

ARKY 335 – AFRICAN STONE AGE – Fall 2017

Class Information

MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM
Science Theaters 147 (ST147)

Staff Information

Dr. Julio Mercader, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology
Email: mercader@ucalgary.ca

TA: Robert Patalano
Email: rpatalan@ucalgary.ca
Office hrs: Earth Sciences 740 (ES740) - MWF 10:00 – 11:00

Description

Introduction to the African Stone Age with emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa. Major cultural developments are explored through archaeological data, as well as other disciplines, including biogeography and geoarchaeology. Topics include early human origins and the behaviour of early humans from the middle Pleistocene through the Later Stone Age. The focus is on major chronological events and the cultural processes that characterize the Paleolithic era on the continent.

Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives

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

- Identify and describe changes in African geography, ecology, and geology from roughly 10 million years ago to today
- Evaluate human evolution over the past 7 million years using the fossil remains of species on the human family tree
- Apply different Stone Age archaeological research methods for interpreting what happened in the past
- Discuss how paleoanthropologists and archaeologists identify and study African archaeological (stone tool and fossil) sites
- Compare and contrast both our closest living and extinct relatives with our own species through behavioural, physical, cognitive, and genetic information

Textbook

None required

Midterm Exams

Midterm 1: October 6: 40%
Midterm 2: November 17: 50%
Midterm 3: December 6: 10%

There is no *Final Exam* scheduled for this class.

Exam format:

- Multiple Choice
 - 50 questions Midterms 1 & 2
 - 20 questions Midterm 3

Material Covered

- In-class lecture materials, videos, readings, or activities posted on D2L = 100%
- The use of aids such as open book, class notes, internet, etc., is not permitted during exams

Please note that students do not have to pass all components of the class to receive a passing grade in the course.

Grading Scale and Policies

96 - 100%	=	A
90 - 95.99%	=	A-
83 - 89.99%	=	B+
75 - 82.99%	=	B
67 - 74.99%	=	B-
58 - 66.99%	=	C+
50 - 57.99%	=	C
45 - 49.99%	=	C-
40 - 44.99%	=	D
0 - 39.99%	=	F

Missed exams automatically receive a score of zero. Students who are unable to take a scheduled exam must contact the instructor in advance of the scheduled exam if possible to make necessary arrangements for a rewrite. In the event of an emergency or illness, documentation (e.g. signed Physician's Statement) must be provided. If a make-up exam is necessary, it is to be written within one business week (5 weekdays) from the scheduled date of the missed exam.

Exams grades will be posted on D2L as soon as possible. Midterms will not be returned to students, but if you wish to review your exams, please make an appointment with the TA Robert Patalano.

Topics to be covered

Research Methods in Paleoanthropology
 Principles of Evolution
 African Geography
 Ancient DNA
 Fossil Primates
 Biological and cultural diversity in Africa
 Primate Archaeology
 Geoarchaeology and Geochronometry
 Primitive and Archaic Hominins
 Oldowan and Acheulean Stone Tool Industries
 The evolution of the genus *Homo*
 Early Behavior and Cognition
 Origins of *Homo sapiens*
 Out of Africa

Major Paleoanthropology Sites: Koobi Fora (Kenya), Gona (Ethiopia), Olduvai Gorge (Tanzania), Swartkrans (South Africa), etc.

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>

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 for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

arts2@su.ucalgary.ca

arts3@su.ucalgary.ca

arts4@su.ucalgary.ca