

Anthropology 160-04 - Reconstructing Lost Civilizations

San Jose State University; Fall 2007 – TR 3-4:15 p.m., Room: Clark Hall 204

Instructor: Robert Simpkins; Phone: (408) 864-8999 xt. 3728 (DeAnza College voice mail)

Email: bobsahib@earthlink.net; Office: Clark Hall 404G; Office Hours: TR 1:30-2:30 p.m., F 12-1 p.m.

COURSE SYNOPSIS: This class fulfills the General Education requirements for **SJSU Studies Area R: Earth and Environment**. The class explores how archaeologists reconstruct human history through the remains of past cultures, teaches critical thinking about modern claims for ancient societies, including the distinction between science and pseudoscience, and shows how cultures around the world have responded to the challenges of different environments and environmental change throughout human history.

SJSU Studies courses (formerly Advanced GE) help students become integrated thinkers who can see connections between and among a variety of concepts and ideas. An educated person will be able to apply concepts and foundations learned in one area to other areas as part of a lifelong learning process. These courses will help students to live and work intelligently, responsibly, and cooperatively in a multicultural society and to develop abilities to address complex issues and problems using disciplined analytic skills and creative techniques.

NOTE ON SJSU STUDIES REQUIREMENTS: Completion of, or co-registration in, a 100W course is required for enrollment in all SJSU Studies courses. Courses used to satisfy Areas R, S, and V must be taken from three separate SJSU departments, or other distinct academic units.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- **Interactions of science, technology, and society:** students should understand the impact of technology on archaeologically known cultures
- **Interactions of humans and the physical world:** students should understand how cultures have adapted to past environments
- **Methodologies of human inquiry:** students should understand how the scientific method is applied to archaeological research; this objective is intended to encourage students to examine major debates in archaeology
- **Applications of science and technology:** students should understand the application of appropriate technology to archaeological research
- **Differences between scientific, non-scientific, and pseudo-scientific approaches:** students should be able to distinguish folk archaeology and pseudo-archaeology from scientific archaeology
- **Values and limitations of science and scientific inquiry:** students should understand how (and with what controls) archaeologists go beyond the scientific method, and understand the values and constraints of doing archaeology in the real world

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY OBJECTIVES:

The Department of Anthropology seeks to enhance student knowledge and skills in the following areas:

1. Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationship of human biology and evolution.
2. Awareness of human diversity and the ways humans have categorized diversity.
3. Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline.
4. Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history
5. Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomenon shaping global society.
6. Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.
7. Awareness of importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues.
8. Knowledge of the research methods of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, and the ability to apply appropriate research methods in at least one sub-discipline.
9. Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.
10. Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research

REQUIRED READING:

Fagan, Brian M., editor. 2001. *The Seventy Great Mysteries of the Ancient World*. Thames & Hudson, Ltd.

Feder, Kenneth L. 2006. *Frauds, Myths & Mysteries: Science and Pseudoscience in Archaeology*, 5th Edition. Mayfield Publishing Company.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: In addition to the **required reading**, all students will take **2 midterms** and a **final exam**, and write **2 short papers**.

MIDTERMS: The midterms will contain approximately **70 multiple choice questions (2 points each)** worth **140 points total**. Questions will come from any of the course content, including reading, lecture, and documentaries. Midterm 1 (October 9th) will cover all material prior to that date. Midterm 2 (November 27th) will cover all material prior to that date and after the first midterm. Questions will be derived from the list of reading questions provided for you, unless I indicate otherwise. Both midterms require you to bring a T&E 200 scantron form (available in your bookstore) and a few reliable pencils. **Midterms are open-note but closed-book.**

MIDTERM EXTRA CREDIT: Midterms will be returned to students the following class meeting, and all questions will be discussed. Test questions that students believe contain errors or are otherwise confusing will be addressed in this meeting. Additionally, as a reward for students who attend and participate in class on these days, the midterm discussion will be followed by a short closed-book and closed-note extra credit quiz on some of the most difficult questions that were just discussed. Students will be able to obtain a maximum of 10 extra credit points from each quiz.

