

COASTAL AND ISLAND SOCIETIES

SPRING 2008

Monday and Wednesday 1:30- 2:45pm

Washington Square Hall 004

Instructor: Dr. Mark D. McCoy, Assistant Professor

Office: Clark Hall 469A (inside Anthropology Office Suite)

Email: mdmccoy@email.sjsu.edu (Please read "Email Policy."); **Phone:** 408-924-5542

Office Hours: Mondays 10:30-12:00 (CL469A) & 3:00-5:00 (WSQ 2); Wednesdays 10:30-1:30 (CL469A)

Faculty Site: <http://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/mdmccoy/>

Course Site: <http://sjsu6.blackboard.com>

Prerequisites

This is an upper division course on the history of coastal and island societies from perspective of anthropological archaeology. Introductory level coursework in archaeology (ANTH 013, or comparable transferred course) is required.

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

How have the opportunities and constraints presented by coastal and island environments influenced the historical development of human societies? In this course we will examine this question on a global scale, and across time, from our earliest evidence of human adaptation to marine environments through to the creation of the World System after A.D. 1500. Anthropological archaeology offers a unique perspective on this topic through synthesizing material evidence of past behavior (i.e., artifacts, sites) with multiple lines of evidence ranging from biogeographical data from paleoenvironmental reconstructions, to descriptions of social structures and institutions through ethnography, to rich contextual information from historical documents. The overall goal is to identify and understand both social and environmental variables responsible for past cultural and social change.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

While case studies will be drawn from the Pacific, Atlantic, Caribbean, and the Mediterranean, the class learning objectives center on larger topical themes:

● *Human Adaptation, Migrations, and Voyaging*

We begin the course by looking at the role natural resources have played in the development of human subsistence economies, specifically comparing terrestrial and marine ecosystems. In addition, we examine how humans came to occupy the world's coastlines and islands through voyages of discovery and colonization. In addition, we will examine popular myths of culture contact between prehistoric peoples and the diffusion of technology.

● *Development of Social Systems*

As our ancestors developed new and more reliable ways to navigate the world's oceans, we see the evolution of larger and larger social networks and political systems. We will start by examining case studies that highlight how degrees of connectedness and isolation influence social and cultural change. Next, we will turn to a historical process that has directly impacted all human societies, but especially those communities located on coastlines and islands - evolution of the World System after A.D. 1500.

- *Modern Environmental, Social, and Analytical Issues*

The United Nations estimates that over half of the world's population lives within 75 miles (120 km) of a sea coast – a region representing only 10% of the earth's land surface. In this course we will examine how dense human populations have impacted coastal and island ecosystems in the past to better understand the potential hazards of a growing global population. In addition, we will look at how suburban and urban development threatens the future of coastal archaeology. Finally, we will discuss methodological challenges these environments pose for finding and excavating intact archaeological sites and the theoretical issues brought to the fore through their investigation.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Over the semester students will be graded out of a total of 500 points. All grades are individual; there will be no group work.

Exams (220 points)

A mid-term exam worth 100 points will be given in class. The final exam, worth 120 points, will be cumulative but the majority of questions will be on topics covered in the second half of the class. The main focus of the tests will be lectures and readings from the text. The format of these exams will be short answer/essay.

Discussion Sessions and Article Review Papers (180 points)

Certain classes have been set aside specifically as “discussion sessions” centered on topics outlined below. Sessions will meet during designated class time on Wednesdays and are designed to give students the opportunity to connect the information set out in lectures and readings to larger class themes in an informal seminar-styled environment.

Instead of writing one large paper, students will write a series of 13 one-page papers (15 pts each) on assigned articles that are due online by 5pm on the day BEFORE the discussion session. The content and specific format of these “article review papers” will be discussed in class (i.e., text will be 12 pt font, double spaced). Student's lowest article review grade will be automatically dropped at the end of the semester.

Presentation (100 points)

Each student will give a short final presentation (100 pts) – 15 minutes long – on the significance of an archaeological site in the development of a coastal or island society. No two students will be allowed to choose the same site. A sign-up sheet will be circulated early in the semester.

Summary of Points

Exams	220 points	97% and above	A+	76% - 74%	C
Article Reviews	180 points	94% - 96%	A	73% - 70%	C-
Presentation	<u>100 points</u>	93% - 90%	A-	69% - 67%	D+
TOTAL:	500 points	89% - 87%	B+	66% - 64%	D
		86% - 84%	B	63% - 60%	D-
		83% - 80%	B-	below 60%	F
		79% - 77%	C+		

BLACKBOARD CLASS MANAGEMENT

In an effort to provide better access to course materials, instructor help, and grades the university has adopted class management software called "Blackboard" (formerly "WebCT"). This is the first semester this system will be used, so students will be given website address and login instructions as they become available. However, be sure set up your Blackboard email to forward to your personal address so you will receive course messages.

If you run in to difficulties using the system, San José State University employs IT support personal that can be contacted at 408.924.2377, helpdesk@sjsu.edu, or 408.924.2670, ecampus@online.sjsu.edu.

EMAIL POLICY

To help me organize and answer your emails as quickly as possible, please send messages via the mail option of Blackboard. Blackboard automatically "tags" your message with your class/section. Also, coursework will not be distributed or accepted via email transmission and student's emails will be answered during regular business hours M-F 9am-5pm.

