

San José State University
College of Social Sciences
Anthropology 13, Archaeology, Section 1, Fall 2017

Instructor:	Dr. Charlotte Sunseri
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Office Hours:	Thursday 10:30-2:30PM, or by appt.
Class Days/Time:	Monday, Wednesday 12:00-1:15PM
Classroom:	CL 202

Course Description

Catalog: How archaeologists invent their own version of the past, illustrated with compelling Old and New World discoveries from early prehistory to the present. How archaeological sites are discovered, excavated and analyzed; how facts are tested and fictions unmasked.

This course is an introduction to the study of concepts, theories, data and models of anthropological archaeology that contribute to our knowledge of the human past, especially that part of the human past beyond the limitations/objectives of written history. The course includes a discussion of the nature of scientific inquiry; the history and interdisciplinary nature of archaeological research; methodological and theoretical approaches to understand the human past; professional ethics and social implications of archaeology. We examine methods used to study fundamental aspects of human society and culture, including human ecology and subsistence; social relations and identities; production and exchange; symbolism and ideology; and the relationship between power, social inequality and the state. Readings, lectures, and hands-on activities explore the practical and social dimensions of archaeology as practiced in the United States.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Course Content Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the various archaeological theories, methods, and techniques used to investigate the human past.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of scientific inquiry and its application in archaeological research.

3. Articulate the goals, and the legal, operational, and ethical framework of cultural resource management and heritage preservation.
4. Illustrate the use of archaeological methods with reference to cultural sequences.
5. Discuss the relationship between anthropology and archaeology.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

Deetz, James. 1996. *In Small Things Forgotten: The Archaeology of Early American Life* 2nd Edition. Anchor Press, New York. ISBN: 0385483996

Kelly, Robert and David Hurst Thomas. 2010. *Archaeology: Down to Earth*. Wadsworth/Cengage Learning. ISBN 0495814091. (3rd-5th Editions acceptable)

Other Readings

Supplementary course readings or handouts in PDF format available on Canvas.

Classroom Protocol

- Participation is a vital element in a social science environment and attendance is foundational to academic success. Students are expected to attend class, and material covered during lectures cannot be adequately made up. Activities and hands-on projects during class time may not be made up if missed, yet contribute to the overall grade of students.
- As a courtesy and in respect for fellow students and instructor please turn off your cell phones and other electronics. Computers may be used only for note taking—please refrain from emailing, chatting, or looking at websites while in class.
- Assignments will not be accepted late, by email, or after the last scheduled class. The final exam may be rescheduled *in advance* only if a student provides appropriate documentation according to University Policy.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Students will be evaluated on the basis of:

(1) Interactive learning activities will be completed both in and out of class and will require students to attend class to receive detailed instructions and to report on observations. Activities will correspond to most units of the course and involve written submissions. This hands-on portion of the class includes seven short activities (10 points each) and one longer activity, the Cemetery Seriation Project (25 points). All assignment descriptions are posted to Canvas well in advance of their due date, and may involve in-class participation to complete. **[95 points]**

(2) A comprehensive final examination will include essays on the major themes of the course. The exam will be given during the scheduled finals period (except for students requiring disability accommodations). **[50 points]**

(3) Unannounced quizzes will be given occasionally during the first 10-15 minutes of class. These quizzes may be multiple-choice, fill in the blank, or short answer. They are designed to cover material presented in lectures and assigned readings—keeping up readings is essential to do well on this portion of the class. Quizzes may not be made up if missed—for this reason it is strongly recommended that students come to class on time each meeting. There will be eight quizzes (10 points each) during the semester. **[80 points]**

(3) Summaries and short (10-15 minute) presentations of the supplemental articles will be assigned periodically to students throughout the course. Summaries should be submitted at the time of the presentation and should be a half-page, single-spaced abstract of the article. **[50 points]**

Total points= 275

Grades will be based on score percentages:

A+ >99%, A 94-99%, A- 90-93 % B+ 88-89%, B 84-87%, B- 80-83% C+ 78-79%, C 74-77%, C- 70-73% D+ 68-69%, D 63-67%, F <63%

Policies:

- Students will be held to the highest standards of academic integrity and intellectual ethics. The chief product in the social sciences is new knowledge and original thinking. Plagiarism is intellectually dishonest and a form of theft. It will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in accordance with university Academic Integrity Policy.
- Clear criteria for grading will be provided for each assignment format. Feedback to students will be immediate and as detailed as manageable. The instructor will make every reasonable effort to provide timely and constructive feedback to students concerning performance throughout the semester, especially on written work.
- **Assignments will not be accepted by email or after the last scheduled class.**
- The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus, exam dates, or course content as deemed necessary to facilitate the highest achievement and performance of the class, or to explore timely topics.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

ANTH 13 / Archaeology, Fall 2017, Course Schedule

Schedule (including assignment due dates, exam dates, date of final exam) is subject to change with fair notice – notice may be made available by email from instructor and/or classroom announcements.