FINAL EXAM: The final exam will be given on **Thursday, December 13th, from 2:45-5 p.m. (note that this is earlier than the normal meeting time)**. The final exam will consist of a single essay based on a short news article on archaeology provided for students that day. Students will be provided with a preparatory period in which they will be permitted full use of all class notes *and reading, as well as their fellow students' ideas*, before sitting down to write their essays in which they analyze the news article using ideas and information from the rest of the course. The final is not strictly speaking comprehensive, but assumes that students will draw on any appropriate information from the course in producing the best possible essay. The essay will require a large blue book (available in the campus bookstore) and will be worth 100 points.

OPEN-NOTE EXAMS: Archaeology courses (and science courses in general) contain a fair amount of information, and you will benefit from having detailed notes from both the class meeting material and the reading. To assist you, I will be providing study questions to you on each unit of the course; test questions will be based on these questions. You **are** permitted to use your notes during the exams. You may **not** share notes with your neighbor, and if you take notes on a laptop, you must print them out. Some exam questions will be fairly specific (including many names and dates), and assume that you have notes available to you, so it is to your benefit to prepare them. Having too many notes can be a disadvantage, however, so keep them concise and well organized.

PAPERS: All students are required to write **two papers** with a minimum length of **4 pages each**. Each paper assignment will consist of one or two topics in which students will critically examine and discuss material from the course. No outside reading or research is required for these papers, although I may assign some additional reading at my discretion. Detailed instructions will be provided on the dates indicated on the schedule, but overall, you will simply be asked to identify the elements of scientific or pseudoscientific thinking in the research on the indicated topics, and provide your own analysis using ideas and knowledge from the course. In addition, you will be asked to discuss your thoughts with a small group during scheduled class time, and 1) turn in a worksheet with the product of your group brainstorming, and 2) include your thoughts on this brainstorming session in your analysis. The **group worksheet** will be turned in that day and is worth **20 points**. Each paper will be worth **100 points**.

CLASS FORMAT: Class time is devoted to a mix of **lectures, documentaries, and discussion.** Lecture material introduces the topic for the meeting; handouts may be provided to supplement the lecture and assigned reading. The documentaries chosen not only show archaeological sites and data, but often also feature key figures in the research on the topic. The documentaries are not simply for entertainment, however, but also act as texts we can critically analyze. They are the way in which many people learn about archaeology and the study of the past, and often contain distorted or misleading claims, even from seemingly qualified sources. During discussion, we will analyze these claims, the evidence for them, and the possibility of alternative explanations. Students are encouraged to prepare for these discussions by doing the assigned reading and contributing their insights to the topic. Students are also welcome to ask questions at any time during the lecture. Discussion is not just an exercise - it is helpful to me as well, and anything interesting that comes from it is potential material for the exams; it should also be fun - it is my favorite part of the class.

Course Grade Breakdown is as Follows:

ASSIGNMENT	POINTS	%
Midterm 1	140	22.6
Midterm 2	140	22.6
Paper 1 Group sheet	20	3.2
Paper 1	100	16.1
Paper 2 Group sheet	20	3.2
Paper 2	100	16.1
Final Exam	100	16.1
TOTAL	620	100

GRADING: Grades are given based upon a standard grading scale as follows:

.	A	B	C	D	F
+	97-100	87-89	77-79	67-69	
	93-96	83-86	73-76	63-66	0-59
-	90-92	80-82	70-72	60-62	

Your percentage is your total points divided by the total points possible on the assignments. Each assignment will contain its grading criteria within the instructions. Please note that all scores below 60% will receive failing grades. Completion of all assignments does not guarantee a passing grade in the course.

