ARKY 327.01: Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries Monday, Wednesday and Friday 3:00-3:50 PM

Professor Kathryn Reese-Taylor

850 Earth Sciences

Office hours: Monday 2:00-3:00 Office phone: 403-220-6369 E-mail: <u>kreeseta@ucalgary.ca</u>

Were the Pyramids of Giza built by aliens? Did the Maya predict an apocalypse in 2012? Did the Lost Continent of Atlantis exist? Were the Nazca lines landings signs for extraterrestrial astronauts? In Frauds, Myths and Mysteries we examine popular and fantastic interpretations of archaeological remains presented in the press and popular media. We analyze the logical flaws in pseudoscientific explanations and hone critical thinking skills. Find out what archaeology really is!

FRAUDS, MYTHS, AND MYSTERIES

Required Texts:

- Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries: Science and Pseudoscience in Archaeology, 6th edition, by Kenneth L. Feder, McGraw-Hill Higher Education publishers, 2008.
- · Readings on Blackboard

Course Grading:

- 90% of your grade will be based on three mid-term exams.
- 10% of your grade will be based upon a final quiz.

Description of Exams:

- All exams consist of multiple-choice questions. The exams are not comprehensive. Questions
 come from both the lecture and readings, so class attendance is critical for achieving a high
 mark.
- The use of personal computers or other electronic devices is NOT allowed during exams.
- I DO NOT GIVE MAKE-UP EXAMS without a written medical excuse.

Grading Scale:

There is no uniform grading scale at the University of Calgary. Each class uses a different scale depending on the difficulty of the material presented and the requirements of the course. Please examine this grading scale carefully. No changes will be made to this scale.

| A+>/=100-97 | B + 88-85 | C + 76-73 | D + 64-61 |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| A 96-93 | B 84-81 | C 72-69 | D 60-57 |
| A- 92-89 | B- 80-77 | C - 68-65 | F < 56 |

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. All undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance can utilize the services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing.

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

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.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation:

Student Union Vice President – Academic

Phone: (403) 220-3911

Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Representative

Phone: (403) 220-3913

Email: socilscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombusdman's Office

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