Key to readings: **K&T**=Kelly and Thomas text; **PDF**=additional readings posted on Canvas course website

Table 1 Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 23	Introduction to class, syllabus, and course expectations
2	Aug 28, 30	UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION & HISTORY—The world as seen by archaeologists K&T: Ch. 2, pp.16-33; Deetz: Ch. 1 UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION & HISTORY—The Roots of Archaeology K&T: Ch. 1, pp. 6-15; PDF: Winchester <i>Probate activity</i>
3	Sept 6	UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION & HISTORY—The Origins of Archaeology in America, In-class Video: “The Myth of the Moundbuilders” K&T: Intro/Ch. 1, pp. xxv-5; Ch. 2, pp. 16-33; Ch. 13, pp. 235-242
4	Sept 11, 13	UNIT 2: WHO OWNS THE PAST?—Archaeology and Native Americans (From Myth of the Moundbuilders to Kennewick and beyond) PDF: Watkins; Meighan and Zimmerman; Cooper; Ferguson <i>Kennewick Man Debate</i> Out-of-Class Web Site Visits: Kennewick Case Web sites: http://www.friendsofpast.org/ ; http://www.umatilla.nsn.us/ancient.html ; http://www.kennewick-man.com/
5	Sept 18, 20	UNIT 2: WHO OWNS THE PAST?—Archaeology and “the People Without History” ; video: “The African Burial Ground” K&T: Ch. 12, pp. 209-215; Deetz: Ch. 7-8; PDF: Barbour, Gidwitz
6	Sept 25, 27	UNIT 3: PLACING OBJECTS IN TIME—Relative dating, seriation assign K&T: Ch. 5, pp. 74-77 and Ch. 6, pp. 105-109; Deetz: Ch. 4 UNIT 3: PLACING OBJECTS IN TIME—“Absolute” dating K&T: Ch. 5, pp. 79-92; PDF: Renfrew; Waters et al.
7	Oct 2, 4	<i>Bring seriation data to class for in-class work on graphs/charts</i>
8	Oct 9, 11	UNIT 4: RECOVERING & INTERPRETING EVIDENCE—Survey, Excavation K&T: Ch. 3-4; PDF: Crumley; Van Noten, Cahen & Keeley <i>Cemetery Seriation project due</i>
9	Oct 16, 18	UNIT 4: RECOVERING & INTERPRETING EVIDENCE--Middle Range Research, video “Flintknapping” with Bruce Bradley K&T: Ch. 7; PDF: Keeley <i>Site formation processes activity</i>

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
10	Oct 23, 25	UNIT 5: HUMAN ECOLOGY & SUBSISTENCE—Reconstructing Past Environments and Human Diet K&T: Ch. 8-9 <i>Zooarchaeology activity</i> The Origins and Implications of Food Production K&T: Ch. 8-9; PDF: Smith
11	Oct 30, Nov 1	UNIT 6: PRODUCTION AND EXCHANGE--How archaeologists study economics, material science techniques K&T: Ch. 10, pp. 183-185; PDF: Harbottle and Weigand; Powell In-class Video: "Artisans and Traders" <i>Exchange project</i>
12	Nov 6, 8	<i>Exchange project presentations</i> UNIT 7: SOCIAL RELATIONS AND IDENTITIES--Gender and the politics of representation K&T: Ch. 10, pp. 168-175; PDF: Costin; Gero; Wilkie
13	Nov 13, 15	UNIT 7: SOCIAL RELATIONS AND IDENTITIES—Households, families, and communities; In-class Video: "The Hearth" K&T: Ch. 10, pp. 175-177; PDF: Gladkih <i>Households and community activity</i> UNIT 8: SYMBOLISM, IDEOLOGY, AND WORLDVIEW—Ideology and practice: the archaeology of <i>habitus</i> K&T: Ch. 11, pp. 187-196; Deetz: Ch. 3, 5, and 6
14	Nov 20	UNIT 9: POWER, SOCIAL INEQUALITY AND THE STATE—Reconstructing social status, Video excerpt: "Power, Prestige, Wealth" K&T: Ch. 10, pp. 178-183; Peebles and Kus; Brumfiel <i>Wealth and status activity</i>
15	Nov 27, 29	UNIT 10: ARCHAEOLOGY TODAY: Archaeology of the recent past; Amache Internment Camp K&T: Ch. 13, pp. 224-232; PDF: Skiles and Clark
16	Dec 4, 6	UNIT 11: THE FUTURE OF THE PAST—Conservation, stewardship K&T: Ch. 13, pp. 233-235; PDF: Harrington; Wertime; Sabloff (ch. 6)
17	Dec 11	UNIT 11: THE FUTURE OF THE PAST—Who owns the past? K&T: review Ch. 13, pp. 235-243; PDF: Atalay, Sabloff (ch. 1)

Final exam: Tuesday, December 19, 9:45AM-12:00PM