Department of Anthropology Fall 2013

Grace Ford Salvatori Hall Course Syllabus

3601 Watt Way, Ste. 120

University Park Campus

University of Southern California

Los Angeles, CA 90089

**ANTHROPOLOGY 202 – ARCHAEOLOGY: OUR HUMAN PAST**

GFS 221

TTh 9:30-10:50

Dr. Thomas G. Garrison

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Office Hours: TTh 8:30-9:30 AM

Office: AHF B40

**Course Description**

Anthropology 202 is an introduction to the archaeology sub-discipline of anthropology. The course examines the major methods, theories, and aims of archaeology by studying a broad survey of famous sites and discoveries around the world. Students taking this course will achieve a good understanding of how archaeologists interpret the past through the material record and will be prepared for higher level courses in archaeology.

**Recommended Preparation**

No previous preparation is required for this course.

**Introduction, Objectives, and Outcomes**

Introduction to Archaeology provides students with basic knowledge of the discipline of anthropological archaeology by surveying spectacular archaeological discoveries and innovative field projects from around the world. The course will cover archaeology’s early roots in antiquarianism up to the most cutting edge projects of the 21st century. In the process students will get a broad exposure to the prevalent theories, methods, and goals that they will need to be familiar with in order to take more advanced courses in the discipline.

The aims of this course are threefold: (1) to introduce you to the basic history, theories, methods, and aims of modern archaeology; (2) to learn about anthropological inquiry into archaeological problem; and (3) to teach you to make original archaeologically-based arguments about the past, supported by scholarly evidence.

Lectures will provide the backbone of the class and will complement, but not substitute for the assigned reading. The main textbook for the class is a broad introduction written by two leading archaeologists; one who works in the Old World, and the other in the New World. There is also a short text on the history of archaeology. There will be regular, student-led discussion sections in which we will take a more in depth look at particular archaeological topics. There will be additional reading assignments distributed as PDFs for these discussions. Staying on top of the reading will be critical to succeeding in this course, but the information presented in class will be essential to understanding the most current state of the field in archaeology.

By the end of the course you should be able to:

* Identify some of the major global cultures, sites, and archaeological discoveries
* Know some of the major figures in archaeology
* Distinguish between major theoretical paradigms in archaeological thought
* Understand the role of anthropological inquiry in archaeology
* Understand a broad range of methods used in 21st century archaeology
* Have a better idea of a region or specialty you may want to continue to focus on in archaeological studies

**Course Requirements**

Attendance in weekly lectures and discussions is mandatory for all students. Reading for each class is to be done prior to the lecture or discussion. There will be two short writing assignments, one research paper, and two exams that will be used to determine your grade in the course. Participation in discussion and attendance will also contribute to your grade.

**Description of Assignments**

There will be three types of assignments in this course: written assignments, exams, and presentations. You will write two short critiques on museum visits and documentaries that we watch in class. These critiques will be a combination of personal opinion and critical analysis. You will be required to write a 10-12 research paper at the end of the semester. A prospectus for your paper topic will be due before Thanksgiving break (this will count as 5% of your final paper grade). There will be both a midterm and final examination. The final will be cumulative, but will have a heavier emphasis on the second half of the semester. There will be review sessions for each exam.

**Statement on Late Assignments**

Assignments are due in class on the date stated in the syllabus unless an alternate time is given. Assignments handed in one day late will lose 1/3 of a letter grade (e.g. B+ becomes B). Each additional day late will result in the loss of a full letter grade.

**Statement on Attendance**

Attendance in all classes is mandatory. Repeated absences will negatively affect your grade.

**Statement of Contact Hours and Out of Class Workload**

The best way to reach me is through email (thomas.garrison@usc.edu). If you send me an email before 8 PM, I will answer it the same day. Your out of class workload is about 75-150 pages of reading per week plus the time you need to spend on assignments and exam and quiz preparation.

**Grading Breakdown**

Assignment % of grade Due date

Attendance/Participation 10% Each class

Critiques 30% (15% each) Oct. 3, Dec. 3

Research paper 20% Dec. 10, 5:00 PM

Midterm exam 15% Oct. 15

Final exam 25% Dec. 12

**Statement for Students with Disabilities**

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to your course instructor (or TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open from 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Website and contact information for DSP [http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home\_index.html](http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html%20)

(213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) [ability@usc.edu](ability%40usc.edu)

**Statement on Academic Integrity**

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General Principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. Scampus, The Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: <http://usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/> Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: <http://usc.edu/student-affaris/SJACS/> Information on intellectual property at USC is available at: <http://usc.edu/academe/acsen/issues/ipr/index.html>

**Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in Crisis**

In case of emergency, when travel to campus is difficult, if not impossible, USC executive leadership will announce a digital way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of the Blackboard LMS (Learning Management System), teleconferencing, and other technologies. Instructors should be prepared to assign students a “Plan B” project that can be completed ‘at a distance.’ For additional information about maintaining your classes in an emergency, please access: <http://cst.usc.edu/services/emergencyprep.html>

**Required Readings**

There are twp required books for this course.