POLICIES:

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is mandatory for all students, and you are responsible for all material covered each day. It is a basic courtesy to arrive in class on time and not cause disruptions to myself and your fellow students. All students should turn **off** cell phones when entering the room. If you cannot arrive on time, it is nevertheless better to come late than not at all - please enter discretely and take your seat. If you do miss class, you are advised to obtain lecture notes from other students. I will answer questions, and encourage students to attend office hours to discuss missed material, but I cannot repeat the content of entire lectures for students who

have missed class, nor will I supply my own lecture notes. Students should notify me (preferably via e-mail) if they will be or were unable to attend class with a *reasonable excuse* (illness, family emergency, work conflict, etc.). This is especially important if there are any handouts or changes in the schedule, such as the postponement of an exam or quiz. **NOTE:** I may regularly take attendance at the beginning of the semester; this is largely to assist me in learning all of your names, but it also gives me an idea of who comes to class.

LATE POLICY: LATE papers will be penalized by 25% of their value if received after the *start of class on the due date*, and by 50% if received after the end of class the following week - and **no paper** may be turned in beyond the day of the Final Exam. Papers **must** be turned in as a printed document – email is **NOT** acceptable. Please plan ahead to avoid last-minute computer and printer errors. **All students MUST complete both papers in order to pass this course.**

MAKE-UP POLICY: Exams can only be made up if the following conditions are met: 1) You have a known and unavoidable emergency and have arranged with me *in advance* to take the test at an alternate time; 2) you are unable to attend class due to an unforeseeable emergency, **AND** you have contacted me within **24 hours** of the class date to inform me of your situation. On test days, I will be sure to check voice mail and email, and will reply as quickly as possible. *If you do not get a reply from me, you cannot assume I have received your message.* You must make a reasonable effort to inform me of your situation. Only students with a genuine, verifiable emergency and a *mutually* agreed-upon plan to make up the exam will be allowed to do so, and **all** make up tests must be completed before the next class meeting unless I have given permission otherwise.

The Group worksheet for the two papers can only be completed by attending class on the scheduled days, and therefore **cannot be made up**, although you can still consult with other students on your own in writing your actual paper.

OFFICE HOURS: Students are encouraged to ask questions in class, but for those wishing to speak to me individually, please come to my office in **Clark Hall 404G** on **Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-2:30 p.m., and Fridays from 12-1 p.m.** Additionally, **special arrangements can sometimes be made** to meet with students at other times, my schedule permitting. Note that I am **NOT** on campus on Mondays and Wednesdays. Students are also encouraged to **contact me via phone or (especially) e-mail with questions or problems;** whenever possible, a response will be given that day.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

It is assumed that all students are familiar with the expectation of honest work, and the consequences for dishonest work in your classes. Please consult the university catalog for detailed information. The details below are excerpted from the **official campus policy on 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, 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 the 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 the 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 José State University.

CHEATING:

At SJSU, cheating is the 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 both course instructors 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.

Students caught engaging in the above actions will receive an **automatic F in the course** and a **report to the Judicial Affairs Officer** in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for further disciplinary action.

Students with prior incidents on report may find themselves **suspended or expelled** from the University.

Claiming ignorance of what constitutes cheating or plagiarism is no excuse. If you are in doubt, ask me for clarification. If you are genuinely having difficulties completing assignments, you are better off being honest (to you and me) then you are trying to cheat and hoping to get away with it.

More information can be found on the campus website section for Judicial Affairs.

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 that 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 upon 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 policies and the programs available, as well as your rights at:

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

Fall 2007 Registration Instructions, Policies and Procedures

v01 Friday, May 11, 2007

Academic Information
Adding a Class
Administrators
Alternative Ways to Attend
Calendar
Directory
Dropping a Class
Fees and Payments
Final Exam Schedule
General Education (G.E.)
Grades & Academic Standing
Graduation
Holds
International Students
Map – Campus Resources
Parking
Payments
Placement Exams
Police Services
Refunds
Registration
Rights & Responsibilities
Selecting Courses
Wait Listing
What's New for Fall 2007?

Registration > Dropping Classes

Dropping a Class

Go to <http://my.sjsu.edu>

- Enter your SJSU ID and Password – you may now use your nine-digit SJSU ID to login to MySJSU. If you are a continuing student and have previously been given a User ID beginning with an uppercase W, you can continue to use this ID to log in.

