

**Anthropology 04.50Z CRN27734  
Fall Quarter 2023  
World Prehistory**

**Class Schedule, Assignments, Quiz Dates and Final Exam**

**Office Hours: 12:30-1:30 M-W  
Ph.D**

**Instructor: Nancy H Olsen,**

**Office: Zoom : links will be posted on Canvas.**

**Email:**

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**Required Text: *World Prehistory and Archaeology* , Michael Chazan, Routledge, NYC.\ 4th edition.**

**Web sites to visit**

[www.saa.org](http://www.saa.org) is the official website for American archaeology. What timely topics do you find there? What is interesting to you? What are the issues for American archaeology?

[www. archaeological.org](http://www.archaeological.org) – is the official website to the Archaeological Institute of America – this website focuses on the classic archaeology sites in Egypt, Greece, Mesopotamia and around the world. Interesting excavations going on. Visit the site, find an interesting project and read about it. Then write a one page reflection paper about what you learned and what was interesting to you – do this for extra credit!

[www.catalhoyuk.com](http://www.catalhoyuk.com) – go to archived reports to find the article entitled “This Old House” in the Natural History Magazine, June 2006 by Ian Hodder. Ian Hodder is the archaeologist who is studying this site through excavation and through ethnographic interviews with the local population to tie the site to the ancient culture of Turkey.

**Prehistory** is the time before written records. Therefore, prehistory ends and history begins at different times in different parts of the world. Archaeology and ethno-archaeology studies the distribution of artifacts and ecofacts from archaeological sites, archaeologists are able to get an understanding of how people solved daily problems and get answers to large time questions about change. To study sites where people are no longer living, archaeology applies knowledge from cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, linguistics, geology, ecology, biology, astronomy, chemistry, and laws of physics to help answer “what happened here?”

**REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THE COURSE**

**Read assignments** - the reading assignment will have a powerpoint presentation to help you understand the concepts/methods of working/ examples of work done in sites around the world. To get everything you need to know to write essays and take quizzes, you will need to read the whole chapter yourself .

**Ask questions**- there is no learning without asking questions. Office hours (on Zoom) are for asking questions. It helps everyone understand the material better, so don't hold back!

**Attendance – Attendance is tricky in online classes. I can look online and see if you have spent any time doing the exercises in the weekly modules. If you miss a quiz, please contact me to make it up. If I see that you haven't spent much time online for the class, and you miss uploading assignments, I will drop you. If you are having trouble making contact with Canvas email the Distance Learning Tech Help. They are really helpful!! They are gurus!**

**Reflection papers** – worksheets from videos and reflection papers are required to be turned in (5pts) There will be 12 of them! Get ‘em done!!

**Research paper** – through the first month of the quarter you should be looking for a good subject that is interesting to you to research and write a term paper. It’s always interesting to research where your ancestors lived, for example. Cultural customs are often preserved in archaeological sites – sometimes directly, other times, indirectly!

**Eight quizzes** – are on Canvas and are meant to help you review assigned chapters. Multiple choice. 20 pts each.

**Two Midterms – on Canvas** - take em, pass em! Midterms combine chapters and class discussions. Part 1 -Multiple choice and Part 2 - Essay - 50 points total – Multiple choice = 25, Essay = 25

**One final exam** – On Canvas - take it, pass it! (100 pts)

Students are responsible for turning in/uploading all their homework during the quarter!! Missing assignments are often the cause of lower final grades! Don’t let that happen to you!!

### **Student Learning Outcomes for World Prehistory**

- 1. Develop an appreciation for the range and diversity of past human societies**
- 2. Understand archaeologists interpretations of change in prehistory and archaeological explanations of patterns of continuity in cultures around the world.**

### **GOALS FOR THE CLASS**

- Prepare you for four-year colleges’ level of learning and participation
- Become a critical reader! Exercise your brain! This is 24-Hour Fitness for Mind Muscles! You’ll need to read with understanding and thoughtfulness. Do you believe what you are reading?? Does it sound plausible?? If not, ask questions! How does what you are reading differ from what you are familiar with?
- Critical thinking – questioning what you are reading and learning is the next step after high school – now you want to be conscious of the philosophical sources for the information you are learning. Examine ideas for their value!!
- Communication Skills – we will concentrate particularly on writing as is expected in the Social Sciences in a four-year institution.
  - Two forms of writing – essay answers and research and reflection papers
  - Extra credit assignments are informal and communicative.
- Learn that “all roads are good”. Learn how anthropology can provide answers for you in your relationships with others. See your own goals in relation to your inherited cultural standards and learn how relative those standards are because standards change with every culture around the world.