*Required Books*

Fagan, Brian M.

2005 A Brief History of Archaeology: Classical Times to the Twenty-first Century. Pearson, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

Price, T. Douglas, and Gary Feinman

 2012 *Images of the Past*, Seventh edition. McGraw Hill, New York.

**Course Schedule**

*WEEK 1*

Tuesday, August 27th

*Lecture*: Introduction to Archaeology

*Reading*: No reading

Thursday, August 29th

*Lecture*: Principles of Archaeology I

*Reading*: P&F: pp. 1-14

*WEEK 2*

Tuesday, September 3rd

*Lecture*: Principles of Archaeology II

*Reading*: P&F: pp. 14-33

Thursday, September 5th

*Lecture*: History of Archaeology I

*Reading:* Fagan: pp. xi-81

*WEEK 3*

Tuesday, September 10th

*Lecture*: History of Archaeology II

*Reading*: Fagan: pp. 82-155

Thursday, September 12th

*Lecture*: History of Archaeology III

*Reading*: Fagan: pp. 156-234

*WEEK 4*

Tuesday, September 17th

*Lecture*: Our Earliest Ancestors

*Reading*: P&F: 34-58

Thursday, September 19th

*Lecture*: Homo erectus and the Lower Paleolithic

*Reading*: P&F: 59-99

*WEEK 5*

Tuesday, September 24th

*Museum Visit*: Age of Mammals Hall, Los Angeles Natural History Museum

Thursday, September 26th

*Lecture*: Peopling the World, Part I

*Reading*: P&F: 98-133

*WEEK 6*

Tuesday, October 1st

*Lecture*: Peopling the World, Part II

*Reading*: P&F: 134-150

Thursday, October 3rd

*Lecture*: Early Hunter-Gatherers

*Reading*: P&F: 151-176

**CRITIQUE 1 DUE IN CLASS**

*WEEK 7*

Tuesday, October 8th

*Film*: Mystery of the First Americans

Thursday, October 10th

*Review*: Review for midterm examination

*WEEK 8*

Tuesday, October 15th

**MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

Thursday, October 17th

*Lecture*: The Origins of Agriculture, Part I

*Reading*: P&F: 178-224

*WEEK 9*

Tuesday, October 22nd

*Lecture*: The Origins of Agriculture, Part II

*Reading*: P&F: 225-247

Thursday, October 24th

*Lecture*: The Archaeology of North America

*Reading*: P&F: 248-300

*WEEK 10*

Tuesday, October 29th

*Lecture*: The Archaeology of Mesoamerica, Part I

*Reading:* P&F: 302-330

Thursday, October 31st

*Lecture*: The Archaeology of Mesoamerica, Part II

*Reading:* P&F: 330-370

*WEEK 11*

Tuesday, November 5th

*Film*: Lost King of the Maya

Thursday, November 7th

*Lecture*: The Archaeology of South America, Part I

*Reading*: P&F: 372-395

*WEEK 12*

Tuesday, November 12th

*Lecture*: The Archaeology of South America, Part II

*Reading*: P&F: 396-417

Thursday, November 14th

*Museum Visit*: Pre-Columbian Artifacts at the Natural History Museum

*WEEK 13*

Tuesday, November 19th

*Lecture*: Old World States, Part I

*Reading*: P&F: 418-443

**RESEARCH PAPER PROSPECTUS DUE**

Thursday, November 21st

*Lecture*: Old World States, Part II

*Reading*: P&F: 444-487

*WEEK 14*

Tuesday, November 26th

*Discussion*: Gates of Horus Digital Temple

*Reading*: PDF

Thursday, November 28th

**NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING**

*WEEK 15*

Tuesday, December 3rd

*Lecture*: Prehistoric Europe

*Reading*: P&F: 488-540

**CRITIQUE 2 DUE IN CLASS**

Thursday, December 5th

*Discussion*: The Future of Archaeology and Conclusion

*Reading*: P&F: 542-557

December 7th-10th

**STUDY DAYS**

We will schedule a final exam review period during these days

*WEEK 16*

Tuesday, December 10th

**RESEARCH PAPER DUE BY 5:00 PM**

Thursday, December 12th

**FINAL EXAM, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM**