

ANTH 13 **Introduction to Archaeology**

Mon/Wed 3:00-4:15
WSQ 04/02

Marco Meniketti, Ph.D. RPA

Office hours:

M/W 10:00-11:30

Tues 10:00-12:00

404N Clark Hall

marco.meniketti@sjsu.edu

924-5787

This course is an introduction to the science of archaeology and explores the theoretical and practical foundations of archaeological research. Basic applications of various field methodologies will be addressed to familiarize students with how archaeological data is collected and interpreted. Techniques and procedures fundamental to inquiry in archaeology are stressed. Legal and ethical considerations of archaeological practice are also closely examined. We will use case studies, simulations, hands-on problem based inquiry, selected readings and discussion to develop a practical repertoire of methods for the recovery and interpretation of the archaeological record. .

The course has been constructed around Content Units having specific content emphasis. These are designed to form core themes for scaffolding learning objectives. Students should anticipate and schedule six hours weekly for readings and related assignments in support of the learning objectives.

The course will offer serve as an intensive clinic in research methods and scientific writing to help train students for rigor in academics.

Texts:

- **Archaeology: The Science of the Human Past 2nd edition. Mark Sutton and Robert Yohe II . 2006 (Pearson Publishing)**
- **Archaeological Ethics 2nd edition. Karen Vitelli and Chip Colwell-Chanthaphonh, 2006 (Altamira, Lanham).**

Additional readings, updates and assignments and various announcements will be available for download from the website established for this course. Visit

www.sjsu.edu/people/marco.meniketti/courses/ArchIntro

Lectures are an important aspect of instruction. Material not covered in the readings or text, videos, and supplementary information are provided during lectures which cannot adequately be made up. It is therefore essential that students make every effort to attend class for a more comprehensive learning experience. Attendance is not graded; however, we do hands-on group activities in class that can not be made up and these count in the student's overall participation grade.

Objectives

- Broad based understanding of critical issues in archaeological theory, and problems surrounding the collection of evidence.
- Training in archaeological writing techniques.
- Basic Knowledge of specific methods and techniques of field archaeology.
- General knowledge of theoretical frameworks in the field of archaeology.
- Knowledge of remote sensing technology and GIS procedures and applications in varied contexts.

- Basic understanding of site formation processes, and how these generate the archaeological record.
 - Knowledge of career opportunities in archaeology and the different types of archaeological practice..

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will develop critical thinking skills in assessing /environmental evidence as applied in archaeology.
 - Students will develop research skills and methods of inquiry using documentary sources.
 - Students will learn basic field skills relevant to production of archaeological documentation.
 - Students will understand how archaeology works within the arena of Anthropology.
 - Students will develop a working knowledge NAGPRA and CEQA, Federal 106 compliance and other relevant regulations affecting archaeological research.
 - Students will have the opportunity to manipulate actual research data for interpretation.
 - Students will engage in archaeological problem simulations related to actual research situations.
 - Analysis of artifact categories and typology in context of material culture theory.

Theme	Readings	Highlight/Topics	Assessments
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Unit 1: The Science of Archaeology

Week One Aug 22	S&Y chp 1	The artifact as material cultural
What is Archaeology	posted readings pdf	
Career pathways in Archaeology		

Week Two Aug 27, 29

Historic Preservation Archaeology and the Law

S&Y chp2 V&C Introduction, chp 1,2, 4

Week Three [Sept 3 Labor Day/No Class] Sept 5

Week Four Sept 10, 12 The meaning of typology
Introduction to S&Y chp3
Archaeological Theory

Unit 2: Archaeological Data

Week Five Sept 17, 19	
Archaeological sites	posted readings
Survey methods	S&Y chp 4
Stratigraphy	
The archaeological record	Stratigraphy Exercise

Week Six Sept 24, 26	Screening
Fieldwork: the tool kit	S&Y chp5
Basic methodologies	posted readings pdf
Remote sensing technologies	

Week Seven Oct 1, 3
Historical Archaeology posted readings pdf Archaeology on the internet

Week Eight Oct 8, 10 Lab techniques S&Y chp6 **Classification and typology Exercise**

Classification and Analysis

Week Nine Oct 15, 17

Convergence of data
Dating the Past
Methods and technologies
Professional ethics

posted readings
Y&S chp 7
V&C chp TBA

Week Ten Oct 22, 24

Environmental archaeology
Law and ethical practices
International antiquities:

Y&S chp9,10
V&C chp TBA

Midterm exam (24th)

Week Eleven Oct 29, 31

Cemetery studies
Mortuary practices

Burials and culture

Week Twelve Nov 5, 7

Maritime and Underwater Archaeology

Week Thirteen Nov 12 Veterans Day No Class, Nov 14

Experimental Archaeology

Unit 3: Interpreting the Past

Week Fourteen Nov 19, 21

Interpreting archaeological
Data analysis

Y&S chp 10

Artifact analysis exercise

Week Fifteen Nov 26, 28

Special topics

Week Sixteen Dec 3, 5

Cultural interpretation

Y&S chp 11-12

Due 28th: Term Project

Week Seventeen Dec 10

Special Topics

Finals Week Dec 12-18

Final Exam: TBA

Final Exam TBA

Assessments:

