists who specialize in survey and excavation as well as analysis and interpretation of ancient and historical remains. The methods, techniques, and goals of archaeology are highlighted to provide a basis on which to understand the rich record of the past.

What are the course Learning Outcomes for Archaeology?

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the scope, applications, history, and current practices of the field of archaeology.
2. Recognize, identify, and employ the scientific method in archaeology, and to distinguish coherent arguments based on such principles from other claims.
3. Describe how archaeological studies reveal characteristics of cultural behavior (technological, organizational, and ideological) and explain how those behaviors have changed through time.
4. Comprehend how archaeologists go about collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and applying their data to resolve questions of cultural evolution.
5. Explain the relevance of archaeology to global issues and cultural diversity.

What are the General Education ratings for Archaeology?

This course fulfills the following General Education Requirements with a rating of "2" or "3".

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| * Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Problem Solving | *Quantitative/Logical Reasoning |
| * Historical & Intellectual Perspectives | * Cultural Diversity |
| * Nature of Science | * Technology and Society |

What is the rhythm of this summer class?

READ THIS SECTION VERY CAREFULLY. IF YOU CANNOT ADJUST YOUR SCHEDULE TO THE RHYTHM OF THE CLASS, YOU WILL HAVE A VERY DIFFICULT TIME SUCCEEDING IN THIS COURSE.

The on-line class has a very different rhythm from on-campus classes, **especially during the summer**, and each on-line course is different from other on-line courses. In this class, the first day of the 'on-line week' begins on a Monday morning at 12:01 AM and runs until a Sunday night at 11:59 PM when all work for that week must be completed, regardless of holidays, vacations, work, etc.

There are five major components to the course: 1) reading the textbook; 2) 'attending' the PowerPoint lectures; 3) discussions; 4) quizzes; and 5) a final comprehensive exam.

- 1) Reading the Textbook: it will be extremely difficult to pass this course without reading the textbook. It is up to you to decide the best time to complete each week's assigned readings.
- 2) 'Attending' the PowerPoint lectures: For each major week of the course, there are accompanying PowerPoint lectures that you can download and/or print. Additional information and resources are contained in these lectures, which are similar to those given in the on-campus version of this course. The slides are not narrated.
- 3) Accessing the MATRIX websites for additional archaeology information. They are listed in the overviews for each week.
- 4) Discussions: There are three main parts to discussions. First, you must do an initial commentary (your analysis and scientific consideration about the discussion) by Friday morning, at 9:00 AM. After this first step of discussion, you are required to read at least half of the postings of your peers. Third, each student is to reply to a minimum of two (2) different postings of other students' initial commentaries by the end of the on-line week by Sunday, by 11:59 PM. You are NOT allowed to comment on other students' postings before Friday morning at 9:00 AM. Early replies will not count for points. All replies must be submitted between Friday 9:00 AM to Sunday 11:59 PM for credit.
- 5) Quizzes: Each quiz opens on a Thursday morning at 12:01 AM and closes on a Sunday night at 11:59 PM. There are 50 multiple choice questions in each of the three quizzes.
- 6) Final Comprehensive Exam: The final exam is comprehensive and covers all course materials. It will consist of multiple choice questions. It will be due no later than the first official day of final exams by 11:59 pm., Thursday, August 9.

How can students be environmentally-friendly?

Student Eco-Conduct: Students are expected to make decisions that have the smallest environmental impact while maximizing student learning. This includes:

- Think before printing documents for this class, adjust printable margins, print double sided & reuse paper for scratch paper.
- Turn in papers electronically or when necessary turn in printed assignments double sided, single spaced and using small margins of at least .75 inches.
- Recycle all paper, bottles and cans.
- Adjust the power settings on your computer so the monitor and CPU will sleep after 20 minutes of inactivity and turn off all electronic devices such as computers and printers, when you are finished with them.

What are the requirements for this course? How will you be assessed?

The Syllabus and Course Materials: You are required to review this syllabus, course materials, and the Procedures and Guidelines of the Social Science Division. Enrollment in the course constitutes an agreement to abide by the policies set forth in these items. Please review these materials carefully and be aware of ALL deadlines since they are non-negotiable.

Reading: It is absolutely essential that you read the textbook and assigned articles. You are responsible for your own learning and should take a vested interest in doing the best you can.

'Attending' PowerPoint lectures: Additional course information is available in a series of lectures that you can view on-line or print as you wish (see eco-statement above). These lectures are very similar to those provided on campus and serve to enhance material in the textbook.

Accessing the MATRIX websites: These websites contain modules with additional information about archaeology.

