

**Archaeology 307**  
**Introduction to Ethnoarchaeology**  
**Fall 2019**

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Office hours: Wednesday 1-2 pm or by appointment

Lectures: Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:45 ST 059

**Course Description:**

This course introduces students to ethnoarchaeology, analogical reasoning and the relationships between people and material objects. Ethnoarchaeology uses a variety of theoretical approaches and methods. Lectures illustrate the application of these approaches and methods to a range of material culture in contexts found 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.

**Pre-requisites:** none

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

**Learning Outcomes:** At the end of the course students should be able to:

- Discuss the basic theories and methods of ethnoarchaeology.
- Make ethical decisions related to ethnoarchaeological practice.
- Develop a basic understanding of how to develop questions for an interview, how to obtain informed consent and how to organize interview data into a basic report.
- Understand the correct use of ethnographic analogy in archaeological practice
- Discuss the unique role of ethnoarchaeology to archaeology and the social sciences.

***Research Ethics***

*Course assignments have obtained course-based ethics approval from the Faculty of Arts Ethics Committee. Whenever you perform research with human participants (e.g. surveys, interviews, observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve your research plans for your assignments and supervise your research.*

***General Conduct***

The University expects Students to conduct Academic Activities with integrity and intellectual honesty and to recognize the importance of pursuing and transmitting knowledge ethically. "Academic Misconduct" includes such things as Cheating, Falsification; Plagiarism, Unauthorized Assistance and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Academic Misconduct is a serious form of intellectual dishonesty with significant consequences. Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For more information, see the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>)

### Assignments, exams, and quiz schedule

The use of notes, computers, cell-phones and other electronic devices are not allowed in exams and quizzes. While students can bring a screw top sealed water bottle to an exam, no paper-ish cups with plastic tops that can tip and spill are allowed. Do not bring crunchy and smelly lunches or snacks because they are distracting to other students.

#### **Exam 1:**

Thursday lecture period  
(25% of final grade) short answer/essay

October 3

**Assignment 1: Students must submit email copies of assignment questions for approval before starting the assignment, questions should be emailed and approved at least 2 weeks prior to the due date. Ethics requirement.**

Thursday lecture period  
(20% of final grade)

October 17

#### **Exam 2:**

Tuesday lecture period  
(20% of final grade) short answer/essay

November 5

**Assignment 2: Students must submit email copies of assignment questions for approval before starting the assignment, questions should be emailed and approved at least 2 weeks prior to the due date. Ethics requirement.**

Tuesday lecture period  
(20% of final grade)

November 19

**Last quiz:** Thursday lecture period

December 5

(15% of final grade) short answer/multiple choice

### Mark Distributions are determined as follows:

#### **Grading Scheme**

96.00-100	A+	66.00-70.99	C+
91.00-95.99	A	61.00-65.99	C
86.00-90.99	A-	56.00-60.99	C-
81.00-85.99	B+	53.00-55.99	D+
76.00-80.99	B	50.00-52.99	D
71.00-75.99	B-	below 49.99	F

#### **Assignments**

It is important that information gathered by observation or interview of informants be kept confidential. 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 Arts 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 interviewed must be aware of the purpose of your study and provide voluntary and informed consent before interviews begin. **Raw notes from interviews must be collected in hand-written form only.** The raw notes and signed consent forms will be collected, stored according to university ethics requirements for two years and later shredded in confidential shredding by the instructor. [Handing in raw notes and informed consent forms from interviewees to the instructor is a requirement of the assignment.](#)

These assignments simulate an ethnoarchaeological study, but owing to the constraints of time and circumstance, they may not fit the precise definition of ethnoarchaeology found in the literature. But you will be using ethnoarchaeological methods for a problem that archaeologists address and that are covered in

lecture topics. The purpose of the assignments is to develop interviewing skills including preparing questions to answer specific research goals, to conduct interviews and observations, to collate data, and to arrive at some conclusions. The size of the interviews is selected to develop research skills and are not intended to be a statistical sample. Note that you are obliged by research ethics to keep information from interviews confidential and none of the data collected is to be used for future course work or research.

Students do not need to pass every course component in order to pass the course, however, students must complete all elements of the course (quizzes, assignments, exams) in a diligent manner in order to complete the course.

Students are responsible for their own note taking. Powerpoint notes are minimal outlines and are not a substitute for in-class note taking (I do not publish images from classroom powerpoint presentations on D2L).

Missed exams and quizzes. Makeup exams will be different from the original exam in makeup and content. For instance, if the exam is multiple choice, then the makeup exam will be essay or fill in the blanks.

