

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

**INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY
ANTHROPOLOGY 2060 3(2-0-1) UT 45 Hours**

Instructor Vandy Bowyer, M.Sc.
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Room: Lecture E305; Lab J107
Office Hour: Tuesdays 1:00-2:00

Prerequisite: Anthropology 1010

Calender Description:

Basic principles of archaeology. Introduction to the nature, methods, and theory of anthropological archaeology, i.e. how archaeological remains are located, recovered, and interpreted. Emphasis in this course is on the principles of reconstruction of past societies from archaeological evidence.

Course Description:

(Lecture, Lab)

This course is designed as a comprehensive introduction to the sub-discipline of archaeology within the larger discipline of anthropology. Emphasis in this course is on the reconstruction of past societies from archaeological evidence and the explanation of cultural evolution. The main theoretical and methodological approaches are reviewed. Through lectures and labs the major goals of the discipline and methods for the collection of data, procedures of analysis and interpretation will be investigated. Additional topics addressed in this course include the construction of archaeological models for human prehistory; and the application of archaeological knowledge. The impact of western world view on the interpretation of archaeological materials will also be addressed throughout this course.

Required Text:

Renfrew, Colin and Paul Bahn
2004 Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice. 4th edition. New York: Thames and Hudson.

Supplementary readings may be handed out from time to time.

Grade Determination:

Grades will be based on two exams (a midterm and a final). Exam material will be drawn from lectures, assigned readings, handouts and films. Exams will be composed of multiple choice, short answer and short essay questions. Grades of 20% for the lab assignments and 20% for the lab final exam comprise the remaining 40% of your grade.

Please note that both the text and lectures are considered core material. Films are used to illustrate material presented in lectures and text, and they are also examination material.

Examination/Assignment	Weight
Mid-term Examination	25%
Lab Assignments	20%
Lab Examination	20%
Final Examination	35%

Expectations:

Attending regularly, keeping up with the assigned reading, participation in labs, submitting assignments by the deadlines are necessary for successful completion of this course. Please note that with the exceptions of health or family emergencies, or by prior agreement, work submitted after deadlines is subject to penalty.

Absences from Exams:

Un-excused absences from the midterm exam and failure to submit lab assignments will result in a grade of zero for that portion of the course material. In the case of excused absences, weight will be transferred evenly to other exam/assignments. Deferred exam rules will apply to the final exam.

Lecture Topics and Schedule (subject to adjustments)

The readings are used to illustrate lecture material. Please be sure to read the assigned Readings before the subsequent lectures. From time to time additional reading will be supplied. Time constraints may limit discussion of these and the core readings, but they are exam material, and you will be quizzed on their content and relevance.

Week 1

January 8th: Lecture: Introduction to the course & major objectives.

January 10th: Lab: Introduction to laboratory portion of the course

Week 2 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Preface, Introduction, Chapter 1.

January 15th: Lecture: Central themes & the value and limits of archaeology; History of archaeology and pertinent theory.

January 17th: Lab: Introduction and Basic Concepts

Week 3. READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapters 2 & 4

January 22nd: Lecture: The physical evidence of past human lives & how they come to rest; Dating methods and chronology.

January 24th: Lab: Film – Overview to the rock cycle; stratigraphy & relative dating

Week 4. READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapter 3
January 29th: Lecture: Survey & Excavation

January 31st: Lab: Film – Overview to Surveying and Mapping

Week 5 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapter 6.
February 5th: Lecture: Paleoenvironments & Ancient Landscapes

February 7th: Lab: Environmental Archaeology; Film - History of the Earth

Week 6 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapter 7
February 12th: Lecture: Subsistence & Diet

February 14th: Lab: Zooarchaeology, Archaeobotany

Week 7 Family Day and Winter Break – No Classes

Week of February 19th

Week 8 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapter 14

February 26th **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**

February 28th Lab Guest Demonstration on Flintknapping

Week 9 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapter 8

March 5th Lecture: How were tools made?

March 7th Lab: Lithic Technology I

Week 10 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapter 5

March 12th Lecture: How were societies organized

March 14th Lab: Lithic Technology

Week 11 READ: Renfrew & Bahn Chapter 9

March 19th: Trade & Exchange; Guest Lecture on CRM

March 21st: Lab: Ceramic Technology

Week 12 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapter 10

March 26th: Archaeology of People: What did they think?

March 28th: Lab: Human Osteology

Week 13 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapter 11

April 2nd: Lecture: Archaeology of People: Paleonutrition & Pathology

April 4th: Lab: Film: Ice Man

Week 14 READ: Renfrew & Bahn: Chapters 12 & 13

April 9th Lecture: Explanation in Archaeology, Loose ends

April 11th **LAB FINAL EXAMINATION**