### **EXPECTATIONS**

Attendance – 3 absences. In order to make an A in this class you will need to work EVERY DAY on the class assignments. This class is asynchronous, so your time is your own If you want to make an A or B in this class, you’ll need to do all the assignments in order to stay on top of the subject. Please monitor your own progress throughout the quarter so that you know what level of work you are doing consistently.

If you decide to add the class you are responsible for carrying through with the paper work or on the internet. If you decide to drop the class, you are also responsible for doing that as well.

## **HOMEWORK**

It is your responsibility to buy/rent/download the textbook and do the reading and homework assigned. Save all your written assignments on a disk or memory stick. We will spend time in class clarifying “muddy waters”. If you need help writing essays or with your term paper, bring the rough draft to me during office hours or go to the Tutorial Center in the Student Success office where you will get help - especially if English is not your first language, you will need help. **ABOVE ALL - BE KIND TO YOURSELF AND GIVE YOURSELF ENOUGH TIME TO DO THE WORK!!**

## **TESTS**

**There are 8 quizzes to do online in Canvas!!!** The quizzes cover the assigned chapter for the week.

**There are 2 midterms that combine several chapters.** One half is multiple choice, one half is an essay to write. The essay is intended as a way for you to show me what you have learned from your assigned readings. The more reading you do, the more you have to say in your essay!

**There is ONE Final Exam –** take it, pass it!! If you do not show up for the final, you’ll automatically get an F.

**If you have to miss a test please let me know within 24 hours of the test.**

Makeup tests are possible. If you miss a test due to an emergency, we can figure out an alternative as well. Don’t panic, just email me!!

## **REFLECTION PAPERS/WORKSHEETS**

From time to time there will be reflection papers (1 page) that will be required. Usually they are on videos we see on Canvas. Be sure to do them and upload/hand them in as that will be part of your grade. Other extra credit reflection papers are also welcome.

## **RESEARCH PAPER**

**Your project will be due at the end of the quarter. The first few weeks of class make an appointment to come and talk to me about what you would be interested in researching.** From there we can work out your research question. Mid- quarter we will need to have another conference about your progress, resources and outline of your paper.

## **GRADING POLICY**

I arrive at final grades mathematically through accumulated points . 12 reflection papers/worksheets (5points each), eight quizzes (20 points each), two midterms(50 points each), one final(100points), and a research paper 50 points) totals 470 points. Extra credit points can be earned - up to 20 extra points. There are no due dates for extra credit work, just do it when you have time and upload to modules in Canvas so designated for credit. Do not email me your extra credit work, it can get lost in the shuffle!

The California Community College Board of Governors recently passed revisions to Title 5 regarding course repetition. Students may enroll in a course only three times if they received a standard grade (D, F, NP, or NC) or withdrew from a class with a “W”.

A begins at 432  
A- Begins at 423

B+ begins at 399, B begins at 385, B- begins at 376.

C+ begins at 352, C begins at 329,, there is no C-,

D+ begins at 305, D begins at 291, and D- begins at 282. Any total number of points that falls below 282 will be an F. Any total number of points that is above 470 will earn an A+.

**If you have a learning disability, or are an English as a second language student, please see me during office hours or email me.**

## **SCHEDULE OF CLASS TOPICS, READING ASSIGNMENTS, AND TESTS**

- Week 1**  
**Sept. 25**      **The Past Is A Foreign Country: Getting From Here To There**  
**What is Anthropology – where does Prehistory fit?**  
Getting acquainted, finding out learning styles.  
**Read Part 1 – “The Past is a Foreign Country: Getting from Here to There – Introduction, Chap. 1. Getting Started**
- Sept. 26**      **Archaeological Ethics** – Kennewick Man, NAGPRA, Native American involvement in archaeology. , go to website:  
[www.mnh.si.edu/arctic/html/kennewick\\_man/html](http://www.mnh.si.edu/arctic/html/kennewick_man/html).. Read about the debate that erupted. Who do you think should prevail?? Write a 1 page argument and upload.
- Sept. 27**      **Study powerpoint “Ethics in Archaeology”**  
**Indiana Jones Day** – how many “no-no’s” can you spot? Make a list to upload.
- Sept. 28**      **Getting Started – Reading the Landscape –**  
**Chazan power point Chapter 1** - Survey, Site Formation Processes, Recovery Methods and GIS  
**Thomas’s Gatecliff Shelter stratigraphy and map**  
Field problems to solve based on your readings.
- Sept 30- Oct 1**      Quiz #1  
**Extra Credit** “Archaeological Survey in the Mixtec Area” by Laura Finsten OR “Archaeologist at Work” by Richard Blanton. Read and then take quiz. Upload results  
**Extra Credit:** Write a two-page autobiography – where are you from? What is your ethnic heritage? What about your heritage is most interesting to you?  
All assignments for the week should be uploaded to Canvas by 5 minutes to midnight, Sunday. This week Sunday is October 1
- Week 2**  
**Oct. 2**      **Putting the Picture Together**  
**Read Chapter 2, Putting the Picture Together**  
**Study Chapter 2 powerpoint - Origins of archaeology** - organizing time – establishing the antiquity of man, developing method and theory –

Stratigraphy and Culture History.– archaeologists who defined the field of archaeology.

