

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
ANTH 2137 FAO Fundamentals of Archaeology
Fall 2019

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:30-10:00 am
OA 2006

Instructor: Dr Timothy Kaiser

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: OA 3008
Office Hours: M-Th, by appointment
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Phone Number: 705.330.4008 ext 2611
Supplementary Course Website: Desire2Learn



COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to modern archaeological methods. Topics include: chronometric dating, archaeological survey and excavation techniques, artifact analysis, environmental archaeology (archaeobotany, geoarchaeology and zooarchaeology), ethnoarchaeology, social archaeology, cognitive archaeology, and the archaeology of ethnicity.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Prerequisite(s): Anthropology 1032 or permission of the instructor

<http://navigator.lakeheadu.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&topicgroupid=9634&entitytype=CID&entityid=57723&loadusercredits=False>

SUPPLEMENTARY COURSE DESCRIPTION

For the most part archaeologists engage in the scientific, systematic study of past human behavior, which they infer or reconstruct from the material remains of the past. The recovery of ancient material remains (usually through excavation) has led to some remarkable discoveries about the human past. This half-course introduces you to the methods and theories of archaeology – the fundamental concepts and practices that structure all archaeological research.

Using tangible evidence, the material traces of past behaviors or events, archaeologists piece together an understanding of ancient peoples. How is this done? How is the leap made from mute objects to a vivid depiction of life long ago and far away?

This course looks at how information about the past is preserved, how it is recovered, and how it is interpreted. Topics covered include fieldwork, artifact analysis, dating techniques, environmental reconstruction, settlement analysis, and the explanation of change. How do archaeologists deal with topics ranging from the origin of humans to the rise of civilizations? This course surveys their experiences and contributions.

Active learning is encouraged in this course. To that end, students are expected to participate in fieldwork exercises on campus. These exercises will teach methods of excavation and observation and will take place in September-October, weather and other circumstances permitting. *On field days class will start at 8 a.m.* Details to follow.

COURSE OUTCOMES

By the end of this course you will be able to:

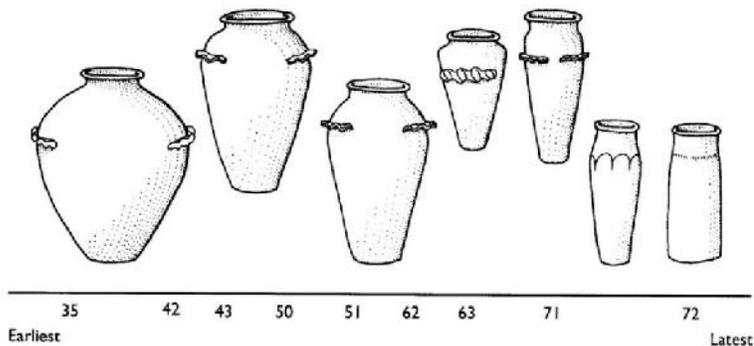
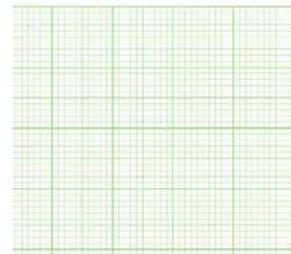
- demonstrate a practical and conceptual understanding of archaeological method and theory
- articulate general and specific levels of knowledge of the nature of archaeological inquiry
- critically evaluate existing research results and methods of archaeologists present and past

REQUIRED MATERIALS

T. Douglas Price & Kelly J. Knudson, (2018) *Principles of Archaeology*, 2nd ed. New York: Thames and Hudson.

Leah McCurdy (ed.) (2018) *Active Archaeology Notebook*. New York: Thames and Hudson.

Millimeter graph paper (Has faint lines making 1-cm squares subdivided by 1-mm lines. DO NOT use quadrille paper divided into 1/4-inch squares. Archaeology is metric!)



EVALUATION

Component	Value	Date
<p>Assignments</p> <p>Set A. From the Active Archaeology Notebook, choose <u>two</u> assignments involving various aspects of archaeological practice from among the following</p> <p>3 – Garbology 4 – On-the-ground 6 – Human time 7 – Store typology</p>	20%	Oct 24
<p>Set B. From the Active Archaeology Notebook, choose <u>two</u> assignments involving various aspects of archaeological practice from among the following</p> <p>8 – Campus complexity 13 – Head aches 15 – Clocking change 16 – Seek and you shall find</p>	20%	Nov 26
<p>Set C. ‘Sandbox 101.’ A field exercise in the recovery and analysis of mock archaeological data. Your participation in and conduct of archaeological fieldwork as well as your analysis of the specific problem set will be evaluated (see rubrics)</p>	25%	Nov 12
<p>Participation.</p>	10%	Continuous
<p>Final examination. Date and time TBA, the final examination will be take-home and will consist of short, essay-answer questions.</p>	25%	TBA

Important Dates:

Fall Study Break: Monday October 14 - Friday October 18. No classes.

