

ANTH 13

Introduction to Archaeology

Section 1

Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Marco Meniketti
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Office Hours:	T/Th 3:00-4:00, Wed 11:00-12:00 or by appointment
Class Days/Time:	T/Th 1:30-2:45
Classroom:	Clark 204

Course Web pages:

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

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/firstname.lastname>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn any updates.

Course Description

As an introduction to the science of archaeology this course explores the basic theoretical and practical foundations of modern 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 emphasis. These are designed to form core themes for scaffolding learning objectives.

Course Goals and Learning Objectives

- Broad understanding critical issues in archaeological theory, and the problems associated with collection of evidence and its interpretation.
- Development of basic research practices.
- Training in archaeological writing techniques.
- Knowledge of specific methods and techniques of field archaeology, including dating methods, surveying, and archival approaches.
- General knowledge of at least three theoretical frameworks of modern archaeology and the historical development of these approaches.
- Knowledge of remote sensing technology, GIS procedures, and applications of new technologies in varied contexts.
- Basic understanding of site formation processes, and how these generate the archaeological record.
- Analysis of artifact categories and typology in context of material culture theory.
- Awareness of the different types of archaeology and applications.
- Students will acquire realistic knowledge of career opportunities in archaeology.
- Broad exposure to current archaeological research around the world.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

- Students will develop introductory research skills and identify methods of archaeological data collection.
- Students will demonstrate basic field skills relevant to production of archaeological documentation.
- Students will articulate how archaeology is situated within the field of Anthropology.
- Students will apply knowledge of NAGPRA and CEQA, Federal 106 compliance and other relevant legal and ethical issues affecting archaeological research to research scenarios.
- Students will participate in authentic archaeological research interpretation using existing collections.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

- **Archaeology: Discovering Our Past 3rd edition. Robert Sharer and Wendy Ashmore 2003 McGraw Hill, Boston.**

Additional readings, updates and assignments and various announcements will be available for download from the website established for this course. Readings will be in pdf format at: www.sjsu.edu/people/marco.meniketti/courses/ArchIntro

Library liaison for Anthropology: Silke.Higgins@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on.

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 conduct hands-on group activities in the lab which cannot be made up that count in the student's overall participation class grade. Students should plan to spend six hours each week on assignments and readings outside of class.

Assessments:

There will be three simulation exercises (Activities) addressing specific questions for each exercise in which you will synthesize critical issues or practices encountered during the activity. Participation is critical and assessment of participation is integrated into assignment scores. These are group oriented at the Integrative Anthropology lab and cannot be made up if missed. There will be four objective quizzes and a final exam. The final is comprehensive, covering all course material, but with emphasis on archaeological problem solving.

Additionally, you will complete a term project on a topic in archaeology designed to acquaint you with academic writing and research in archaeological sciences. The paper will involve thesis construction, annotated bibliographies, and topical essay of 6 pages. Each component will be graded separately for the point total. Topics will be made available by week three.

3 Simulations Exercises 10 pts x 3 (30 pts): includes participation score [10%]

3 Written summaries from the Exercises 10 pts x 3 (30 pts) [10%]

4 quizzes 25 pts each (100 pts) [33%]

Term project 100 pts (References 40%, Content 60%) [33%]

Final Exam 40 pts [14%]

Total: 300 pts

- **No assignments will be accepted by email.**
- **Late assignments will 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 scheduled classes.**

<i>CLO</i>	<i>Core Competency</i>	<i>Assessment</i>
<i>Students will develop introductory research skills and identify methods of archaeological data collection.</i>	<i>Specific readings, lab exercises, and current research will illustrate methods.</i>	<i>Activities and write-ups. Quizzes. 80% represents basic competency.</i>
<i>Students will demonstrate basic field skills relevant to production of archaeological documentation.</i>	<i>Lab activities using archaeological collections. Outdoor activities with field equipment.</i>	<i>Hands-on activities in lab and quiz questions.</i>
<i>Students will articulate how archaeology is situated within the field of Anthropology.</i>	<i>Lecture, readings, and discussion.</i>	<i>Discussion and term project. Inclusion of issues related to Anthropology in term paper.</i>
<i>Students will apply knowledge of NAGPRA and CEQA, Federal 106 compliance and other relevant legal and ethical issues affecting archaeological research to research scenarios.</i>	<i>Readings and lecture. Discussion in class of key issues and controversies.</i>	<i>Quiz questions targeting comprehension of the law and issues. 80% represents basic comprehension.</i>
<i>Students will participate in authentic archaeological research interpretation using existing collections.</i>	<i>Hands-on lab experience. Simulation activities to reinforce key conceptual elements.</i>	<i>Lab participation, quiz questions, activity write-up.</i>

