

## **ANCIENT MEXICO**

**ARKY 341 - FALL 2020**

**MWF 11-11:50 - Web Based (synchronous)**

**Prof. Geoffrey McCafferty**

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**Office Hours: MW 12-1 and by appointment**

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This course concentrates on the cultural areas of Mesoamerica before European contact in 1519. Ancient Mexico and northern Central America featured numerous highly complex cultures, including the Olmecs, Cholutecas, Teotihuacanos, Maya, Zapotecs, Mixtecs, Toltecs, and Aztecs. Information about these cultures is available through archaeological remains, as well as ethnohistorical accounts recorded by Spanish chroniclers and by the indigenous peoples themselves. This class will survey the achievements of Mesoamerican cultures, featuring lectures illustrating the art and architecture of the ancient civilizations.

### **PEDAGOGICAL EXPECTATIONS:**

Students will be presented with and expected to learn about the geography and chronology of important sites. This information will embody multiple lines of evidence, including archaeology, bioarchaeology, art history, and ethnohistory.

### **TEXTS:**

Mexico: From the Olmecs to the Aztecs. Michael D. Coe and Rex Koontz. Thames and Hudson. 2008; Sixth Edition.

Additional required readings will be available

### **GRADING:**

Grades will be based on a map/chronology quiz (10 pts), two midterm exams (25 pts each), and a final exam (40 pts), totaling 100 points. Lectures will be recorded and available on D2L. Quizzes and exams will be multiple choice; text book and notes are not permitted during the examinations, nor are students permitted to communicate with others. Duration of the examinations will be 150% of the scheduled time period, e.g., 75 minutes instead of the scheduled 50 minute class period. Individual grades will be based on total points received; it is not necessary for students to pass all exams and assignments to pass the class:

97-100 = A+	87-89 = B+	77-79 = C+	67-69 = D+
93-96 = A	83-86 = B	73-76 = C	60-66 = D
90-92 = A-	80-82 = B-	70-72 = C-	Less than 60 points = F

### **PEDAGOGICAL EXPECTATIONS:**

Students will be presented with and expected to learn about the geography and chronology of important mortuary sites. Additional topics will include information on bioarchaeological analysis and a selection of mortuary practices from past civilizations. This information will embody multiple lines of evidence, including archaeology, bioarchaeology, art history, and ethnohistory.

### **REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY**

1. A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
2. A current and updated web browser;
3. Webcam/Camera (built-in or external) - webcam should be enabled during lecture;
4. Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
5. Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
6. Stable internet connection

**Supplementary Fees** not applicable

### **TEXTBOOK and READINGS:**

Written in Bones: How Human Remains Unlock the Secrets of the Dead, edited by Paul Bahn. Firefly Books, Buffalo, NY. 2012.

Additional readings will be announced on D2L

Bonus points are available by presenting on recent discoveries

### **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

#### **Principles of Conduct**

The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

### **Plagiarism, Cheating, and Student Misconduct**

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html). 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 your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf>

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation in Alberta disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, such as outside an instructor's office, the department office, etc. Term assignments will be returned to students individually, during class or during the instructor's office hours; if students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they must provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

### **Human subjects**

Students will not be expected to participate as subjects

## **Guidelines for Zoom Sessions**

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published with the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behavior in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. Student Non Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your Zoom sessions visit:

<https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class - such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

## **Accessibility**

Students need to see the lecture (visually) in order to get all of the information. Yuja will not be available.

### **Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments**

Graded assignments will be made available electronically through the course D2L webpage. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's main office. Correct answers will be available following the 24 hour examination period.

### **Academic Accommodations**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations, according to the university policies and procedures listed in the University Calendar.

The student accommodation policy can be found at:

[https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf)

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

[www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf).

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing to their instructor or the Department Head (email: [pcdawson@ucalgary.ca](mailto:pcdawson@ucalgary.ca)).

### **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.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 unauthorised 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 Act.