### **Copyright Information**

Lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor includes copyright protected works under the Copyright Act and all forms of electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, laboratories, tutorials, presentations, performances, electronic (computer) information, the duplication of course material, and to the translation of recordings or transcriptions of any of these materials to another form by electronic or mechanical means by students is not permitted, except.

- As a formal accommodation as assessed by the Student Accessibility Services and only for individual private study and only at the discretion of the instructor.
- With the permission of the instructor, students without a formal accommodation may audio record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered. Any audio recording by students is permitted only for the purposes of private study by the individual student. Students may not distribute, email or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person.
- For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed.
- Any use other than that described above (e.g. distributing, emailing or otherwise communicating these materials to any other person, constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.
- Students are encouraged to make notes of classroom discussions, lectures, demonstrations etc.

All **students** are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy

## Course Outline

**Note that the dates for exams/assignments are fixed but lecture topics change with the pace of the class.**

*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**  
**September 5**      Course introduction  
Ethnoarchaeology: what is material practice and how do we use this in archaeology?
- Week 2:**            **History of Ethnoarchaeology and Ethics; Analogical reasoning**  
**September 10**    History of ethnographic study in archaeology as background to ethics.  
**Compulsory class: students must sign in.**  
**September 12**    Ethics and the issue of informed consent (AAA, SAA and SSHRC ethics guidelines)  
**Compulsory classes: students must sign in to both classes**
- Week 3:**            **Ethnoarchaeological Method and Theory**  
**September 17**    Analogical reasoning: ethics and good practice  
**Compulsory class: students must sign in.**  
**September 19**    Methods: interview, observation, experimentation and analysis  
**Compulsory class: students must sign in.**
- Week 4:**            **Site formation Processes**  
**September 24**    Site Formation Processes (Middle Range Theory)  
**September 26**    Site formation processes (Geo-ethnoarchaeology)
- Week 5:**            **Food and cuisine**  
**October 1**        Ethnoarchaeology of food storage in Alaska; challenging theories of the origins of agriculture  
**October 3**        *Exam 1 (25% of final grade: Thursday class covering material from Weeks 1-5)*
- Week 6:**            **Ethnoarchaeology: social identity and politics**  
**October 8**        Food and social identity: social identity, gender, age and status  
**October 10**      Feasting and drinking: politics of food
- Week 7:**            **Ethnoarchaeology of architecture and cultural landscapes**  
**October 15**      Architecture and how people create identity in place and buildings  
**October 17**      Social memory and cultural landscapes: non-western ontologies  
*Assignment 1 is due in Thursday class (20% of final grade)*
- Week 8:**            **Ceramic Ethnoarchaeology**  
**October 22**      Testing archaeological method and theory  
**October 24**      Ceramics and identity
- Week 9:**            **Ethnoarchaeology of Technology**  
**October 29**      hide workers, metal workers (indigenous ontologies)  
**October 31**      transmission of cultural knowledge

- Week 10: Technological Style**  
November 5 *Exam 2 (20% of final grade Tuesday class covering material from Weeks 6-9)*  
November 7 technological style: chaîne opératoire

## **November 9-17 Reading Break no classes**

- Week 11: Ethnoarchaeology of Trade; Climate change**  
November 19 Trade and exchange  
November 21 Climate change  
*Assignment 2 is due on Tuesday class! (20% of final grade)*

- Week 12: Ethnoarchaeology of Ritual**  
November 26 Mortuary practices  
November 28 Ethnoarchaeology of ritual

- Week 13: Games and other things...**  
December 3 games (bull leaping and Meso-American ball games) and their role in contemporary societies  
December 5 *Last Quiz Thursday class (15% of final grade and covering material from Weeks 10-13)*

### **Freedom of Information, privacy**

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. The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology keeps exams and any term work not picked up for a minimum of one year after which it is destroyed. Please refer to the following link for detailed information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

### **Accommodation**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies. Students requesting an Accommodation on the basis of Disability are required to register with Student Accommodation Services (SAS) by submitting a Request for Accommodation in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). SAS will issue a Letter of Accommodation which must be presented to either designated contact person within the Department or the appropriate Instructors within 10 days of the beginning of term. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

### **Support and Resources**

A link to required information that is not course-specific related information found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

### **Deferred Exams:**

A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor. Deferral of the final exam requires Registrar

approval. The instructor at their discretion may transfer the percentage weight for the test to the final examination, if there is a final examination in the course, set another test, etc.

Documentation supporting the reason for missing an exam may be required. Deferred exams may be in a different format than the regularly scheduled exam, e.g. essay style questions instead of multiple choice questions. Students must be aware that they are responsible for payment of any charge associated with the medical assessment and documentation as this service falls outside the realm of services provided by the Provincial Health Care Plan

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Note: information here includes

- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
  - Student Success Centre
  - Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
  - Safewalk