Semester Schedule

Unit 1 The Science of Archaeology	Readings	Assessments
Week One Aug 26, 28 Why Archaeology What archaeology can and cannot achieve. Career pathways Historical development of the science	S&A 1 Pdf readings	
Week Two Sept 2, 4 Historic Preservation Archaeology and the Law Archaeological ethics	S&A 2	Activity A
Week Three Sept 9, 11 Archaeological Theory: Culture Historical Perspectives Processual / Cultural Ecology	S&A 3	Write-up due for Activity A
Week Four Sept 16, 18 Archaeological mysteries: Case studies	Pdf readings	Quiz 1
Unit 2 Archaeological Data and Interpretation		
Interpretation Week Five Sept 23, 25 Archaeological sites Artifacts ecofacts features Survey methods Stratigraphy Fieldwork: the tool kit Basic methodologies	S&A 4	
Week Six Sept 30, Oct 2 The Archaeology lab Artifact recording	S&A 10 Meet in WSQ4 all week	Activity B
Week Seven Oct 7, 9 Fields of research: Part 1 Historical archaeology	Pdf readings Video	Quiz 2 Write-up due for Activity B

Prehistoric archaeology Industrial archaeology CRM		
Week Eight Oct 14, 16 Research design Data collection and interpretation	S&A 5	
Week Nine Oct 21, 23 Archaeological prospecting Technologies Remote sensing Excavation	S&A 6,7 Pdf readings	
Week Ten Fields of Research: Part 2 Environmental archaeology Ethnoarchaeology Experimental archaeology	S&A 13	Quiz 3
Unit 3: Interpreting the Past		
Week Eleven Nov 4, 6 Interpreting archaeological data Data analysis Classification Typology	S&A 8 and 16	Activity C
Week Twelve Nov 11 Veterans day--no class, Nov 13 International antiquities International ethics	Pdf readings	
Week Thirteen Nov 18, 20 Fields of Research: Part 3 Maritime and Underwater Archaeology	Pdf readings	Write-up due for Activity C
Week Fourteen Nov 25 (Thanksgiving Break Nov 27) Archaeological dating techniques	S&A 9	
Unit 4 Archaeological problems		
Week Fifteen Dec 2, 4 Special Topics	Pdf readings	Quiz 4
Week Sixteen Dec 9 Special Topics		Term Project Due No exceptions
Finals week Dec 12-18		Final Exam DEC 17 12:15 Clark 204

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.

Classroom Protocol

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.
- 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.
- 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 and reference standards of American Antiquity (SAA). 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.**
- Texting in class is unacceptable behavior. You will be asked to leave the room as this is a disturbance for the instructor and your classmates.

Departmental Goals_____

Learn about the goals of the anthropology department and how it can benefit your education.

Goals <http://www.sjsu.edu/anthropology/departmentinfo/goals/index.html>

Credit Hours

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.

University Policies_____

Here are some of the basic university policies that students must follow.

Dropping and Adding

Find the procedures and deadlines for adding and dropping classes.

[Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>.

Add/drop deadlines http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/

[Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

All students must obtain the instructor's permission if they wish to record lectures or distribute materials from the class.

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf) <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>

Academic integrity

Learn about the importance of academic honesty and the consequences if it is violated.

[University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>

[Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/)

<http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

Here are guidelines to request any course adaptations or accommodations you might need.

[Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf)

http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf

[Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec>

Resources

The university provides resources that can help you succeed academically. Just look here.

[Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/>

[Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu>

[Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>

[Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>