**Oct. 3** Archaeology as Science – The Myth of the Moundbuilders  
The Scientific Method – Cultural Materialism, Evolution. Archaeology as Anthropology - What is Culture?? The Structure of

**Oct. 4** Archaeological Inquiry – Three levels of theory

- low level theory, middle-range theory, general theory. Data, taphonomy, ethnoarchaeology, experimental archaeology, What's a paradigm?? Cultural Materialism

**Oct. 5** Archaeology as Humanism – Post-Processual Archaeology such as Agency, Archaeology of the Mind,

**Oct 7-8** **Quiz #2** 20 multiple choice questions about the reading, powerpoint  
Extra Credit “**The Conservation of Archaeological Materials**” by Catherine Sease and “**Dating Archaeological Materials**” by R.E. Taylor. Read, take quiz, upload answers.

**Week 3** **Part Two Human Evolution**

**Read Introduction – Phylogeny to Culture and Human Evolution**

**NOVA “What Makes Us Human??” Watch it, take notes, write a 1 page reflection paper on how that information relates to you!**

**Are you part Neanderthal??**

**Chapter 3, 4 and 5 powerpoints. If you have already taken Anthro 1, this is a repeat for you. Since this is archaeology, the class will skip over Chapters 3 and Chapter 4 up to p. 106 “Aspects of Neanderthal Culture and Adaptation”. Read from 106 – end of Chapter.**

**Oct. 9** **Smithsonian** - <https://3d.si.edu/collections/prehistoric-artifacts>

**Oct. 12** Chapter 5 - Origin of Modern Man \_ Out of Africa Debate – What is modern man?? In Africa – in Middle East

<https://naturalhistory.si.edu/education/teaching-resources/social-studies/unlocking-hidden-worlds-through-archaeology-and>

**Oct. 13** <https://3d.si.edu/collections/prehistoric-artifacts>

**Reading Assignment – continue Chap. 5 to the end.**

Arrival of Modern Humans in Europe – what happened to Neanderthals???

Upper Paleolithic - France

<https://3d.si.edu/collections/prehistoric-artifacts>

Upper Paleolithic - Spain, Explaining the Upper Paleolithic Olsen powerpoint, Altamira Cave

**Oct14 - 15** **Quiz #3**

**Research Question due**

**Extra Credit** “Lithic Analysis: Chipped Stone

Tools and Waste Flakes in Archaeology,” by Robert L. Kelly

Google: La Brea Tar Pits, Paleolithic Europe, Lascaux, Altamira.

Write a one page reflection on what you learned.

- Week 4      Peopling of Australia and the New World**
- Oct. 16      Reading Assignment – Chapter 6 Peopling Australia and the New World**  
**Chapter 6 powerpoint**  
**Sunda, Sahul and the Wallace Line**  
**Beringia**  
**Video – Stone Age Explorers – watch, take notes, write your reflection**  
**3 theories concerning when people first arrived in the American Hemisphere.**  
**REVIEW – for Midterm 1 on Monday - Essays posted today by 1pm. It's ok to start working on your essay right away. It's ok to post it early. The due date is midnight on Oct. 22!**
- Assignment – STUDY notes, textbook, flash cards.**
- Oct. 21      Midterm 1. Part 1 – Multiple choice 25 points**  
**Part 2 – Essay 25 points, upload before 5 minutes to midnight, Oct. 22.**
- Week 5      Origins of Agriculture**
- Oct. 23      Reading Assignment, Part 3 Perspectives on Agriculture, Introduction: Different theories of agriculture's origins.**  
**Reading Assignment: Chapter 7 Towers, Villages and Longhouses**  
**Domestication of plants and animals – The Near East, Stages 1 through 4**  
**Power point – Catal Hoyuck, Turkey**
- Oct. 25      “Iceman Murder Mystery!” Watch, take notes, write a 1 page reflection paper about Ötzi the “Iceman.” What did you learn that surprised you? Were the steps taken to recover the body clear to you? What did you learn/?**
- Oct.28-29      Quiz #4**
- Week 6      Mounds and Maize – Agriculture in Native America**
- Oct. 30      Reading Assignment - Chapter 8 Mounds and Maize**  
**Oct. 31      Domestication of corn – MesoAmerica and North America**  
**Nov. 1      – the American Southwest   Cero Juanaquena, Las Capas, Milagro, Chaco Canyon, New Mexico, Shabik' eschee Village**  
**Pottery making in the Southwest**
- Nov. 2      Eastern North America – Adena-Hopewell**  
**Poverty Point, Louisiana, The Great Serpent Mound, Ohio, Ohio earthworks**
- Nov. 4-5      Quiz #5**  
**Research outlines due 5 minutes to midnight Nov. 5**