Discussions: In order to mimic the on-campus classroom environment, this course will involve discussions with your classmates. For each section, there will be discussion question(s) to consider, reading of your peers' postings, and two replies to contribute. Posting of your initial commentary, reading others' posts, and responding to others is critical for classroom participation and for excelling on quizzes. 25 points X 3 discussions = 75 points.

Quizzes: A major part of your course grade will be derived from three quizzes. Questions are derived from assigned readings, class 'lectures', handouts, discussions, and any other instructional material presented in class. It is in your best interest to be prepared and to complete each quiz in the allotted time and by each deadline. 100 points X 3 quizzes = 300 points.

Final Exam: A comprehensive final exam will be administered at the end of the quarter. It is due no later than the first day of the final exam period at 11:59 pm., Thursday, August 11. 200 points.

What accommodations for disabilities does the college have?

If you require accommodations based on a documented disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need assistance in case of emergency evacuation please let me know by Vista mail as soon as possible. I will require a notification from the Disability Resource Center in order to provide you with appropriate accommodation. If you would like to inquire about becoming a DRC student, please call 425-564-2498, or visit the DRC office in B132. Please let me know how I can help you; I'll be glad to do so.

What materials are covered on quizzes and when is each due?

PLEASE NOTE: NO LATE EXAMS OR ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR ANY REASON.

ASSESSMENT	DATES AVAILABLE	MATERIALS COVERED ON QUIZ
QUIZ #1 Weeks 1 & 2	Available: July 5 - July 8 DUE: Sunday, July 8 by 11:59 pm	All lectures in Weeks 1 & 2 Textbook Chapters 1, 2, 3 Syllabus & other Course Materials Any Assigned Articles Discussion #1
QUIZ #2 Week 3 & 4	Available: July 19 - July 22 DUE: Sunday, July 22 by 11:59 pm	All lectures in Weeks 3 & 4 Textbook Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7 Any Assigned Articles Discussion #2
QUIZ #3 Weeks 5 & 6	Available: August 2 - August 5 DUE: Sunday, by 11:59 pm	All lectures in Weeks 5 & 6 Textbook Chapters 8, 9, 10 Any Assigned Articles Discussion #3
FINAL EXAM	Available, Sunday, August 5 - Thursday, August 9 DUE: Thursday, August 9 by 11:59 pm	All course materials 100 multiple choice questions

How many points make up your grade?

Assessment	Quantity	Value	% of Grade
Quizzes	3 at 100 points each	300	52%
Discussions	3 at 25 points each	75	13%
Final Exam	1 at 200 points	200	35%
TOTAL		575	100%

When and where can you get your final grade for this course?

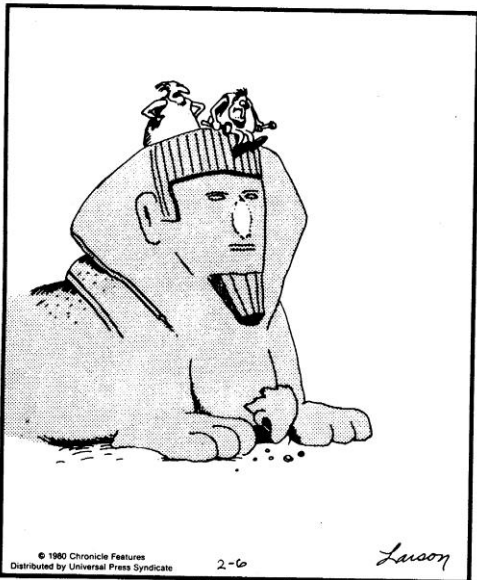
Students must complete all course requirements within the quarter in which the student enrolled before a final course grade will be issued. "Official grades are available approximately one week after the quarter ends. There are several ways to learn your grades: 1. BC website: www.bellevuecollege.edu/services/schedule.asp; 2. Kiosk in the Student Services Building or the Campus Information Center; 3. In person at the Student Service Center."

What is the scale for final grade calculations in this course?

Course Grade	Decimal	Percentage Scale	Corresponding Point Value
A	4.0	92-100%	529-575 points
A-	3.7	90-91%	517-528 points
B+	3.3	88-89%	506-516 points
B	3.0	82-87%	471-505 points
B-	2.7	80-81%	460-470 points
C+	2.3	78-79%	448-459 points
C	2.0	72-77%	414-447 points
C-	1.7	70-71%	402-413 points
D+	1.3	68-69%	391-401 points
D	1.0	50%-67%	287-390 points
F	0	<50%	0-286 points

How does an archaeologist explain the current condition of the Great Sphinx in Giza, Egypt? Write down your answer now, and then revisit this question at the end of the quarter.

FAR SIDE



"That's fine," I said. "Good nose," I said. But no, you had to go and hit the chisel one more time."