Final Day to Drop This Course: Friday November 8, 2019

Exam Period: Thursday, December 5, 2019 - Sunday, December 15, 2019 (11 days) **DO NOT SCHEDULE VACATION TRAVEL UNTIL AFTER THE EXAM DATES FOR YOUR COURSES HAVE BEEN SET.**

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/enrolment-services/timetables>
IF APPROPRIATE, TELL YOUR PARENTS/GUARDIANS!



ANTH 2137 FAO Fundamentals of Archaeology 2019 Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to modification as circumstances require.

Week	Date		Topic and readings
1	Sep 3	1	Introduction to the course
	Sep 5	2	Introducing some archaeologists Price & Knudson (2018) <i>Principles of Archaeology</i> , Ch. 1-2.
2	Sep 10	3	Archaeological questions <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 4
	Sep 12	4	The archaeological record <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 5
3	Sep 17	5	Introduction to field survey and excavation <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 6
	Sep 19	6	Fieldwork practicum begins Early start at 8 am for all fieldwork. Dress appropriately. Fieldwork will end in time for you to clean up before your next class. If it is raining —more than a drizzle— we will meet in the classroom at 8:30.
			
4	Sep 24	7	Fieldwork practicum
	Sep 26	8	Fieldwork practicum
5	Oct 1	9	Fieldwork practicum
	Oct 3	10	Fieldwork practicum ends
6	Oct 8	11	Classification <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 7
	Oct 10	12	Dating <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 8
	Oct 15-18		STUDY BREAK
7	Oct 22	13	Dating, continued Richter, D. et al. (2017) The age of the hominin fossils from Jebel Irhoud, Morocco, and the origins of the Middle Stone Age. <i>Nature</i> 646 (7657)

	Oct 24	14	Geoarchaeology <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 9 Assignments in Set A due.
8	Oct 29	15	Lithic analysis <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 10
	Oct 31	16	Ceramic analysis <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 11
9	Nov 5	17	Archaeobotany <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 12
	Nov 7	18	Archaeozoology <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 13
10	Nov 12	19	Bioarchaeology <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 14 Assignment Set C. "Sandbox 101" write-up due.
	Nov 14	20	Archaeological chemistry <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 15
11	Nov 19	21	Interpretation <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 3
	Nov 21	22	Social systems and ancient cultures C. Renfrew and P. Bahn (2018) <i>Archaeology Essentials</i> , Ch 5. How were societies organized? (Library Reserve)
12	Nov 26	23	Ethics <i>Principles</i> , Ch. 16 Assignments in Set B due.
	Nov 28	24	Conclusion

COURSE POLICIES

It is your responsibility to attend classes and to do the readings. Regular absences will seriously affect your grade in this course.

- Your participation in the fieldwork exercises, which will be conducted on campus but outside the classroom, is expected and required on the dates indicated in the Course Schedule or amendments. On these days we will start at 8 a.m., and finish in time for you to clean up before your next class. It is recommended that you give some thought to wearing weather- and terrain-appropriate clothing. Expect to get a little dirty. In case of moderate to heavy rain (but not light drizzle) we will not meet outside, but in the regular classroom instead.
- To aid your review, Powerpoint slides from lectures and other course material will be posted at regular intervals.
- In case of un-excused lateness, submissions will have 2% deducted from the mark for every day of lateness. No assignment that is more than ten days late will be accepted.



ACCOMMODATIONS

Student Affairs (Orillia) coordinates services and facilitates reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Academic accommodations are provided on the basis of documentation of a disability. Additional information is available at the following campus website:

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-services/accessibility/>

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

The University takes a most serious view of offences against academic honesty such as plagiarism, cheating and impersonation. Penalties for dealing with such offences will be strictly enforced.

From <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/policies/student-related/code-of-student-behaviour-and-disciplinary-procedures>

Effective May 1, 2019 the [Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures](#) was rescinded and replaced by the:

- [Student Code of Conduct - Academic Integrity](#);
- [Student Code of Conduct - Non-Academic](#); and
- [Student Code of Conduct - Appeal Policy](#).

Effective July 22, 2019 the [Student Code of Conduct - Appeal Policy: Judicial Panel Procedures](#) was also approved and posted to the website.

If you require clarification on which version of the Code is applicable, please contact the Manager, Student Conduct at studentconduct@lakeheadu.ca

