ANTH 103-03 INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY
Spring Semester 2016 Syllabus

Thursday, 6:00 – 8:45 PM, Multipurpose Classroom BLDG, RM 203

Instructor: Dr. Thomas Green, Ph. 891-6057, Email: tgreen@uark.edu
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description
ANTH 103: Introduction to Archaeology is an overview of the goals, methods, and discoveries involved in the scientific study of the human past. Archaeology is the study of the past through the analysis of material culture and other physical evidence in order to discover the cultural history of a particular locality, the lifeway’s of the people who lived there, and long-term cultural processes that gave rise to modern life. This course will familiarize students with the basic scientific methods used to discover the human past and introduces ideas and theories related to archaeological discoveries.

Students will learn the ways that archaeologists select data to study research problems using evidence both cultural and natural, and how explanations about the human past are tested and improved. We will also discuss the history of archaeology, the nature of the archaeological record, techniques used to investigate the physical, biological, and behavioral adaptations of ancient peoples, and current scientific theories about the ways humanity has changed (or stayed the same) throughout our time on earth.

Foundational Studies Program
ANTH 103 satisfies 3 credits of the Foundational Studies Program’s Disciplinary Lens - Natural, Physical and Applied Science requirements. It supports the following University Learning Outcomes, along with a variety of other course-specific goals.

ULO 8. Apply knowledge and methods characteristic of scientific inquiry to think critically about and solve theoretical and practical problems about physical structures and processes.

Course Objectives: This course helps to achieve the goals of the Foundational Studies Program by focusing on the following course learning outcomes:

After successful completion of this course students will be able to

 Apply knowledge and methods from the scientific study of the past for evaluating the archaeological record.
 Summarize and evaluate research questions that use the archaeological record to test ideas about past cultural patterns and processes.


Blackboard
This course will minimally use the Boise State University Blackboard program. Announcements or other information about the class will be posted from time to time. To access Blackboard, log into the BSU home page at Boisestate.edu, and select Blackboard. Enter your username and password, and select this course. For assistance with Blackboard, contact helpdesk@boisestate.edu or call 208-426-4357.
Useful Websites
American Anthropological Association: http://www.aaanet.org
Society for American Archaeology: http://www.saa.org
Boise State Anthropology Department: http://sspa.boisestate.edu/anthropology/

Requirements and Grading
You are advised to attend class and complete assigned readings before class. You are required to take exams and write one paper. Letter grades will be assigned based on the percentage of total possible points earned for exams and the paper as listed below.

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper assignment</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td><strong>Total Points Possible</strong></td>
<td>400</td>
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A = 93 % or better, A- = 92-90%, B+ = 89-88%, B = 87-83%, B- = 82-80%, C+ = 79-78%, C = 77-73%, C- = 72-70%, D+ = 69-68%, D = 67-60%, F = below 60%

You are responsible for attending class. If you miss a class, it’s your responsibility to get notes from a classmate not from the instructor. Audio recording my lectures is permitted and encouraged. But, posting any content from this class on the internet is not; check with me first.

**Paper:** One short paper is required. It will be between 6 and 10 pages long, typed and double-spaced. References must be cited both in the body of the paper and in a References Cited section. Use any standard citation system. At least half of the citations must be books or journal articles. You can use websites but make sure you look for journal articles and recent books (last 15 years). Of course many articles can be found on the web. If you cite websites include the titles, the journal where the article was published, the date the article was written, urls, and the date you accessed them. **Submit the papers to me via email at tgreen@uark.edu or deliver to class.**

The paper is due April 28. If you have trouble writing – go to the BSU writing center.

**Topic:** You can basically write on any archaeological topic that interests you. You can discuss complications in archaeological methods or scientific techniques applied to archaeological problems. For example, what can go wrong using carbon-14 to date a particular archaeological feature or site? Or, are the animal bones found in a site representative of the diet of the people who lived there? Or, how do we know what stone tools were used for? And on and on. As you read the textbook, look for ideas for this paper. OR you can summarize/outline (you only have a few pages) current debates about an archaeological issue. For example, what are the current theories regarding the origins of agriculture in the Middle East or any other part of the world? Or, where is the earliest art found and what might be its function? Or, why is it so hard to determine when the first people came to North America? Or – just one more – why pyramids? Again, your textbook will provide you with ideas for this paper. This is your chance to learn about a topic you are interested in.