There will be three exercise simulations of archaeological procedures and problems which includes a summary paper for each exercise in which you will synthesize critical issues or practices encountered during the exercise. There will be a midterm and a final exam. The final is comprehensive, covering all course material, but with emphasis on material since the midterm. Additionally, you will complete a writing project on a topic in archaeology in order to train you at academic writing and research in archaeological sciences. The paper will involve thesis construction, annotated bibliographies, and final essay of 6-8 pages. Topics will be made available by week two. Participation is critical and assessment of participation is integrated into assignment scores.

3 Skills Exercises 25 pts x 3 (75 pts) [prorated by participation and written analysis]

Midterm Exam 75 pts (Primary archaeological concepts)

Term project 100 pts (Research 25% ,References 25%, Content 50%)

Final Exam 100 pts (Comprehensive)

Total: 350 pts

Grades will be based on score percentages. 94-100% 4.0; 88-93% 3.5; 82-87% 3.0; 76-81% 2.5; 70-75% 2.0; 64-69% 1.5; 57-63% 1.0; <56% 0.0

Policies:

All lectures and handouts are copyrighted, including exams, and may not be distributed without written consent by the instructor.

- Students are encouraged to ask questions before, during, and after class and to take full advantage of scheduled office hours or make appointments to discuss topics of interest.
- **Texting in class is unacceptable behavior.**
- The instructor will make every reasonable effort to provide timely and constructive feedback to students concerning performance throughout the semester.
- The instructor will be available through regular office hours, through email, and by appointment.
- Students should expect to actively participate individually, through group work, class discussions, and in Q&A sessions.
- Students are expected to keep track of assignments, grades and readings.
- **No assignments will be accepted by email. No exceptions.**
- **Late assignments will be have scores deducted 20% for the first day and 10% for a second day.**
- **No assignment will be accepted later than two days for credit.**
- **No assignments will be accepted after the last day of classes.**
- Missed exams may be made-up only if a student provides appropriate documentation for legitimate cause for missing scheduled exam dates (funeral, medical emergency, family crisis; *per university policy*). *Absolutely no make-up will be given for reasons of course overloads, or personal time. Make-up exams will be by scheduled appointment in my office and will include oral discussion section.* Late research projects will not be accepted. Late assignments will be given a grace period of one class cycle (the next class) and a reduced score. Late assignments will not be accepted beyond the grace period. Assignments will not be accepted during finals week.
- Exam dates will not be altered. **If you have a conflict with a scheduled exam date please make arrangements in advance (at least two weeks). The sooner the better.**
- **You may not leave the room during an exam.** The instructor will interpret this as a completed exam and it will be collected without further opportunity to continue.
- The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus content as deemed necessary to facilitate the highest achievement and performance of the class or to introduce new elements that may arise. Archaeology is an active science. New information becomes available weekly that may impact our course material.
- To receive a passing grade for this course you must complete and submit at least 2/3 of the assignments with sufficient scores and complete the Final Exam.
- Extra credit assignments will not be provided as substitutes for missing regular assignments.
- **Academic integrity and ethics will be upheld at all times.** Plagiarism is intellectually dishonest and a form of theft. It will not be tolerated.
- **All lectures are copyrighted.** The use of recording equipment of any kind; tape, film, or digital, is forbidden without written consent from the instructor. This is not usually a problem. Students must agree not to use lectures in unauthorized formats or non-educational purposes.
- **All written projects should conform to the citation standards of American Antiquity. Examples are provided for use on my faculty webpage.**
- Students are expected to attend class. Participation is a vital element in a social science environment and attendance is foundational to academic success. Attendance does not count toward your grade, but will impact your learning. Attendance will be monitored informally.
- Please turn off your cell phones as a courtesy and in respect for fellow students and the instructor.
- **Please: Food or drinks are not allowed in the lab.**
- **It will be assumed that you have read and understand all policies and course criteria.**

Below are basic guidelines for grading. Additional criteria may apply depending on assignments. Grading is criterion based and follows a set of rubrics so that assessment is consistent for all students. Final grade is all based on assessment trends rewarding consistent improvement.

Earning an A: All assignments must be completed, on time, and demonstrate thorough mastery of conceptual as well as critical content. Assignments will exhibit thoughtful and critical analysis, conceptual synthesis, and originality. Papers will be carefully proofed for grammatical and typographical errors and exhibit exemplary writing appropriate to the discipline. Seminar responsibilities achieved. Assignments must be of consistently high quality in terms of content and execution. Examinations will score in the 90% and above range. Projects complete and original or innovative.

Earning a B: All assignments must be completed, on time, and demonstrate general comprehension of conceptual as well as critical content. Assignments will exhibit thoughtful analysis and effort should be made at conceptual synthesis. Seminar responsibilities achieved. Papers will be carefully proofed for grammatical and typographical errors and exhibit very few writing problems. Assignments must be of good quality in terms of content and conform to standards appropriate to the discipline. Exams may score in the 85% and above range. Projects complete and original.