- Week 7      Agriculture in Africa, China, New Guinea, South America**
- Nov. 6      Reading Assignment: Chapter 9 A Feast of Diversity – Africa, New Guinea, Asia**
- Nov. 7      Chapter 9 powerpoint**  
Rock art scene compared to contemporary Nuer pastoralists
- Nov. 9      Research Outlines returned with suggestions.**  
**Video - The Black Mummy, take notes, write a reflection**  
**Web – Uan Afuda, Uan Magugig**  
**South America\**  
**China – North vs South**
- Nov. 11 – 12 Midterm #2 – Chapters 7.8, 9 Origins of Agriculture around the world.**  
**Part 1 and 2 - Essay is due tonight at midnight**
- Week 8      Complex Societies leading to wealth and inequality**
- Nov. 13      Reading Assignment Part 4, Introduction Developing Social Complexity – How does a state become a state? And how do other societies who are less complex manage law and order?**  
**Assigned Reading: Chapt. 10 Complexity Without the State**  
**Rapa Nui, Stonehenge – who is in charge?**  
**Video – Michael P Pierson, Stonehenge**
- Nov. 14      Chaco Canyon – roads, Pueblo Bonito, steps, macaw farming**
- Nov. 15      Bandelier National Monument – farmfields, Tuyonyi, Talus Pueblos,**  
Infrared photography of rock art.  
**Cahokia, Mississippian culture**  
Africa – The Great Zimbabwe, Mapungubwe
- Nov. 18-19 Quiz #6**
- Week 9      Cities, Pyramids and Palaces**
- Nov. 20      Reading Assignment: Chap. 11 Urban States, Mesopotamia, Maya**  
**Guidelines for writing your research report.**  
**Chapter 11 powerpoint**  
Mesopotamia – Uruk, Emergence of Writing  
Egyptian States – Upper and Lower Nile, Africa  
Aegean – Crete, Knossos vs Greece, Mycenae
- Nov. 21      Thanksgiving Holiday!!**
- Nov. 23      Thanksgiving Holiday!!**
- Week 10      Locating the Source of Authority: Early States in Asia**
- Nov. 27      Reading assignment: Chapter 12 Enigmatic States.**
- Nov. 28      Indus Valley – India, Mohengo-Daro, Pakistan**  
**Space Syntax**
- Nov. 29      Three Dynasties - Shang China – writing, bronze metallurgy, jade**  
**Sanxingdui site**  
**Rizhao –Yi-Luo Valley**

- Chifeng region, Inner Mongolia – Xiongnu Empire**  
**Japan, Central Asia and Cambodia – Angkor**  
**Southern Silk Road**
- Dec. 2-3 Quiz #7**
- Week 11 From Cities to Empires**
- Dec. 4 Assigned Reading: Chapter 13 From City to Empire**  
**Chapter 13 powerpoint**  
 Origins of Urbanism – Olmec sites La Venta, Monte Alban  
 Teotihuacan, Highlands of Mexico – First true city in MesoAmerica
- Dec 7 The City – The Government – Maya - Royalty (Lowlands and Yucatan Peninsula), Inequalities, hieroglyphs – writing, art, architecture, calendar, Popol Vuh, ritual as recorded in Mayan lintels and wall paintings.**  
**Video - Cracking the Maya Code**  
**Aztec Empire – MesoAmerica**  
**Aztec continued – Cortez and the Spanish Invasion**  
**Chapter 14 - Inca Empire – Machu Pichu**  
**Research Project completed - due Dec. 9 – 10. With illustrations and bibliography. Upload into Canvas.**
- Dec. 9-10 Quiz #8**
- Week 12 Finals Week**  
**All modules for the quarter are still open, you can spend some time going back to fill in assignments that you didn't get done.**
- Dec. 11-15 Essay question will be open as of Monday Dec 11. It is due on Dec. 15 at midnight on Turnitin.com.**
- Dec. 14-15 FINAL EXAM. 100 points Students will get an automatic F if they do not take the final exam. Essay upload due tonight at midnight! And it's all over but the shouting!!.**