



THE LEGACY OF MESOAMERICA

ARKY 345
Winter 2021

Dr. Elizabeth Paris
Department of Anthropology and Archaeology

Web-based course
D2L and Zoom

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In The Legacy of Mesoamerica, we examine the traditional cultures of Mexico and Central America prior to contact with Colonial European cultures, as they engaged with and resisted conquest during the Colonial period, and their diverse, modern ethnographic present. Course discussions will include the diverse of indigenous cultures that still thrive in Mesoamerica: the Maya, Nahua, Huichol, Mixtec, Zapotec, and more, as well as Mestizo, Afro-Mexican, and recent immigrant groups. Understandings of traditional lifeways and activities will be contextualized with regard to both continuity, change, resistance and activism in the face of Colonial and modern-day pressures. Students will gain an appreciation of the traditional peoples of Mesoamerica through many different sources of information, including archaeology, epigraphy, ethnohistory, and ethnography.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

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

- Develop a basic understanding of the pre-history and history of Mesoamerica from ancient times to the present day.
- Understand the ways in which scholars utilize archaeology and scientific methods, epigraphy, ethnohistoric documents, oral traditions, and ethnography to understand Mesoamerican cultures through time.

Lectures: Hybrid. Synchronous, online, weekly: W 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM, delivered via Zoom. Asynchronous lectures and activities will be posted online as weekly modules (D2L)

Office Hours: By appointment (Zoom)

EMAIL: ELIZABETH.PARIS@UCALGARY.CA

Please expect 48 hours for a response. If more than 48 hours have passed with no reply, check the email address and re-send. Please use your UCalgary email address for course business, and expect responses to emails during business hours (9 AM to 5 PM MT). Weekend responses will be limited to emergency circumstances. Please include "ARKY 345" in the email subject line.

REQUIRED READINGS

Course textbook:

The Legacy of Mesoamerica: History and Culture of a Native American Civilization, by Robert M. Carmack, Janine Gasco, and Gary H. Gossen. 2nd edition, 2007. Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ

Available online through the Hathi Trust:
https://ucalgary-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/13e4ecq/01UCALG_ALMA21561613200004336

Additional readings will be listed on D2L. Links to articles, ebook chapters and videos will be posted on D2L in modules that correspond to the week in which they are due. All readings and videos are required!

- Employ critical thinking skills in evaluating different sources of data about ancient and modern Mesoamerican lifeways and events.
- Develop cross-cultural sensitivity with regard to the management of, and research into, material remains and cultural heritage of Mesoamerican peoples.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course is based on a hybrid, flipped classroom model. In a flipped classroom model, students watch lectures and read assignments outside of course meetings, prior to the meeting for which they are assigned. Weekly synchronous meetings will include discussions of readings and videos, answering student questions, and presentations related to the Peoples of Mesoamerica Project.

Grades will be based on the following course activities:

1.	Map/Chronology Quiz	10%	50 marks	Monday, Feb. 9
2.	Midterm 1	20%	100 marks	Monday, Mar. 1
3.	Midterm 2	20%	100 marks	Monday, Mar. 29
4.	Final Quiz	10%	50 marks	Wednesday, April 14
5.	Peoples of Mesoamerica Project	40%	200 marks	See project assignment sheet. Deadlines Jan. 20, Feb. 22, Mar. 15, Apr. 12

NOTE: There is no registrar-scheduled final examination for this course.

In this class, grades are assigned according to the following chart:

Percentages	Letter grade	Interpretation
97-100%	A+	<i>The A range denotes excellent performance.</i>
90-96%	A	
86-89%	A-	
82-85%	B+	<i>The B range denotes good performance.</i>
78-81%	B	
74-77%	B-	
70-73%	C+	<i>The C range denotes satisfactory performance.</i>
66-69%	C	
62-65%	C-	
56-61%	D+	<i>The D range denotes unsatisfactory performance.</i>
50-55%	D	
<50%	F	<i>An F denotes failing performance.</i>

EVALUATION METHODS

1. MIDTERM EXAMS (20% each) and FINAL QUIZ (10%)

There will be two in-class mid-term exams, and a final quiz (date and time will be determined by the registrar). Exams will include material from the book, lectures, films, labs, and websites. Exam 1 will include

material from Weeks 1-5, while Exam 2 will include material from Weeks 5-10. The Final Quiz will include material from Weeks 11-13. Exams and quizzes must be completed in the allotted time.