Earning a C: At least 80% of assignments must be completed, on time, and demonstrate general understanding of critical content. Knowledge of basic conceptual material should be demonstrated. Seminar responsibilities achieved. Assignments will exhibit careful effort with minimal errors in content. Papers will likely contain grammatical and typographical errors and exhibit general writing problems. Citation standards incorrect. Exams may score in the 75% and above range. Projects complete but of average quality as measured by content and scope.

Earning a D: Failure to turn in assignments in a timely manner or to complete no more than 60% of assignments. Only basic knowledge of conceptual material. Critical analysis not demonstrated. Assignments exhibiting a lack of careful or thoughtful effort and several errors in content. Failure to achieve seminar responsibilities or at barely acceptable effort. Minimal engagement in class projects. Papers will likely contain grammatical and typographical errors and exhibit general writing problems. Citation standards ignored. Exams may score below 75% range. Project partial completed a basic level.

Earning an F: Failure to turn in assignments in a timely manner or to complete and submit more than 60% of assignments. Basic knowledge of conceptual material and critical analysis not demonstrated. No evidence of general skills or course content acquired. Assignments exhibiting a lack of careful or thoughtful effort and significant errors evident in content. Papers will likely contain serious grammatical and typographical errors along with general writing problems, especially in word usage. Citation standards wrong. Exams may score below the 60% range. Final project possibly incomplete, late, or absent. Any intentional plagiarism will automatically result in a failing grade. Missing final exam will result in an F.

Grade I: Special circumstances (personal circumstances preventing student from academic completion of the course). Attendance below acceptable levels to have earned an I will in some instances be assigned an F grade per University policy. An Incomplete can not be given to avoid a F grade.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to the mission of San José State University. As such, students are expected to perform their own work (except when collaboration is expressly permitted by the course instructor) without the use of any outside resources. Students are not permitted to use old tests or quizzes when preparing for exams, nor may they consult with students who have already taken the exam. When practiced, academic integrity ensures that all students are fairly graded. Violations to Academic Integrity Policy undermine the educational process and will not be tolerated. It also demonstrates a lack of respect for oneself, fellow students and the course instructor and can ruin a university's reputation and the value of the degrees it offers.

We all share the obligation to maintain an environment which practices academic integrity. Violators of the Academic Integrity Policy will be subject to failing this course and being reported to the Office of Judicial affairs for disciplinary action which could result in suspension or expulsion from San Jose State University.

Cheating

At SJSU, cheating is an act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means. Cheating at SJSU includes but is not limited to:

Copying in part or in whole from another's test or other evaluation instrument; Submitting work previously graded in another course unless this has been approved by the course instructor or by departmental policy; Submitting work simultaneously presented in two courses unless this has been approved by the course instructor or by departmental policy; Altering or interfering with grading or grading instructions; Sitting for an examination by a surrogate, or as a surrogate; any other act committed by a student in the course of his or her academic work which defrauds or misrepresents, including aiding or abetting in any of the actions defined above.

Plagiarism

At SJSU plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own (without giving appropriate credit) regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. Plagiarism at SJSU includes but is not limited to:

The act of incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof, or the specific substances of another's work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's own work; and representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, painting, drawing, sculptures, or similar works as one's own. In written works this may include the over use of quoted materials to build a paper that is otherwise lacking in original content.
The instructor reserves the right to determine the severity of plagiarism and either fail the assignment or the entire course.

Add/Drop Policy

The university has specific procedures for dropping a class. **It is the student's responsibility to make sure classes are dropped. You are able to do this through My SJSU. Navigate to "Self Service>Student center>Drop a class"**

Check the schedule and be sure to drop prior to submitting fees to ensure your registration fees are properly assessed.

Instructors are permitted to drop students who fail to attend the first scheduled class meeting and who fail to inform the instructor prior to the second class meeting of the reason for any absence and their intention to continue in the class. Some instructors will drop students who do not meet the stated course prerequisites. However, they are not required to do so. For students who wish to drop a course **it is the student's responsibility to make sure classes are dropped. For more information about "add" and "drop" deadlines go to:**

<http://info.sjsu.edu?web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-2.html>

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Any student with a condition or situation that requires special accommodations must make arrangements through the Disability Resource center. This includes learning and physical disabilities that prevent you from fulfilling course requirements under expected conditions. If you feel you have a disability, you must go to the DRC and follow their guidelines in order to receive assistance. I will work with the DRC to assist you based on their recommendations. I am not authorized to make assessments of personal situations

regarding disabilities, and request that you prepare well in advance for any special needs you may have, particularly for taking exams. You can find more information on SJSU's policy and the programs available as well as your rights at: <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/>

"Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus."

S12-7, Policy Recommendation, Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material that the following language be included:

"Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material."

"Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

Please meet with the instructor to obtain permission.