

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE - WINTER 2021

AN2190 (A3): World Prehistory – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR: Shawn Morton, PhD **PHONE:** 780-539-2847

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OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

WINTER 2021 DELIVERY: Remote Delivery. This course is delivered remotely. There are no face-to-face or onsite requirements. Students must have a computer with a webcam and reliable internet connection. Technological support is available through helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

An introductory archaeology course that provides an overview of New and Old World prehistory; spans the earliest origins of humans, the spread of anatomically modern humans, the development of hunting and gathering societies, the origins of food production, and the emergence of ancient urban societies.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Feder, Kenneth (2019) The Past in Perspective: An Introduction to Human Prehistory, 8th Ed. Oxford University Press.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

To demonstrate that:

• Our way of life is but one of many possibilities across time and space.

Further, AN2190 is a liberal studies course; the purpose of such courses are to challenge students to gain a deeper understanding of the natural environment, the world's peoples, diversity of traditions, and legacies created by the dynamics and tensions that shape our world. A liberal studies course is also intended to provide a broad range of knowledge and to develop an awareness of different ethnic groups and historical contexts on the global stage. By doing so, the student can develop their own potential contributions to society from a well-informed base of information rather than one based upon limited understandings, misunderstandings, stereotypes, and/or misinformation. By definition, this course is supposed to challenge entrenched ideas you may hold, and expand them to include other perspectives outside your current comfort zone. This is the essence of education.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to:

- Describe a general narrative for the development of several of the world's ancient civilizations.
- Explain some of the dominant models for the rise of complexity.
- Appreciate the comparative development of society; politics; religion; food production; and other elements of the economy.
- Appreciate that archaeology is a living and active discipline.

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, AU, AF, CU, CUC, KUC, GMU

*Warning: Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities. Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide at http://transferalberta.alberta.ca/transfer-alberta-search/#/audienceTypeStep

EVALUATIONS:

Assessment	Weight
6 reading quizzes, 5 points each, for 30 points total	15%
4 media assignments, 15 points each, for 60 points total	30%
2 midterm exams, 25 points each, for 50 points total	25%
1 final exam for 60 points total	30%
Total = 200 points	100%
Note: All points are weighted equally for 200 points total.	
Extra credit for up to 10 points	5%

Reading Quizzes (6 reading guizzes at 5 points each for 30 points total)

You will be given 6 reading quizzes covering your syllabus and chapters in our textbook throughout the semester. Each quiz will consist of a small number of questions (multiple choice, matching, etc.) and are intended to encourage you to keep up with your readings. They are not worth a whole lot of points in the grand scheme of things, but could mean the difference between one letter grade and the next; don't let them slip past you! Reading Quizzes are to be completed on our myClass page, and will open Mondays at 8 am of the week assigned and close Sundays at 11:59 pm (see due dates on schedule).

Media Assignments (4 assignments at 15 points each for 60 points total)

Our understanding of the ancient world is improving at a remarkable rate. Every day, all over the world, archaeologists are unearthing the relics of our shared heritage and helping to provide context to our modern world. Over the course of the semester you will be expected to write up four brief summaries (each approximately 500 words; about 1 page single-spaced) on "tales of archaeological discovery" covered by the media. Further, I want you to tell me what you think about the discoveries. Are they well covered? What do you find interesting? What new questions does the story raise? What more do you want to know? **Ensure that you**

^{**} Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.

choose a story with sufficient detail to meet these guidelines. You must cite your article in a format that allows me to locate it (i.e. author, title, webpage, link, etc.). Feel free to use any source, from televised media, to traditional print and web pages, but make sure that the find discussed is RECENT (i.e. was found within the last 2 years). New discoveries about previously known sites are fine, but avoid stories such as "Ten things you didn't know about Egypt's pyramids", etc., and make sure that the story is legitimate (i.e. no pseudo-archaeology). Media Assignments are to be completed on our myClass page, and will open Mondays at 8 am of the week assigned and close Sundays at 11:59 pm (see due dates on schedule).

