

Archaeology of the Arctic

ARKY 423 Winter 2019 Syllabus
SS 541 TR 14:00 – 15:15
Department of Anthropology and Archaeology
Dr. Matthew Walls
matthew.walls@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Thursdays 10-11:00 ES 602D



Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes: This course provides a comprehensive overview of the archaeology of the North American Arctic and Northeastern Siberia. We will examine important cultural developments, key debates at the forefront of current research and considerations that make arctic archaeology unique within the wider discipline. 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, the colonial period, and the present. We will also address a range of topics that includes recent aDNA research, arctic dating considerations, and organic preservation, among others. 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.

Prerequisites: Arky 201 or Arky 205 or Arky 303

Format: The course will follow a lecture format, with weekly opportunities for class discussion directed at special 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. To make sense of lectures, students must do the assigned readings before class. Attendance will not be tracked, but it is essential to course performance.

Course Readings: There is no course textbook, but required readings and articles that correspond with lecture topics will be posted on D2L, where possible but will primarily be available through digital access via the University of Calgary Library. Student are expected to retrieve and 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. 22)
Midterm Exam #1	30% (Feb. 26)
Midterm Exam #2	30% (Mar. 26)
Annotated Bibliography	15% (Cumulative)
Final Quiz/Assignment	10% (Apr. 9)

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/Quiz: 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 student services. Late written work, unless previously arranged, will be deducted 10% per day past the due date.

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.

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

A+	100–94.9%	A	94.8–89.9%	A-	89.8–84.9%
B+	84.8–79.9%	B	79.8–74.9%	B-	74.8–70.9%
C+	70.8–66.9%	C	66.8–62.9%	C-	62.8–58.9%
D+	58.8–54.9%	D	54.8–49.9%	F	49.8% and below

Course Schedule: The readings list, key dates, and lecture schedule will be posted and regularly updated on D2L. The schedule and readings attached to this document are tentative and will be updated.

Lecture	Topic	Readings*
PART I		
Jan 10	Introduction and Ethnographic Overview I	
Jan 15	Ethnographic overview II: Traditional Technologies and Practices	
Jan 17	Arctic Landscapes and Ecology	
PART 2		
Jan 22	Quiz (People and Places) + Late Pleistocene	Potter et al. (2011) Erlandson & Braje (2011)
Jan 24	The Development of Arctic Maritime Lifeways + Aleutians 9000BP - Present	Knecht & Davis (2008) Davis & Knecht (2010)
Jan 29	The Denbigh Flint Complex & Arctic Small Tool Tradition	Odess (2003) Tremayne (2011)
Jan 31	Choris/Norton/Ipiutak Cultures	Mason (2016) Dumond (2000)
Feb 5	Pre-Dorset/Independence I	Friesen (2015) Milne & Donnelly (2004) Odgaard (2003)
Feb 7	Saqqaq Culture and Organic Preservation at the Qeqertasussuk Site	Grønnow (2012a) Grønnow (2012b)
Feb 12	The Development of Dorset Culture	Friesen (2016) Ryan (2016) Wells & Renouf (2014)
Feb 14	Late Dorset + Norse Interaction	Price & Arneborg (2018) Appelt et al. (2016) Smith et al. (2018)
Feb 17-24	READING WEEK	
Feb 26	EXAM #1	
Feb 28	Norse Greenland	Frei et al. (2015) Madsen (2014) * Excerpts
Mar 5	Old Bearing Sea/Punuk/Birnirk Cultures	Harrit 2004 Mason 1998
Mar 7	Western Thule Origins + Thule Migration + Debates from Radiocarbon dates to aDNA)	Harrit 2013 Friesen 2007 Zimmerman et al. 2000
Mar 12	The Thule Migration/Debates (Radiocarbon dates to aDNA)	Friesen & Arnold 2008 Park 2016
Mar 14	Early Thule traditions/practices	Whitridge 2002 Brink 2005 Hardenberg 2010
Mar 19	Thule to local Inuit transitions across the Eastern Arctic + Early Colonial Period	Lemoine and Darwent 2016 Dawson 2016

Mar 21	Colonial interaction and impacts through time	Gullov 2016 Cabak and Loring 2000 Whitridge 2015
Mar 26	EXAM #2	
PART 3		
Mar 28	Climate Change Related Threats to Arctic Sites + Arctic archaeology and the Anthropocene	Hollesen et al. 2018 Harmsen et al. 2018 Roy et al. 2015
April 2	Community Archaeology & Inuit Heritage	Dawson & Levy 2016 TBD
April 4	New Technologies and Arctic Archaeology – From Drones to 3d Scanning	Haukaas & Hodgetts 2016 Landry et al. 2016
April 9	Final Quiz +Bibliographies due	

*The complete readings list and bibliographic details will be available and updated through D2L

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

Plagiarism: “to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one’s own” (Webster’s). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology’s policy on intellectual honesty

DEFERRED EXAMS:

A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor. The instructor at their discretion may transfer the percentage weight for the test to the final examination, if there is a final examination in the course, set another test, etc. An instructor will normally make this decision on the basis of verbal information provided by the student. In the event that an instructor feels that they cannot judge the veracity of the information provided, Students must be aware that they are responsible for payment of any charge associated with the medical assessment and documentation as this service falls outside the realm of services provided by the Provincial Health Care Plan. Deferral of the final exam requires Registrar approval.

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 the instructor of this course.

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. Non-academic integrity also constitutes an important component of this program.

For detailed information on what constitutes academic and non-academic misconduct, please refer to the following link: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

All suspected cases of academic and non-academic misconduct 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.

Where there is a criminal act involved in plagiarism, cheating or other academic misconduct, e.g., theft (taking another student's paper from their possession, or from the possession of a faculty member without permission), breaking and entering (forcibly entering an office to gain access to papers, grades or records), forgery, personation and conspiracy (impersonating another student by agreement and writing their paper) and other such offences under the Criminal Code of Canada, the University may take legal advice on the appropriate response and, where appropriate, refer the matter to the police, in addition to or in substitution for any action taken under these regulations by the University

TEACHING EVALUATIONS / USRI (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, 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

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: 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

Ombudsman's office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>