

Archaeology 307

Introduction to Ethnoarchaeology

Fall 2012

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Office hours: Wednesday 11-12 am or by appointment

Lectures: Tuesday/Thursday 8:00-9:15 am ES 859

Course Description:

This course introduces students to ethnoarchaeology and analogical reasoning. Ethnoarchaeology uses a variety of theoretical approaches and methods. Lectures illustrate the application of these approaches and methods to a range of material culture domains worldwide. These examples highlight the actual and potential contributions of ethnoarchaeology to archaeology and anthropology. Assignments will provide students opportunities to apply these concepts to their everyday material world.

Required text:

David, Nicholas and Carol Kramer. 2001. *Ethnoarchaeology in Action*. Cambridge University Press.

Additional readings are listed in a separate file on blackboard. These are listed by week and are supplementary.

Course Outline: Note films may be changed at the discretion of the instructor.

CLASSES IN WEEKS 2 AND 3 ON ETHICS AND ANALOGICAL REASONING ARE MANDATORY AND STUDENTS MUST SIGN IN OR THEY CANNOT PROCEED TO DATA COLLECTION FOR ASSIGNMENTS 1 & 2. THIS IS PART OF THE FACULTY ETHICS APPROVAL FOR THIS COURSE. THESE LECTURES ARE NOTED IN RED BELOW.

Week 1: Background to Ethnoarchaeology

Sept. 11: Course introduction: the importance of ethnoarchaeology in archaeological research.

Sept. 13: Testing your skills of observation: *The Netsilik*

Readings: Chapter 1: Ethnoarchaeology: its origins, nature and history.

Week 2: History of Ethnoarchaeology and Ethics; Analogical reasoning

Sept. 18: Ethnoarchaeology background: history and contributions

Sept. 20 Ethics and the issue of informed consent (AAA, SAA and SSHRC ethics guidelines).

This is a compulsory class: students must sign in.

Reading: Chapter 3: Fieldwork and Ethics

Week 3: Ethnoarchaeological Method and Theory

Sept. 25: Analogical reasoning and its appropriate use in archaeological inference.

Compulsory class: students must sign in.

Sept. 27: Theoretical paradigms: the role of analogical reasoning in archaeological theory.

Compulsory class: students must sign in.

Week 4: Ethnoarchaeology Method and Theory/Site Formation Processes

Oct. 2: Methods: interview, observation and data collection.

Oct. 4: Site formation processes: interpreting early human ancestors

Reading: Chapter 4: Human residues: entering the archaeological context

Week 5: Site Formation Processes

Oct. 9: Site formation processes: artefact biography

Oct. 11: *Exam 1 (25% of final grade note: Thursday class)*

Week 6: Ethnoarchaeology of Subsistence: Testing Archaeological Assumptions

Oct. 16: Ethnoarchaeology of hunter-gatherers and the origins of agriculture

Oct. 18: Feasting!

Reading: Chapter 5: Fauna and subsistence.

Week 7: Ethnoarchaeology of Social Identity

Oct. 23: Social Identity and material culture

Oct. 25: Chaîne Opératoire

Reading: Chapter 7: Style and the marking of boundaries: contrasting regional studies.

Assignment 1 is due in Tuesday class! (20% of final grade)

Week 8: Ethnoarchaeology of Monuments, Architecture and Communities

Oct. 30: Built environments and social order

Nov. 1: Built social memory

Reading: Chapter 10: Architecture

Chapter 8: Settlement: Systems and Patterns

Week 9: Ethnoarchaeology of Households

Nov. 6: Household ethnoarchaeology

Nov. 8: Ethnoarchaeological approaches to technology

Film: Hide Workers of Ethiopia.

Reading: Chapter 9: Site Structures and Activities

Chapter 6: Studying artifacts

Week 10: Ethnoarchaeology of Technology continued

Nov. 13: Fall reading break: no classes

Nov. 15: Specialist Craft Production

Reading: Chapter 11: Specialist Craft Production and Apprenticeship

Assignment 2 is due in Thursday class! (20% of final grade)

Week 11: The Ethnoarchaeology of Specialist Craft Production

Nov. 20: *Exam 2 (25% of final grade in Tuesday class)*

Nov. 22: Intangible knowledge: documenting the embodied

Reading: Chapter 6: Studying artifacts

Week 12: Trade and Exchange

Nov. 27: Tracking trade: ceramic ethnoarchaeology and materials analysis

Nov. 29: Trade continued

Film: Potters of Cyprus

Reading: Chapter 12: Trade and Exchange

Week 13: The Ethnoarchaeology of Ritual

Dec. 4: Ethnoarchaeology of ritual

Dec. 6: Final Quiz (10% of final grade)

Reading: Chapter 13: Mortuary Practices, Status, Ideology, and Systems of Thought

Course Evaluation:

2 assignments:

Assignment 1 20%

Assignment 2 20%

exam 1: 25%

exam 2: 25%

final quiz: 10%

Exams are non-cumulative. Each exam covers the materials in readings, lectures and films presented in that unit. The final quiz covers materials in the last 4 lectures and films.