If you drop a class, you must do so prior to the time you submit payment to ensure that your registration fees are properly assessed.

Navigate to “Self Service” > Student center > Drop a class”

- Click on “Drop Classes”
- Click the checkbox next to each class you wish to drop and click “Drop Selected Classes.”
- Review your selection and click “Finish Dropping.”

CAUTION!

Instructor Drops

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. **It is the student's responsibility to make sure classes are dropped.**

Advance Registration

Monday, June 11 –
Wednesday, August 15

Late Registration

Thursday, August 23 –
Wednesday, September 12

Wednesday, September 5
is the last day to:

- Drop classes or withdraw from SJSU without a “W” grade.
- Add and drop courses of equal net value and not be responsible for additional state university fees.

Wednesday, September 12
is the last day to:

- Add classes
- Submit instructor drops, if the instructor wishes to use that option.
- Submit Academic Renewal, CR/NC and Audit options

<http://my.sjsu.edu> is available
Monday – Sunday, 24 hours daily,
with scheduled maintenance
Mondays 8:00 pm – 11:00 pm,
or as necessary.



ANTH 160 - 04 SCHEDULE - FALL 2007							
WEEK	DATE	DAY	TOPIC(S)	READING		DOCUMENTARY	ASSIGNMENT
				<i>70 Great Mysteries</i>	<i>Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries</i>		
1	8/23	TH	Introduction				
2	8/28	T	Unit 1: Science and Pseudoscience in Archaeology	Ch. 2, 10, 12, 13	Ch. 1, 2, 11 (p. 278-307 only)		
2	8/30	TH	Unit 1, continued				
3	9/4	T	Unit 1, continued				
3	9/6	TH	Unit 2: Human Evolution	Ch. 17, 18, 19, 20	Ch. 4		
4	9/11	T	Unit 2, continued			<i>Neanderthals on Trial</i>	
4	9/13	TH	Unit 2, continued				
5	9/18	T	Unit 3: Egypt	Ch. 31-35, 50	Ch. 9		
5	9/20	TH	Unit 3, continued			<i>Ramses' Egyptian Empire</i>	
6	9/25	T	Unit 3, continued				
6	9/27	TH	Unit 4: Atlantis & The Trojan War	Ch. 5, 6, 7, 65	Ch. 7		
7	10/2	T	Unit 4, continued			<i>Aegean: Legacy of Atlantis</i>	
7	10/4	TH	Unit 4, continued				Paper 1 Topics Presented
8	10/9	T	MIDTERM 1				
8	10/11	TH	Paper 1 Group Discussion				Paper 1 Group Sheet Due
9	10/16	T	Midterm Discussion				
9	10/18	TH	Midterm Extra Credit				Paper 1 Due
10	10/23	T	Unit 5: Easter Island	Ch. 48, 49, 64	Ch. 8 (p. 220-222 only)		
10	10/25	TH	Unit 5, continued			<i>Mysteries of Easter Island</i>	
11	10/30	T	Unit 5, continued				
11	11/1	TH	Unit 6: The Maya	Ch. 44, 68	Ch. 12 (p. 315-321 only)		
12	11/6	T	Unit 6, continued			<i>Lost King of the Maya</i>	
12	11/8	TH	Unit 6, continued		Ch. 5, 6		
13	11/13	T	Unit 7: The Moundbuilders				
13	11/15	TH	Unit 7, continued			<i>Secret Mounds of Prehistoric America</i>	
14	11/20	T	Unit 7, continued				Paper 2 Topics Presented
14	11/22	TH	NO CLASS MEETING - THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY				
15	11/27	T	MIDTERM 2				
15	11/29	TH	Paper 2 Group Discussion				Paper 2 Group Sheet Due
16	12/4	T	Midterm Discussion				
16	12/6	TH	Midterm Extra Credit				Paper 2 due
17	12/13	TH	FINAL EXAM: 2:45-5 P.M.				