Exams and the final quiz will include multiple choice, matching, and fill-in-the blank questions. Exams are intended to be taken during the set class time (75 minutes). Students will receive 50% extra time for technical difficulties (as directed by the Provost) or 112.5 minutes total to complete Exams 1 and 2. The Map/chronology quiz (30 minutes or 45 minutes total; see below) and the Final quiz (50 minutes; 75 minutes total) are shorter. There is a 24 hour window to enter the exam.

During exams and quizzes, students may only use their textbook and individual notes. However, they are designed such that you must study for the exam in-depth prior to taking the exam. Otherwise, it is very likely that you will run out of time. Extensions will not be given if you run out of time.

Internet sources, group notes, Discord and similar sites, and/or information from other students in any format are forbidden and will be subject to Academic Misconduct policies (see below).

You are allowed ONE attempt to complete each exam (so don't sign off or hit the end button before you are finished). Students with accommodations will be accommodated with their additional time.

2. MAP/CHRONOLOGY QUIZ (10%)

This quiz will test your knowledge of important locations such as archaeological sites, Colonial/modern cities, geographic zones, and important time periods. For archaeological sites and cities, you will be expected to know the chronological period with which they are most strongly associated. You will be expected to know the countries that constitute Mesoamerica, as well as the modern states/departments in Mexico and Guatemala. The quiz is designed to take 30 minutes to complete, and students will receive 50% extra time for technical difficulties (as directed by the Provost), so students are allowed 45 minutes total in which to complete the quiz.

During exams and quizzes, students may only use their textbook, the study materials provided on D2L, and individual notes. However, they are designed such that you must study for the exam in-depth prior to taking the exam. Otherwise, it is very likely that you will run out of time. Extensions will not be given if you run out of time.

Internet sources, group notes, Discord and similar sites, and/or information from other students in any format are forbidden and will be subject to Academic Misconduct policies (see below).

You are allowed ONE attempt to complete the quiz (so don't sign off or hit the end button before you are finished). Students with accommodations will be accommodated with their additional time.

3. PEOPLES OF MESOAMERICA PROJECT (40%)

In this project, you will work in groups to explore the history of a particular place and people within Mesoamerica. You will work in groups to create a digital essay, which will be presented in four parts over the course of the semester, corresponding to different time periods. This assignment will encourage you to gain in-depth knowledge of a particular area of Mesoamerica from the ancient past to the present day, and to think critically and creatively about the changes that its people have experienced over time. You will be graded both for your individual contributions, the overall quality of the group essay, and your participation in discussions of others' essays. Please see the Peoples of Mesoamerica Project assignment sheet and rubric for details.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Students should do all readings and assignments during the week before the course meeting for which they are assigned.

Note that this schedule is subject to change at any time at the professor's discretion.

***IMPORTANT:** A few of the videos in this course show difficult or disturbing content, including representations of human sacrifice in art, human skeletal remains, and individuals deceased in warfare. These appear briefly and are shown in the context of armed conflict, transnational migration, and traditional belief systems. If difficult content is present, a description of the content will be included in the "additional notes" for the video on D2L.

WEEK	DUE DATE	TOPICS AND READINGS
Week 1	W, Jan. 13	Topic: Introduction to the course
Week 2	W, Jan. 20	Topic: Origins and Development of Mesoamerican Civilization Legacy Chapter 1 Topic: Language and Languages of Mesoamerica Legacy Chapter 11 POM Group contract DUE Wednesday, Jan. 20
Week 3	W, Jan. 27	Topic: Late Postclassic Mesoamerica Legacy Chapter 2 Topic: Ancient Mesoamerican art and religion Video: Calendars of Ancient Mexico 5: The Codices (D2L) Video: The Popol Vuh (D2L) Video: The Fifth Sun (D2L) Article: The Flower Songs of Nezahualcoyotl, Ancient Nahua (Aztec) Poetry (D2L) Video: Poems by Hungry Coyote Nezahualcoyotl, poet of ancient Mexico (D2L) POM Post 1: The Precolumbian period DUE Monday, Feb. 1
Week 4	W, Feb. 3	Topic: The Mesoamerican World at Spanish Contact Legacy Chapter 3 Topic: Mesoamerica and Spain: The Conquest Legacy Chapter 4 MAP/CHRONOLOGY QUIZ DUE Monday, Feb. 8
Week 5	W, Feb. 10	Topic: The Colonial Period in Mesoamerica Legacy Chapter 5 Video: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico City, Mexico (D2L)
Week 6	W, Feb. 17	Mid-Semester Break
Week 7	W, Feb. 24	POM Post 2: The Colonial period DUE Monday, Feb 22.