[No late assignments will be accepted.](#)

Students who are ill and miss an exam must notify the instructor on the day of the exam in order to arrange a makeup exam. [A medical note must be submitted prior to writing the makeup exam.](#) Makeup exams will be conducted within one week of the missed exam.

[Students must complete all components of the course in order to receive a final grade. However, students do not require a passing grade in any particular component of the course in order to pass the course as a whole.](#)

Assignments

It is important that information gathered by observation or interview of informants be kept anonymous. The importance of informed consent and the ethics of conducting ethnoarchaeological research are discussed in Weeks 2 and 3. **CLASSES IN WEEKS 2 AND 3 ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL STUDENTS. This is a qualification of the Faculty of Art's ethical approval of this course and all students will be required to sign an attendance form in class.**

All data in assignments are marked by the instructor and returned to the student. Do not identify individuals by name. Refer to your informants only by a number, age, gender or other relevant but general information. All individuals observed or interviewed must be aware of the purpose of your study and provide voluntary consent. Raw notes from interviews and signed consent forms will be collected and shredded by the instructor before final grades are submitted to the registrar.

These assignments simulate an ethnoarchaeological study, but owing to the constraints of time and circumstance, they may not fit the precise definition of ethnoarchaeology as presented in your text. But you will be using ethnoarchaeological methods for a problem that archaeologists address. The purpose of the assignments is to practice developing interview questions to answer specific research goals, to conduct interviews and observations, to collate data, and arrive at some conclusions.

PLEASE NOTE: powerpoint lecture notes for this course are NOT provided on Blackboard. An essential skill in conducting ethnoarchaeology is effective notetaking! (a field skill that is often performed in more than one language with simultaneous and usually constant interruptions from goats, sheep, crowing roosters, small children and other activities!)

Grading Scheme:

96-100	A+
91-95	A
86-90	A-
81-85	B+
76-80	B
71-75	B-
66-70	C+
61-65	C
56-60	C-
53-55	D+
51-52	D
below 50	F

ADDITIONAL CONTENT

Writing Across the Curriculum

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and may use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

Academic Accommodation Policy

The purpose of academic accommodation is to provide students with documented disabilities equal opportunity to master the essentials of a post-secondary education. Students with disabilities at the University of Calgary have met all admission requirements but may have done so with the use of accommodations. Similarly, they are expected to meet all academic and non-academic requirements. Adaptive technology and other academic accommodations do not relieve students of their responsibility to develop the essential skills and abilities expected of all students.

Please refer to the following web link for detailed information:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/71>

Disability Resource Centre Accommodations

It is the responsibility of the student to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at (403)220-8237.

Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Students are also required to discuss their needs with the instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Please refer to the following link for detailed information:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/system/files/foip%20overview.pdf>

Academic Misconduct

Academic dishonesty is an unacceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section of the University Calendar. Quite often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are:

- 1) Presenting another student's work as your own
- 2) Presenting an author's work or ideas as you own without proper referencing
- 3) Using work completed for another course

This activity will not be tolerated and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the University Calendar.

For detailed information on what constitutes academic misconduct, please refer to the following link:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not. Any ideas or materials taken from another source written, electronic, or oral must be fully and formally acknowledged. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

(a) The work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),

(b) Parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,

(c) The whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,

(d) A student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence.

It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis or dissertation.

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points

In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, please refer to the following link to become familiar with the assembly points for the class:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Safewalk Information

Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at (403) 220-5333 or use a help phone,

and Safewalkers or a Campus Security Officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

Student Union Vice President – Academic

Phone: (403) 220-3911

Email: suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Representative

Phone: (403) 220-3913

Email: socilscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/students-rights.html>

Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

arts2@su.ucalgary.ca

arts3@su.ucalgary.ca

arts4@su.ucalgary.ca