Midterm Exams (2 midterm exams at 25 points each for 50 points total)

You will write two short midterm exams in this class. These exams will only directly cover the material preceding each exam date. They will be worth 25 points each and will consist of an essay question and response that will be provided in advance. Your midterms are to be completed on our myClass page, and will open as scheduled on Monday at 8 am of the week assigned and close Sunday at 11:59 pm (see due date on schedule).

Final Exam (60 points total)

You will have a scheduled final exam in this class, HOWEVER, your exam WILL NOT require you to be physically present at the college, and will follow the same format as your midterm exam. This Exam is NOT cumulative and will only directly cover the material covered since your midterm. This being said, as we will be invoking concepts that are foundational to the discipline of anthropology, it will build on the material covered throughout the course. Your final exam will be worth 60 points and consist of an essay question and response that will be provided in advance. Your final is to be completed on our myClass page, and will open on the Monday (at 8 am) of the last week of scheduled classes. The exam is due and will close by 11:59 pm on the date scheduled by the registrar. Your instructor will let you know when this information is available.

Note: I do NOT provide study guides. Significant quantities of research have served to demonstrate that it is not in a student's best interest to be provisioned with a study guide by the instructor. You may not like it, but the reality is that production of your own study guide is an important studying technique in its own rite. Like eating vegetables, this is for your own good. That being said, you are encouraged to ask questions in class and to approach me in office hours for guidance. Although this isn't a course where you need to memorize a lot of information, you do need to be familiar with what we've covered and where you can find it. Use the tables of objectives included in each module to structure your study guide.

Extra Credit (up to 10 points)

Extra credit is as stated, extra points above and beyond your regular class assignments. These points are somewhat easy to acquire, but in order to receive any point you must do exactly as asked. Opportunities for extra credit (worth 5 points each) will be announced throughout the semester.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND TIMELINE:

Week Date	Topic(s)	Format	Reading(s)				
Module 1: Introd	ducing anthropology and archaeology: How do we know what we	know about the	past?				
1 Jan. 5	Introduction to Course	Zoom	Syllabus & Chapter 1				
1 Jan. 7	What is Anthropology, Archaeology, and Science?	Zoom	Chapter 2				
Homework:	Reading Quiz 1 - Due Sunday, Jan. 10, 11:59 pm						
Module 2: First	farmers (c. 10,000 BC to Modern Times).						
2.1 Jan. 12	A world without food production.	Zoom	Chapters 5 & 6				
2.2 Jan. 14		On Your Own					
Homework:	Reading Quiz 2 - Due Sunday, Jan. 17, 11:59 pm						
3.1 Jan. 19	Agriculture and animal domestication	Zoom	Chapter 8				
3.2 Jan. 21		On Your Own					
Homework:	Media Assignmment 1 - Due Sunday, Jan. 24, 11:59 pm						
4.1 Jan. 26	The origins of food production in SW Asia	Zoom					
4.2 Jan. 28	The first European farmers	On Your Own					
Homework:	Reading Quiz 3 - Due Sunday, Jan. 31, 11:59 pm						
5.1 Feb. 2	First farmers in Egypt and Tropical Africa	Zoom					
5.2 Feb. 4	Asia and the Pacific: rice, roots, and ocean voyages	On Your Own					
Homework:	Media Assignmment 2 - Due Sunday, Feb. 7, 11:59 pm						
6.1 Feb. 9	The story of maize: early farmers in the Americas	Zoom					
Module 3: Comp	olex Societies of Asia, Africa, and Europe.						
6.2 Feb. 11	Early civilizations: beginnings in southwest Asia	On Your Own	Chapter 9				
Homework:	Midterm 1 - Due Sunday, Feb. 14, 11:59 pm						
7.1 Feb. 16	Winter Break - No Classes						
7.2 Feb. 18	Winter Break - No Classes						
8.1 Feb. 23	Egypt, Nubia, and tropical Africa	Zoom	Chapter 10				
8.2 Feb. 25		On Your Own					
Homework:	Reading Quiz 4 - Due Sunday, Feb. 28, 11:59 pm						
9.1 Mar. 2	Early states in South and Southeast Asia	Zoom	Chapter 11				
9.2 Mar. 4	On Your Own						
Homework:	Media Assignmment 3 - Due Sunday, Mar. 7, 11:59 pm						
10.1 Mar. 9	Early Chinese civilization	Zoom					
10.2 Mar. 11		On Your Own					
Homework:	Reading Quiz 5 - Due Sunday, Mar. 14, 11:59 pm						
	Hittites, Minoans, and Mycenaeans	Zoom					
11.2 Mar. 18		On Your Own					
	Midterm 2 - Due Sunday, Mar. 21, 11:59 pm	T_					
	Europe Before the Romans	Zoom	ТВА				
	olex Societies of the Americas.		T				
	North American Civilizations	On Your Own	Chapter 14				
Homework:	Media Assignmment 4 - Due Sunday, Mar. 28, 11:59 pm	T-	Chautau 12				
13.1 Mar. 30	Mesoamerican Civilizations	Zoom	Chapter 12				
13.2 Apr. 1		On Your Own					
Homework:	Reading Quiz 6 - Due Sunday, Apr. 4, 11:59 pm	T_	I 0				
14.1 Apr. 6	Andean Civilizations	Zoom	Chapter 13				
14.2 Apr. 8	Wrap Up	On Your Own					
Final Exam - Date TBD							