### **Wellness and Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness, and academic success and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support, or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

*Students requiring assistance are encouraged to email the Student at Risk line if they or others appear to need wellness assistance: [sar@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sar@ucalgary.ca). For more immediate response, please call: 403-210-9355 and select option #2.*

### **Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation**

1. Student Union VP Academic 403-220-3911, [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)
2. Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts - 403-220-3913, [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), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)
3. Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: [www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/)

### **Campus Safewalk**

Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day, to any location on Campus, including the LRT station, parking lots, bus zones, and university residences. Contact Campus Security at 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

### **COURSE CALENDAR**

WEEK 1 (9/8-11) - Introduction: Mesoamerican geography and chronology

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chap. 1

WEEK 2 (9/14-18) - Early Hunters and the Archaic period

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chaps. 2 & 3

HACIENDA PLAIN exercise

WEEK 3 (9/21-25) - Preclassic village life

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chap. 4

**Map Quiz (September 21)**

WEEK 4 (9/28-10/2) - Olmec and beyond

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chaps. 5

WEEK 5 (10/5-9) - Monte Albán and the Late Formative

Reading:

**MIDTERM EXAM #1 (October 9)**

WEEK 6 (10/12-16) - Teotihuacan

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chap 6

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - October 12 (No class)

WEEK 7 (10/19-23) - Classic Maya

Reading:

WEEK 8 (10/26-30) -Epiclassic Period

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chap. 7; McCafferty and McCafferty 1994

WEEK 9 (11/2-6) -Tula and Chichen Itza

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chap. 8; McCafferty 2007

WEEK 10 (11/9-13) - READING WEEK

WEEK 11 (11/16-20): CHOLULA

Reading: McCafferty 2000a, 2007b

**MIDTERM EXAM #2 - November 17**

WEEK 12 (11/23-27): The Postclassic World System and the Southern Frontier

Reading: McCafferty and McCafferty 2009

WEEK 13 (11/30-12/4) -Late Postclassic Mexico

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chap. 9; McCafferty and McCafferty 2003

WEEK 14 (12/7-9) -The Aztecs and Spanish Conquest

Reading: Coe and Koontz, chap. 10; McCafferty 2000b, 2012

**ADDITIONAL READINGS** (Available on D2L, additional readings will be added):

McCafferty, *Geoffrey G.*

2000a Tollan Cholollan and the Legacy of Legitimacy during the Classic/Postclassic Transition. In *Mesoamerica's Classic Heritage: From Teotihuacan to the Aztecs*, edited by D.Carrasco, L. Jones, and S. Sessions, pp. 341-367. University Press of Colorado, Boulder,CO.

- 2000b *The Cholula Massacre: Factional Histories and Archaeology of the Spanish Conquest*. In *the Proceedings of the 1997 Chacmool Conference: The Entangled Past, Integrating History and Archaeology*, University of Calgary.
- 2001 *Mountain of Heaven, Mountain of Earth: The Great Pyramid of Cholula as Sacred Landscape*. In *Landscape and Power in Ancient Mesoamerica*, edited by Rex Koontz, Kathryn Reese-Taylor, and Annabeth Headrick, pp. 279-316. Westview Press, Boulder, CO.
- 2007a *So What Else is New? A Cholula-centric Perspective on Lowland/Highland Interaction in the Classic/ Postclassic Transition*. In *Twin Tollans: Chichen Itza, Tula, and the Epiclassic to Early Postclassic Mesoamerican World*, edited by Cynthia Kristan-Graham and Jeff Kowalski, pp. 449-479. Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, D.C.
- 2007b *Altar Egos: Domestic Ritual and Social Identity in Postclassic Cholula, Mexico*. In *Commoner Ritual and Ideology in Ancient Mesoamerica*, edited by Nancy Gonlin and Jon C. Lohse, pp. 213-250. University of Colorado Press, Boulder, CO.
- McCafferty, Geoffrey G. and Sharisse D. McCafferty
- 2003 *Questioning a Queen? A Gender-Informed Evaluation of Monte Alban's Tomb 7*. In *Ancient Queens: Archaeological Explorations*, edited by Sarah Nelson, pp. 41-58. Altamira Press, Walnut Creek, CA
- 2009 *Crafting the Body Beautiful: Performing Social Identity at Santa Isabel, Nicaragua*. In *Mesoamerican Figurines: Small-Scale Indices of Large-Scale Social Phenomena*, edited by Christina T. Halperin, Katherine A. Faust, Rhonda Taube, and Aurore Giguet, pp. 183-204. University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
- McCafferty, Sharisse D. and Geoffrey G. McCafferty
- 1994 *The Conquered Women of Cacaxtla: Gender Identity or Gender Ideology?* *Ancient Mesoamerica* 5(2): 159-172.