Archaeology of the Arctic

ARKY 423 Winter 2017 Syllabus
SA 119 TR  14:00 – 15:15
Department of Anthropology and Archaeology
Dr. Matthew Walls
matthew.walls@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Wednesdays 14:00-15:00 ES 602D

Archaeology in a Changing Arctic: This course provides a comprehensive overview of the archaeology of the North American Arctic and Northeastern Siberia. We will examine important cultural transitions, the archaeological evidence which makes these apparent, and key debates at the forefront of current research. The course will begin with an outline of arctic environments, and an ethnographic snapshot of the contemporary array of dynamic Indigenous cultures. Special attention will be directed at the unique technologies and practices that are central to traditional subsistence. In the second part of the course, students will engage with the primary literature to build a strong working knowledge of human occupation in the arctic leading up to the development of Inuit culture and colonial interaction. In examining arctic culture histories, we will also address a range of topics that includes recent DNA research, arctic dating considerations, organic preservation, and methodological considerations that make arctic archaeology unique within the wider discipline. The final section will focus on contemporary challenges for archaeology in the context of physical and political environments that are rapidly changing. We will discuss the relevance of arctic archaeology to social dimension of global climate change, and local impacts of global warming on arctic archaeological sites. We will also explore developments in the relationship between archaeology and Inuit communities through a number of case studies in Nunavut and Greenland. This course will be of importance to students with an interest in the arctic, long term relationships between peoples and their environments, and community archaeology.

Format: The course will follow a lecture format, with opportunities for class discussion directed at topics. A lecture and readings schedule, along with course updates, will be available through Desire2Learn (D2L). Lecture outlines will be posted on D2L, but students must attend lectures and take notes as all lecture material is testable. Attendance will not be tracked, but will be essential to course performance.

Course Readings: There is no course textbook, but require readings and articles that correspond with lecture topics will be posted on D2L. Student are expected to do the posted readings before the lecture, and part of the course mark will consist of an annotated bibliography of these readings, as described below.

Course Requirements/Marks:
Quiz (Arctic places and peoples) 15% (Jan. 24)
Midterm Exam #1 30% (Mar. 2)
Midterm Exam #2 30% (Mar. 30)
Annotated Bibliography 15% (Cumulative)
Final Assignment 10% (Apr. 13)

Quiz: The quiz will include details of the geographical and ethnographic overview of the arctic. Questions will include identifying features on a map and several short responses.

Exams: Exam questions will be drawn from the lecture, course readings and from films shown in class. Each exam will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Exams will be non-cumulative and in-class. Before each scheduled exam a review sheet will be posted to D2L.

Annotated Bibliography: Students must produce a half-page, single spaced, annotation for at least 15 of the assigned readings. Each annotation will be worth 1% (up to 15% of the total course mark). To receive full marks, each annotation must include a brief summary of the article’s argument, its evidence, and broader implications. The annotated bibliography is cumulative and will be handed in at the end of the semester. Students are strongly advised to work on the bibliography in coordination with the progression of lectures.

Final Assignment: This will consist of short written responses (no more than one page each) on topics addressed in the final section of the course, where we will look at the impact of global warming and changing political environments on archaeological practice in the arctic. Rubrics and specification will be introduced in class.

Policy for Late Work/Missed exams or quizzes: If you know you will miss an important date, or need an extension for written work, get in touch with me prior to the relevant date. In the event of extraordinary circumstances, such as illness, students will be able to write make-up exams or quizzes at a different date if they provide a note from a doctor or student services. Late written work, unless previously arranged, will be deducted 10% per day past the due date.

Grading Scheme: We will be following the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology’s standard scheme.

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100–94.9%</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>94.8–89.9%</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>89.8–84.9%</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>49.8% and below</td>
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Course Schedule: The readings list, key dates, and lecture schedule will be posted on D2L.

Email Policy: PLEASE include the word ARKY 423 in the title of any email messages. Please keep messages as concise as possible, and I will try to respond within 2 workings days. If you are unable to attend the scheduled office hours, but would still like to see me in person, we can schedule an appointment.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS
http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy
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.
Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to "(Instructor) (Associate Dean) (Department Head) (other designated person)"

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Calgary is a strong signal of each student’s individual academic achievements. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. 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

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the University Calendar. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behavior or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

**TEACHING EVALUATIONS / USRIS (Universal Student Ratings of Instruction)**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference, please participate! Website: http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri/

**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.

**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

**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/legalservices/foip

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology’s FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy) policy requires all reports/examinations to be returned to students during class time or the instructor’s office hours. Any term work not picked up will be placed in the Anthropology and
Archaeology Office (ES620) for distribution. Any student not wishing to have their work placed in the office must make alternative arrangements with the course instructor early in the term.

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? Arts Students' Centre

The Faculty of Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance that they require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning, the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- program advising
- the Faculty’s Co-operative Education Program
- the Arts and Science Honours Academy
- the Faculty’s Interdisciplinary Programs
- a Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102
Phone: 403.220.3580
Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca
Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/

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.

Contacts 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