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **Iess than C-**.

Alpha	4-point	Percentage	Alpha	4-point	Percentage
Grade	Equivalent	Guidelines	Grade	Equivalent	Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69
Α	4.0	85-89	С	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
В	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

<u>Late Assignment/Make-up Policy</u>: You are expected to follow the schedule as posted and **late assignments will not be accepted**, except with permission of the instructor. Contrary to a popular idiom, it is always better to ask for permission than forgiveness; if you know that you are going to miss a deadline, please let your instructor know in advance.

<u>Attendance and Participation</u>: Attendance will not be taken, and no part of your grade is directly tied to attendance/participation. You are paying good money for this class and committing a significant amount of time to it. In order to get the most for your money and effort, attendance is strongly encouraged.

<u>Classroom Climate Expectations</u>: In order to create and maintain a safe and productive learning environment in the classroom, standards of behaviours are expected as follows:

- 1. Listen attentively and take notes.
- 2. Communicate clearly and actively when asking questions or during discussions.
- 3. **Be respectful** when asking questions/discussing topics with everyone.
- 4. **Refrain** from excessive talking or use of technology for **NONACADEMIC PURPOSES**. You are supposed to be in class, so BE IN CLASS.
- 5. **Keep your mic muted** unless directly interacting with the class. Kids and pets are welcome, but please be mindful of disrupting your classmates.

If you choose to violate the above expectations, either once or repeatedly the following consequences will be enforced:

- 1. Verbal warning
- 2. Mandatory meeting after class/in office hours, or
- 3. Request to leave class immediately for that day, or
- 4. Dropping from the class roster (i.e. mandatory withdrawal from the class), or
- 5. More significant official action (only if repeated warnings and interventions and unsuccessful).

<u>A Note on Netiquette</u>: Some topics that we'll be covering in this course may be difficult/controversial for some people. Whether interacting with your classmates online during class time, or engaging in our forums, students are expected to be considerate and respectful.

This does not mean that you need to agree with all of the views/opinions expressed, but note that there is a difference between being critical or engaging in a productive conversation, and being confrontational or abusive.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated, and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the section on Plagiarism and Cheating in the College policy titled Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic at (https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=68).

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and exams.

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/