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| AN107 – Introduction to Archaeology Section 01 – Fall 2011 Bey Hall 126 – 3 Credits Tuesdays 10:00am-11:15am & Thursdays 8:30am-9:45am | |
| Instructor: Dr. Edward González-Tennant Email: egonzale@monmouth.edu Office Phone: 732-571-4458 | Office: Howard Hall 326 Office Hours: Mon & Tues 2:00-4:00pm or by appointment |

Required Textbooks:

Renfrew, C. and P. Bahn. *Archaeology: Theories, Methods, and Practice*, 5th ed. Thames & Hudson, 2008.

Additional readings as assigned by instructor (available on eCampus as PDF files).

Course Description:

Archaeology is the study of past cultures and societies through their material remains. This course will explore different varieties of archaeology and examine theory, methods, and techniques for investigating, reconstructing, interpreting, preserving, and ultimately, *learning from* the past. We will review human cultural chronology from the time of the first people, the earliest Paleolithic ages, to the present, and deal with not only the artifact remains but also important social, economic, and even ideological questions, such as those on the origins of food production, social inequality, and civilization. Two major emphases throughout the course are *archaeology as anthropology* and the *relevance of archaeology to modern human society and politics*. We will also examine exciting discoveries that make the news during the semester. Each class will involve a mix of lecture, class discussion, and small-group conversations.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, each student will:

- Be able to identify the major trends in archaeological theory
- Understand how archaeologists approach gender, ethnicity, and identity in the past
- Appreciate how archaeology interacts with the modern world
- Develop critical reasoning skills about archaeological materials
- Understand the formational processes affecting archaeological sites through time
- Understand basic archaeological methods of site identification and excavation

Grading:

Grades for the course will come from attendance and participation, midterm and final exams, weekly activities, and a response project concerning the field trip to the Museum of Natural History in NYC. Make-up tests and assignments will only be granted if arranged prior to the date in this syllabus, or when accompanied by appropriate documentation (i.e. doctor's note). Specific handouts for the student ethnography assignment will be provided during the semester.

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| Attendance & Participation | 10% | (20 possible points) – talking in class |
| Midterm Exam | 25% | (50 possible points) – essay questions |
| Twelve Weekly Activities | 30% | (60 possible points) – exercises or film responses |
| Field Trip Project | 10% | (20 possible points) – critical response paper |
| Final Exam | 25% | (50 possible points) – essay questions |

Breakdown of Grades:

Attendance & Participation: Students are expected to arrive at class on time with readings completed beforehand. Portions of class each week will involve classroom discussion, small group conversations, or both. Students will be assessed on their apparent level of preparation as well as participation in these activities. **[Total Points: 20]**

Midterm Exam: Students will complete an essay exam on topic covered during the course prior to the midterm exam. Students will be graded on their ability to cogently present a thesis statement, argue a point of view using readings from class, and successfully conclude a paper. We will discuss successful essay writing prior to the midterm. **[Total Points: 50]**

Twelve Weekly Activities: Students will complete brief activities matching the material covered for twelve of the fifteen weeks. There are no weekly activities the first and last two weeks of class. Specific assignments will be handed out beginning the second week of class. These are due at the beginning of class on the following Thursday unless otherwise stated by the instructor. This will also include two response papers to movies shown in class. **[Total Points: 60]**

Field Trip Project: The class will take a field trip to the America Museum of Natural History in New York City during the semester (tentatively scheduled for October 31, 2011). Each student will write a critical review of one or more exhibits. We will discuss this assignment in greater detail during the semester. **[Total Points: 20]**

Final Exam: Students will complete an essay exam on topic covered during the course prior to the midterm exam. Students will be graded on their ability to cogently present a thesis statement, argue a point of view using readings from class, and successfully conclude a paper. We will discuss successful essay writing prior to the midterm. **[Total Points: 50]**

Total Possible Points: 200

Course Grading Scale:

A 93-100 A- 90-92.9 B+ 88-89.9 B 83-87.9 B- 80-82.9
C+ 78-79.9 C 73-77.9 C- 70-72.9 D+ 68-69.9 D 63-67.9 D- 60-62.9
F 59.9 and below

| Letter Grade | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D+ | D | D- | E |
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| Total Points | 186-200 | 180-185.8 | 176-179.8 | 166-175.8 | 160-165.8 | 156-159.8 | 146-155.8 | 140-145.8 | 136-135.8 | 126-133.8 | 120-125.8 | 119.8-0 |

Academic Honesty:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. As a registered student in this course, you have agreed to the following statement:

“I understand that Monmouth University expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

If you are caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams you will receive an automatic zero and may be referred to the university administration for disciplinary action.

Student Conduct:

All students must comply with the Student Code of Conduct found in the student handbook. Any behavior that interferes with either the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to benefit from the instructional program will not be tolerated. Please turn off cell phones and all other electronic devices before class. Laptops may only be used to take notes. Disruptive students will be asked to leave.

Texting during class is not allowed.

Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who need special accommodations for this class are encouraged to meet with me or the appropriate disability service provider on campus as soon as possible. In order to receive accommodations, students must be registered with the appropriate disability service provider on campus as set forth in the student handbook and must follow Monmouth University’s procedure for self-disclosure, which is stated in the University *Guide to Services and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities*.

MU Counseling Services:

Resources are available on campus for students having personal or goal oriented problems. If you find yourself in a physical or emotional situation you are having trouble dealing with, please contact Counseling and Psychological Services at 732-571-7517. If you are in physical danger or

suspect that someone is trying to harm you, contact MU Police at 732-571-3472. Do not be afraid to contact these offices, it is always better safe than sorry.

Semester Calendar:

Week 01: Sept 6 & 8

Topic: Introduction to Course, Framework of Archaeology

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 1

Week 02: Sept 13 & 15

Topic: Archaeological Evidence

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 2

Week 03: Sept 20 & 22

Topic: Archaeological Methods: Survey, Excavation, & GIS

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 3; Gonzalez-Tennant (2009)

Week 04: Sept 27 & 29

Topic: Dating Archaeological Materials

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 4

Week 05: Oct 4 & 6

Topic: Interpreting Social Organization from the Archaeological Record

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 5

Week 06: Oct 11 & 13

Topic: Environmental Archaeology

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 6

Week 07: Oct 18 & 20

Topic: Subsistence and Diet of Past Peoples

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 7

Week 08: Oct 25 & 27

Topic: Midterm Test & Ancient Technology, pt 1

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 8

Week 09: Nov 1 & 3

Topic: Ancient Technology

Readings: David & Kramer (2001)

Film: *Kon Tiki* (Thursday November 3)

Week 10: Nov 8 & 10 [**November 8 is the Last Day to Withdraw with “W” Grade**]

Topic: Archaeological Perspectives on Trade and Exchange

Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 9

Week 11: Nov 15 & 17

Topic: Cognitive Archaeology, Art, and Religion
Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 10

Week 12: Nov 22

Topic: Bioarchaeology
Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 11
Film: *The Human Family Tree*

Week 13: Nov 29 & Dec 1

Topic: Archaeological Perspectives on Cultural Change
Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapter 12

Week 14: Dec 6 & 8

Topic: Case Studies & Public Archaeology
Readings: Renfrew & Bahn, Chapters 13 & 14

Week 15: Dec 13 & 15

Topic: Special Topic: Virtual Archaeology
Readings: Morgan (2009); Gonzalez-Tennant (2010) - PDFs