

Arky 437: Course Information



Time, Venue

We meet twice a week (T, Th), 12:30-13:55 pm

Venue: ST126



Description

This course provides an introduction to Paleolithic Archaeology in the Old World. We will pursue a multidisciplinary understanding of major cultural developments through archaeological data, but also through other disciplines including biogeography and geoarchaeology. The emphasis is on detailed factual knowledge, and the course has been designed to provide you with an understanding of major chronological events and the cultural processes that characterize the Paleolithic era.



Course information

Topics to be covered through the term include:

The nature of the fossil and archaeological records

Modern hunter-gatherers

Geochronometry

The boundaries between archaeology, paleoanthropology, and primatology

Human Evolution I: Primitive Hominins, and the Australopithecine family

Human Evolution II: Early Homo

African Early Stone Age I: Oldowan

African Early Stone Age II: Acheulian

The first Global Diaspora

Early Paleolithic in Asia

Lower Paleolithic in Europe

Archaic behavior: food procurement, fire, language, society, cognition

The Origins of Modern behavior

Middle Stone Age in Africa

Neanderthals I: Introduction

Neanderthals II: The Behavioral record in Europe and the Middle East

Late Paleolithic in Asia

The early settlement of Sahul

Australian Prehistory

African Later Stone Age

European Upper Paleolithic

Rock Art I

Rock Art II Stone Age in the Eurasian Arctic

The Mesolithic period

Origins of farming

TEXTBOOK, ASSIGNMENTS, GRADING



NO textbook is required for this class. There are NO required assignments for this class.

Should you like to **improve your grade**, there are things you can volunteer for:

- 1) Hands-on project in the Tropical Archaeology Laboratory, ES 811
- 2) Annotated bibliography: a summary of 10 articles
- 3) Paper: 10 pages

Any of these will earn you one step up in the grade rank

Credit Percentages:

Mid-term 1: 30%

Mid-term 2: 60%

Mid-term 3: 10%

**NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WITHOUT PERTINENT MEDICAL EXCUSE
AND DOCUMENTATION**

Grade scale (non-changeable),

99-100: A+

96-98: A

90-95: A-

87-89: B+

84-86: B

80-83: B-

77-79: C+

74-76: C

77-73: C-

61-69: D+

51-60: D

1-50: F



Common questions

F.A.Q.

- 1) Will my professor curve grades for this class? No
- 2) Is the grade scale for this class changeable? No
- 3) Can I skip class and expect my professor to send me his own notes? No

4) Will my professor post his Power Point presentations on-line? Yes .

Are all PP presentations for this class posted on BB from day one? No; some are, and some are not. Those that are not posted now, they will be posted later on; at due time.

5) Will I be provided with a study guide prior to exams? Yes.

6) Can I expect my professor to advise me; primarily, on-line or over the phone? No. These are duties that both professor and student must execute in person, during office hrs.

7) Will my professor guide me through exam questions and problems the day, or hrs, before the exam? No. Plan accordingly, and ask for guidance well in advance.



University Statement

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge. Knowledge is cumulative and further advances are predicated on the contributions of others. In the normal course of scholarship, these contributions are apprehended, critically evaluated and utilized as a foundation for further inquiry. Intellectual honesty demands that the contribution of others be acknowledged.

Essentially, plagiarism is a form of cheating that involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the students own done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another person impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for ones own in an examination or test).
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without references to the original author.
- c) the whole work is copied from another source and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (even though it may be entirely the work of that student) without the express consent of the instructors of the courses concerned.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offense.

The elementary rules of quotation and paraphrase are given below. There are further details and conventions of punctuation that you will need to look up in a manual of style, but observance of these rules should assure compliance with contemporary standards of intellectual honesty.

1. If you use more than four words from any source, put them in quotation marks and identify the source with a reference.

EXAMPLE:

It has been observed that many tribes are, in a sense, ethnographic fictions (Leach 1954: 291).

2. If your direct quotation is more than three lines long, put it in block form, that is, left and right indented and single-spaced, without quotation marks and with a reference.

(2)

EXAMPLE:

Malinowski thought of tribes as social systems with well defined boundaries. This conception of tribe was later to be challenged by one of his students, who observed that:

The ethnographer has often only managed to discern that existence of a tribe because he took it as axiomatic that this kind of cultural entity must exist (Leach 1954: 291).

3. To paraphrase the work of another means to present the same train of thought and evidence, but rephrased into your own words. Whenever you do this, you must include a note or reference to the source. A common mistake is to break up an authors words, and rearrange them slightly, passing them off as your own. This is wrong, even if you include a note or reference to the source. To do this for more than a few words is to commit plagiarism.

Below are three passages. The first is an excerpt from E.A. Leach, Political

Systems of Highland Burma. The second is an improper paraphrase of the passage that would be considered plagiarism. The third is a proper paraphrase.

1. It is largely an academic fiction to suppose that in a normal ethnographic situation one ordinarily finds distinct tribes distributed on the map in orderly fashion with clear-cut boundaries between them. I agree of course that ethnographic monographs frequently suggest that this is the case, but are the facts proved? My own view is that the ethnographer has often only managed to discern the existence of a tribe because he took it as axiomatic that this kind of cultural entity must exist. Many such tribes are, in a sense, ethnographic fictions (Leach 1954: 290-1). (source)

2. It is an academic misconception to think that in a typical ethnographic situation tribes with clear-cut boundaries can be found distributed in an orderly fashion on the map. Ethnographic monographs often imply that this is so, but what are the facts? The ethnographer is often able to find a tribe only because she takes it for granted that this kind of group must exist. Many tribes are figments of the anthropologists imagination. (plagiarism)

3. Ethnographic monographs often suggest that it is normally the case that there exist in the real world contiguous tribes with clearly discernible boundaries: however, it is Leach's view that such units are found only because the ethnographer has taken their existence for granted (Leach 1954: 290-1). (proper paraphrase)