		<p>Topic: Indigenous Literature From Colonial Mesoamerica</p> <p>Legacy Chapter 6</p> <p>Midterm 1 DUE on D2L, Monday, Mar. 1</p>
Week 8	W, Mar. 3	<p>Topic: Mesoamerican in the Neocolonial Era</p> <p>Legacy Chapter 7</p>
Week 9	W, Mar. 10	<p>Topic: Native Mesoamericans in the Modern Era</p> <p>Legacy Chapter 8</p> <p>Online article: Debt and Dispossession among Maya Peoples (D2L)</p> <p>Video: Forensic Anthropology of mass graves of "the disappeared" from the Guatemalan civil war (D2L)</p>
Week 10	W, Mar. 17	<p>Topic: Transnationalism and the Political Economy of Mesoamerica</p> <p>Legacy Chapter 9</p> <p>Video: Jason De León: Decoding Stories of Border Crossing (D2L)</p> <p>Video: Our food system hurts: living with migrant farmworkers by Seth M. Holmes (D2L)</p> <p>Topic: The Mayan Zapatista Movement</p> <p>Legacy Chapter 10</p> <p>Video: The Zapatista Uprising (20 years later) (D2L)</p> <p>POM Post 3: Neocolonial and Modern periods DUE Monday, Mar. 15.</p>
Week 11	W, Mar. 24	<p>Topic: Women and Gender in Mesoamerica</p> <p>Legacy Chapter 12</p> <p>Video: Manuela & Esperanza: The Art of Maya Weaving (D2L)</p> <p>Video: Women's Collective in Mexico works to save bee species (D2L)</p> <p>Midterm 2 DUE on D2L, Monday, Mar. 29</p>
Week 12	W, Mar. 31	<p>Topic: Indigenous Voices in Recent Mesoamerican Literature</p> <p>Legacy Chapter 13</p> <p>Video: Slajem k'op Musta'k (Tzotzil rap)(D2L)</p> <p>Video: Svokol Ololetik by Yibel Jme'tik Banamil (Tzotzil rock)(D2L)</p>
Week 13	W, Apr. 7	<p>Topic: The Religious Traditions of Mesoamerica</p> <p>Legacy Chapter 14</p> <p>Online article: Ritual Huichol Art. The Drum Fiesta and The Use of Body Paint (D2L)</p> <p>Video: Wixarika: connecting with nature, spirit and higher world-Cilau Valadez (D2L)</p> <p>Video: Preserving Guatemala's Ancient Dance of the Gods (D2L)</p> <p>POM Post 4: Open topic DUE Monday, Apr 12.</p>
Week 14	W, Apr. 14	<p>FINAL QUIZ DUE Wednesday, Apr. 14</p>

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

In order to successfully engage in this course, you are required to have reliable access to the following

technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- A stable internet connection.

TECHNOLOGY FAILURE, LATE POLICIES AND DEFERRALS

We are in unique global circumstances due to COVID-19 and international events. If emergency circumstances arise, please contact Dr. Paris by email as soon as possible.

If the issue is related to a computer crash during a quiz or exam, please email Dr. Paris as soon as possible, following the incident. Please document the problem and circumstances as thoroughly as possible, using a phone, camera, or screenshot. In most cases, you will be asked to seek help from Information Technology so that they may diagnose the cause of the problem. Their email is itsupport@ucalgary.ca and their phone number is 403-220-5555. In most cases you will be required to forward the ticket from IT, copied to myself and the teaching assistant, before further steps are considered.

Please take all possible steps under your control to make sure that your assessments go smoothly. For stability, please take quizzes and exams on a laptop rather than a tablet or smartphone. Please make sure that you are connected to a stable internet connection; if possible, an Ethernet cable provides more stability than Wifi. Please make sure to close down unnecessary background apps/programs, files, and browser tabs that might interfere with the exam. Please make sure to optimize your test-taking environment and communicate in advance with family/friends to prevent distractions as much as possible.

You are allowed ONE attempt to complete the exam (so don't sign off or hit the end button before you are finished). If a technological failure occurs during a quiz or if there are on-going emergency circumstances, the professor may decide to grade the quiz or exam as a proportion of the questions attempted, or transfer the percentage weight for a quiz to another assignment, normally the final exam. If a technological failure occurs on the final quiz, the student may be required to take the quiz in a different format (e.g. short-answer or essay-style questions).

