

**ARKY 343: Maya Civilization**  
**Fall 2008, Tuesday and Thursday 12:30-1:45 PM**

Professor Kathryn Reese-Taylor  
Office 850 Earth Sciences

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The Maya civilization flourished in the tropical rainforest of Mexico and Central America for over 2500 years, from around 1000 BC to the arrival of the Spanish in AD 1519. This class will explore how the Maya adapted and built great cities in the rainforest, examine their political systems and religious beliefs, and introduce their writing and calendrical systems. By the end of the semester you will develop an understanding of this important Precolumbian culture.

**Required Texts:**

- Demarest, Arthur (2004) Ancient Maya, The Rise and Fall of a Rainforest Civilization. Cambridge University Press.

**Course Grading:**

- Three midterm quizzes worth 30% each.
- One quiz on the final day of class worth 10%.

**Description of Exams:**

- All quizzes consist of multiple choice questions.
- The quizzes are NOT cumulative.
- There is no final.
- **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**

**A 96-93**

**A- 92-89**

**B+ 88-85**

**B 84-81**

**B- 80-77**

**C+ 76-73**

**C 72-69**

**C- 68-65**

**D+ 64-61**

**D 60-57**

**F <56**