**Examinations**
The exams will include short answer questions and short essays. The textbook and lectures will provide content for the exams. Study guides will be provided the week before each exam.
**Make-up exams and extra credit:** There will be no make-up exams for this class. If you miss a graded assignment/exam, and you provide documentation for a serious and compelling reason, your grade will be averaged from the remainder of graded assignments/exams. Otherwise, you will receive a zero for that assignment/exam. There is no possibility for extra credit.

**Student Conduct**

You are required to treat everyone in the class with respect. Standards for student conduct can be found at [http://osrr.boisestate.edu/scp-codeofconduct/](http://osrr.boisestate.edu/scp-codeofconduct/). Disruptive behavior (distracting use of phones and laptops; refusing to be seated, talking during lectures; sleeping; eating; newspaper reading; entering late or leaving early, etc.) may result in you being asked to leave the classroom.

*Academic dishonesty is a serious offense!!* The Student Code of Conduct [http://osrr.boisestate.edu/scp-codeofconduct/](http://osrr.boisestate.edu/scp-codeofconduct/) states: “A violation may include cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty. All assignments submitted by a student must represent her/his own ideas, concepts, and current understanding or must cite the original source. Academic dishonesty includes assisting a student to cheat, plagiarize, or commit any act of academic dishonesty. Attempts to violate academic integrity do not have to be successful to be considered academic dishonesty.”

**Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who need accommodations to fully participate in this class should contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) as soon as possible. All accommodations MUST be approved through the DRC. Please stop by Administration 114 or call 208-426-1583 to make an appointment with a disability specialist. To learn more about the accommodation process, visit the DRC website at [http://drc.boisestate.edu](http://drc.boisestate.edu).

**Dropping the Class**

You can drop this class at my.BoiseState.edu. If you drop before Jan. 25 (check the Registrars Website), this class will not appear on your transcript. If you drop after Jan. 25 but before March 18, your transcript will show a grade of W (for withdrawal) for that class. Grades of W will not be used in GPA calculation. If you plan on dropping the class, do it by March 18 or you will get an F! CHECK THESE DATES on the Registrar’s website.

**Class Schedule and Reading Assignments.**

**Jan. 14:** Introduction to the class. What is archaeology? How does it relate to history, anthropology and other social sciences? Why do we care about it? **Readings:** Kelly and Thomas Introduction and Chapter 1.

**Jan. 21:** Nature of archaeological evidence and inquiry. **Readings:** Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 2

**Jan. 28:** Nature of archaeological evidence and inquiry (continued). **Readings:** Kelly and Thomas, Chapter 3

**Feb. 4:** Field Work: Archaeological Survey and Excavation. **Readings:** Kelly and Thomas Chapter 4

**Feb. 11:** Geoarchaeology, stratigraphy, and dating techniques. **Readings:** Kelly and Thomas Chapter 5 and Chapter 6.
Feb. 18: FIRST EXAM.

Feb. 25: Analysis of archaeological materials: Space, time, and form.  
Readings: Kelly and Thomas Chapter 7

Readings: Kelly and Thomas Chapter 8

Readings: Kelly and Thomas Chapter 9

March 17: Bioarchaeology: You are what you eat. Issue: Early people in North and South America. Readings: Kelly and Thomas Chapter 10

March 24: Spring Break – no class.

Readings: Kelly and Thomas Chapter 11

April 7: SECOND EXAM.

April 14: Evolution of human societies: Consequences of farming and the origins of inequality.  
Readings: Kelly and Thomas Chapter 12, 14

Readings: Kelly and Thomas Chapter 14

April 28: Historic Archaeology. Cultural resource management and the future of archaeology.  
Readings: Kelly and Thomas Chapters 15 and 16. PAPER DUE

May 5: Final Exam 5:30-7:30 PM