Late assignments associated with the Peoples of Mesoamerica Project will be assessed a 5% penalty per day.

As per university policy, deferred exams may be approved for the following reasons: illness, religious conviction, or domestic affliction.

CLASSROOM ATMOSPHERE

- ❖ Please treat everyone in the class as a colleague—show respect to both your fellow students, teaching assistant and professor, even if you strongly disagree with someone's opinion. Be friendly, courteous and kind during online discussions and posted responses.
- ❖ Please be aware that all synchronous course meetings will be recorded by the professor and posted to D2L. Please also be aware that any posts on discussion forums will be visible to other students.

- ❖ Passwords and logins for D2L, Zoom, and all course content, including lectures and recorded meetings, may not be shared with anyone. Only students enrolled in the course may participate in the course.
- ❖ Please keep your microphones muted in Zoom unless it is your turn to speak. For synchronous activities, due to the size of the class, microphones may be muted by the professor as a default. Please make sure that any video content, posts or responses contribute to a positive atmosphere and are not distracting, otherwise, inappropriate conduct will be documented and reported to the university.
- ❖ In the event of my computer crashing or internet bandwidth issues, please wait for 5 minutes while I attempt to sign back in again. If continuing the discussion is not possible, I will send a follow-up email.
- ❖ All course content is the intellectual property of the professor, with the exception of external links. You may not make or duplicate video and audio recordings of synchronous sessions without the explicit consent of the professor, nor transfer them to another student, whether or not that student is enrolled in the course. Please see the Statement on Instructor Intellectual Property below.

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.

GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” videoconference, 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. Recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the professor'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. The professor or teaching assistant 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 professor of the class explaining why, so the professor 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/>.

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 may be required to turn on their web camera at any time

during synchronous course meetings to participate in group activities, and may otherwise set their avatar to a still image that is classroom-appropriate.

The professor will record all online Zoom class sessions for both lectures and labs, for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class, and will make the recordings available for review of the session. These recordings are only for the purpose of supporting student learning and will not be shared or used for any other purpose. Automatic captioning will be enabled whenever it is available.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

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.

During exams and quizzes, students may only use their textbook and individual notes. However, they are designed such that you must study for the exam in-depth prior to taking the exam. Otherwise, it is very likely that you will run out of time. Extensions will not be given if you run out of time.

Please respect the integrity of the examination process. Sharing information with any other students (enrolled in the course or not) is strictly prohibited. It will automatically result in a grade of zero marks for the assignment for any student involved, and will be referred for disciplinary action. This includes any type of consultation with other students or other individuals either in person, by cell phone or electronically during exams. Students cannot take and/or distribute screen shots of any parts of the exam or use the internet during exams. Students should not engage in discussion of exam questions with other students during the 24 hour period when the exam window is open. Grades will not be released until all students have completed the exam or quiz.

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. 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://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>.

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>

STATEMENT ON INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

All course material provided by the professor includes copyright protected works under the Copyright Act. Except in the case of a third-party copyright holder, all forms of electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, laboratories, tutorials, presentations, demonstrations, performances, electronic (computer) information, instructor notes, etc. are the intellectual property of the professor (and/or the guest instructor, in that case). Sharing or duplication of course material, the translation of recordings, or transcriptions of

any of these materials to another form by electronic or mechanical means by students, including the duplication of electronic versions of textbooks, is not permitted, except:

- ❖ As a formal accommodation as assessed by the Student Accessibility Services and only for individual private study and only at the discretion of the professor.
- ❖ For any use of supplementary course materials provided through a formal accommodation, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the professor 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 personal written notes of Zoom discussions, recorded lectures, demonstrations etc., but many not record and distribute the content under any circumstances. Recordings are only permitted when made or shared by the professor, and remain the intellectual property of the professor.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright: <https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy> 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. Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Act.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed in the University Calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-1.html>

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: <https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

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

STATEMENT ON THE 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>

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, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support, part of the Student Success Centre, can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

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. For more immediate response, please call: 403-210-9355 and select option #2. Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation.

- ❖ Student Union VP Academic 403-220-3911, suypaca@ucalgary.ca
- ❖ Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts – 403-220-3913, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- ❖ Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/Campus

SAFEWALK

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.