

**University of Calgary**  
**Department of Anthropology and Archaeology**  
**Ancient Civilizations**  
**Archaeology 325**  
**Spring 2016**

Instructor: Bula Wayessa  
Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 12:00-14:45  
Room: SA 104  
Office: 829  
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Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:00-11:30 or by appointment

**Course description**

What is civilization? Why did it arise not once but several times in the Old and New Worlds? What do the earliest civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, sub-Saharan Africa, China, Mesoamerica and the Andes have in common? Did they develop along similar or different lines? What is the role of religion, of agricultural intensification, of cities, of trade? Why are all but one of these civilizations characterized by works of art that still are reckoned among humanity's greatest achievements? These and other questions will be treated in this survey of the earliest civilizations in both hemispheres to be illustrated by films and slides.

**Course objectives**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe how archaeologists are able to reconstruct the past from material remains.
- Outline key developments in the evolution of civilizations.
- Define the locations, chronologies and key characteristics of key archaeological civilizations.
- Critically assess the information they encounter about archaeology and prehistory in the popular media.

**Required Text:**

R.J. Wenke & D.I. Olszewski. (2007). *Patterns in Prehistory* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), Oxford.

**Marking Scheme**

Item	Weight	Date
Quiz 1	40%	May 24
Quiz 2	40%	June 9
Quiz 3	20 %	June 33

**Grading Scheme (%)**

A+ 100 - 94.9%	B+ 84.8- 79.9%	C+ 70.8- 66.9%	D+ 58.8 - 54.9%
A 94.8 - 89.9%	B 79.8 - 74.9%	C 66.8 -62.9%	D 54.8 - 49.9%
A- 89.8 - 84.9%	B- 74.8- 70.9%	C- 62.8 - 58.9%	F 49.8% and below

**Description of Exams:**

All exams consist of multiple choice questions. Exams are not cumulative. It is not essential to pass all components to pass the course as a whole. Missed exams and quizzes require a medical certificate for rescheduling. There will not be a final exam scheduled by the Registrar's Office.

**Lecture and reading schedule** (N.B topics may be modified as required)**Week 1: May 10 & 12**

Introduction. Ancient civilizations defined.

Approaches to the study of ancient civilizations.

Reading: Wenke & Olszewski Chap. 7 & 8

**Week 2: May 17 & 19**

Mesopotamian civilization

Reading: Chap 8

**Week 3: May 24 & 26**

Civilization in Egypt.

Reading: Wenke & Olszewski Chap. 9

**Quiz 1:** May 24

**Week 4: May 31 & June 2**

The Indus civilization

Reading: Wenke & Olszewski Chap. 10

**Week 5: June 7 & 9**

Chinese civilization

Reading: Wenke & Olszewski Chap 11

**Quiz 2:** June 9

**Week 6: June 14 & 16**

Civilization in sub-Saharan Africa

Reading: Stahl, A. ed.,( 2005). *African Archaeology: A Critical Introduction*. Blackwell, pp. 327-345

**Week 7: June 21 & 23**

Civilizations in Mesoamerica and South America

Reading: Wenke & Olszewski Chap. 13 & 14

**Quiz 3:** June 23

**Week 8: June 28 & 30**

Ancient civilizations: a summary

**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**

It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at: [www.ucalgary.ca/access](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access).

### **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/legalservices/foip>

### **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 SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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 (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)

Student Union Faculty Representatives

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts3@.su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@.su.ucalgary.ca)

Student Ombudsman's Office

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/>