Instructor: Dr Mary McDonald
Office: ES 828
Phone: 220-6018; e-mail: mmcdona@ucalgary.ca
Teaching assistant: Sutapa Lahiri
Email: sutapa.lahiri@ucalgary.ca
Lectures: TuTh 12:30-1:45 PM; ST 141
Office hours: Thursday 2:00-3:30 PM or by appointment
Prerequisite: None

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, in lectures illustrated by films and slides. Along the way, we will also touch upon the discipline of archaeology itself – its techniques, its strengths, and its limitations in the study of ancient civilizations.

Course learning outcomes:

By the end of the course, students should be able to

- Define the term primary civilization and debate whether or not it is applicable to each of the civilizations discussed in this course.
- Explain the historical development of each civilization from simpler forms of society.
- Argue to what extent each ancient civilization could be defined as hierarchical.
- Identify and locate on maps major archaeological sites and important geographical features pertaining to each ancient civilization.
- Recognize, from illustrations, diagnostic artifacts, features and architecture that pertain to each civilization.
- Identify a work of art as the product of a specific ancient civilization on the basis of its style.

Recommended Text:

Grading:

45% First mid-term exam (50 min)            Thursday, February 13
45% Second mid-term exam (50 min)       Tuesday, March 24
10% Final week quiz (45 min)                  Tuesday April 14

Note: there is no final exam in this course

Description of Exams:

Exams are drawn from the lectures, course readings, and films.
Exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions.
Exams are not cumulative.
It is not essential to pass all components to pass the course as a whole.
The use of computers in exams is not allowed.

Grading Scheme (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>76.5-79.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>66.5-69.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>55-59.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-54.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>60-62.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>49.5 and below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>49.5 and below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lecture and reading schedule:

This schedule is approximate. Timing may vary. Films will be shown to supplement some lectures.

Students are responsible for their own note taking. Notes posted on Desire-to-Learn are minimal outlines and are not a substitute for in-class note-taking. Please be on time and prepared for lectures. Preparation involves completing the required readings before attending class.

Week 1:
--Introduction. Ancient civilizations defined.
--Theories of states
  Reading: Scarre & Fagan, chapters 1 & 2.

Week 2:
--Mesopotamia. Background to the civilization
--Early Mesopotamian civilization.
  Reading: chap. 3

Week 3:
--Early Mesopotamian civilization (continued).
--A history of Mesopotamian civilization.
  Reading: finish chap. 3, plus p. 185-87; chap 8 (parts).
Week 4:
--Features of the Mesopotamian civilization
--Background to civilization in Egypt
  Reading: chap 4.

Week 5:
--A history of the Egyptian civilization
1st mid-term exam: Thursday, February 13.

Mid-Term Break

Week 6:
--History of Egyptian civilization (ctd)
--Features of the Egyptian civilization

Week 7:
--Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilizations compared
--The Indus civilization
  Reading: chap. 5.

Week 8:
--The Indus civilization (continued)
--The earliest civilization in sub-Saharan Africa
  Reading: p. 312-13; 323-25.

Week 9:
--Development of the North Chinese civilization
  Reading: chap. 6.

Week 10:
--Features of the North Chinese civilization
--Background to civilization in Mesoamerica
  Reading: chap. 15
2nd mid-term exam: Tuesday March 24.

Week 11:
--Civilization in Mesoamerica: the Maya
--Civilization in Mesoamerica: the Aztecs.
  Reading: chap. 16

Week 12:
--Background to civilization in the Andes
--Features of the Andean civilization
  Reading: chap. 17.

Week 13: Final quiz: Tuesday April 14.
Academic misconduct
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)

Instructor intellectual property
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,

- 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.

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. 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
**Academic Accommodations**

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.

**Copyright**

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) 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.

**Support and Resources:**

Non-course-specific related information can be found on the Office of the Registrar’s website: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines

**Note:** information here includes

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