REQUIRED READINGS

Course readings will be made available online via the Blackboard website.

ASSIGNMENT AND EXAM REMINDERS

All readings (▶) must be completed before class. Papers (□) are listed on the date they are due and tests (o) on the day they will be administered.

1	Weds.	Jan. 23	Introduction to Course		
2	Mon.	Jan. 28	The World's Coastlines and Islands		
2	Weds.	Jan. 30	Marine Archaeology		
3	Mon.	Feb. 4	Voyaging and Migration		□ Article Review #1 Due Online (Tues. Feb 5 by 5pm)
3	Weds.	Feb. 6	<i>Discussion: New and Old World Contacts</i>	▶ Reading Set #1.	
4	Mon.	Feb. 11	Human Adaptation to Marine Environments		□ Article Review #2 Due Online (Tues. Feb 12 by 5pm)
4	Weds.	Feb. 13	<i>Discussion: Coastal and Island Ecosystems</i>	▶ Reading Set #2.	
5	Mon.	Feb. 18	'Isolation' in Coastal and Island Societies		□ Article Review #3 Due Online (Tues. Feb 19 by 5pm)
5	Weds.	Feb. 20	<i>Discussion: Consequences of Isolation</i>	▶ Reading Set #3.	
6	Mon.	Feb. 25	'Interaction' in Coastal and Island Societies		□ Article Review #4 Due Online (Tues. Feb 26 by 5pm)
6	Weds.	Feb. 27	<i>Discussion: Consequences of Interaction</i>	▶ Reading Set #4.	
7	Mon.	Mar. 3	Mediterranean Archaeology		□ Article Review #5 Due Online (Tues. Mar. 4 by 5pm)
7	Weds.	Mar. 5	<i>Discussion: Mediterranean Archaeology</i>	▶ Reading Set #5.	
8	Mon.	Mar. 10	Caribbean Archaeology		□ Article Review #6 Due Online (Tues. Mar. 11 by 5pm)
8	Weds.	Mar. 12	<i>Discussion: Caribbean Archaeology</i>	▶ Reading Set #6.	
9	Mon.	Mar. 17	Mid-term Exam Review		
9	Weds.	Mar. 19	O MID-TERM EXAM		
10	Mon.	Mar. 24	Spring Break	No class	
10	Weds.	Mar. 26	Spring Break	No class	

11	Mon.	Mar. 31	Cesar Chaves Day	No class	
11	Weds.	Apr. 2	Pacific Island Archaeology: Melanesia and Micronesia		
12	Mon.	Apr. 7	Pacific Island Archaeology: Polynesia		<input type="checkbox"/> Article Reviews # 7, #8, and #9 Due Online (Tues. Apr.8 by 5pm)
12	Weds.	Apr. 9	<i>Discussion: Oceanic Archaeology</i>	▶ Reading Set #7, #8, and #9.	
13	Mon.	Apr. 14	Old World Coasts and Island Archaeology		<input type="checkbox"/> Article Review #10 and #11 Due Online (Tues. Apr.15 by 5pm)
13	Weds.	Apr. 16	<i>Discussion: Old World</i>	▶ Reading Set #10 and #11.	
14	Mon.	Apr. 21	New World Coasts and Island Archaeology		<input type="checkbox"/> Article Review #12 Due Online (Tues. Apr.22 by 5pm)
14	Weds.	Apr. 23	<i>Discussion: New World</i>	▶ Reading Set #12.	
15	Mon.	Apr. 28	The Rise of the World System and Modern Issues		<input type="checkbox"/> Article Review #13 Due Online (Tues. Apr. 29 by 5pm)
15	Weds.	Apr. 30	<i>Discussion: The Historic and Modern Eras</i>	▶ Reading Set #13.	
16	Mon.	May 5	Presentations		
16	Weds.	May 7	Presentations		
17	Mon.	May 12	Presentations and Final Exam Review		
	Weds.	May 21	O FINAL EXAM	WSQ 4 – 12:15-2:30pm	

LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND MISSED EXAMINATIONS

Unless specified otherwise assignments are due at the start of class and **10% will be deducted for every day late**. No make-up exams will be given (see "Incompletes" below). To be fair to all students, **this policy is strictly enforced with concessions for documented medical emergencies only**. Late material should be "time stamped" and left in my mailbox at the Anthropology Department office in Clark Hall.

"I" (INCOMPLETE) AND "WU" (WITHDRAWAL UNAUTHORIZED)

Students will only be given a grade of incomplete if they meet the following criteria: (1) have completed +66% of coursework and (2) have written instructor approval for incomplete prior to the final exam. Students with less than 66% of coursework completed will be given a WU which indicates that an enrolled student did not officially withdraw from or drop the course and failed to complete course requirements. Students who have missed coursework or the final exam due to a documented medical reason should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me at office hours. It is San José State University's policy that students register with the Disability Resource Center to establish a record of their disability (<http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/>). Nonetheless, students need not be registered with the DRC to meet with me and discuss their needs for special arrangements.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Please take a moment and read about San José State University's 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 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. **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 that 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."

Fall 2007 Registration Instructions, Policies and Procedures

v01 Friday, May 11, 2007

Academic Information
Adding a Class
Administrators
Alternative Ways to Attend
Calendar
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Dropping a Class
Fees and Payments
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Grades & Academic Standing
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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.