



ARCHAEOLOGICAL CERAMICS

ARXY 471 - Winter 2019

Lecture: Tues/Thurs 12:30-1:45, ES 859

Lab A: Tues 2:00-3:45, ES 859

Lab B: Thurs 2:00-3:45, ES 859

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appointment

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appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the analysis of ceramics recovered in archaeological contexts. Pottery is one of the most prevalent artifact types found in archaeological sites and its study has yielded significant insights into past lifeways. The analysis of pottery has assisted in establishing chronological sequences, identifying interaction networks, determining the organization of production, distinguishing past activity areas, and revealing ancient foodways. The course provides an overview of current concepts, methods and interpretations applied in the analysis of ceramic data. The class includes an introduction to clay and mineral properties and the process of making pottery. The course also familiarizes students with the theories and methods used to analyze ceramic assemblages. Finally, the class presents current research issues and interpretations in the analysis of archaeological ceramics.

This course is a combined lecture/seminar format. Class discussion of readings and lab activities are critical components of the class. No prior knowledge of archaeological ceramics is required to complete this course successfully, although a familiarity with basic archaeological concepts is assumed.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this class you will be able to:

- explain the physical processes of pottery production;
- explain the relevance of the societal contexts within which the production may have taken place;
- critically evaluate published work relating to archaeological ceramics;
- evaluate the relevance and applicability of various methods of ceramic analysis; and
- employ some archaeological techniques for the analysis and interpretation of ceramic materials.

READINGS

Rice, Prudence

2015 *Pottery Analysis: A Sourcebook, Second Edition*. University of Chicago Press.

Articles and book chapters on D2L

EVALUATION METHODS

Quiz 1: 10%, Feb. 7

Quiz 2: 10%, Mar. 14

Quiz 3: 10%, Apr. 11

Participation: 5%

Presentation/discussion leadership: 15%

Ceramic Analysis Final Project: 20%

Lab projects (6 @ 5 pts each, see lab syllabus): 30%

Individual grades will be based on total points received:

<i>The A range denotes excellent performance.</i>	<i>The B range denotes good performance.</i>	<i>The C range denotes satisfactory performance.</i>	<i>The D range denotes unsatisfactory performance.</i>	<i>An F denotes failing performance.</i>
96-100 = A+	82-85 = B+	70-73 = C+	56-61 = D+	<50 = F
90-95 = A	78-81 = B	66-69 = C	50-55 = D	
86-89 = A-	74-77 = B-	62-65 = C-		

While there are separate scheduled time blocks for the lectures and labs for this class, in reality, there will be less of a separation between the activities of lectures vs. labs than the scheduling would suggest. You will be expected to attend both the lecture and lab sections, and participate fully in all aspects of the class, no matter when they are scheduled.

If you find you are having difficulties with any aspect of this class, please come and see myself or the TA early in the semester to work on them. It will be hard to turn things around if you wait until the last two weeks of class to seek help.

QUIZZES (30%)

There will be three quizzes in the course. Please see the course schedule below. Quizzes will be scheduled for the first portion of the class meeting. Quizzes will include no more than 25 multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank and short answer questions that cover information from lectures and readings (textbook and articles). Quizzes are not cumulative. Each quiz is worth 10% of your grade, and all quizzes combined represent a total of 30% of your final grade.

PARTICIPATION (5%)

Students will be graded for their participation during in-class discussions and activities.

- Grading for “participation” assumes that you come to class regularly and on time, are prepared to talk about the required reading/assignments during class discussions, and are actively engaged in the lab activities.
- In-class comments during class discussions should demonstrate that you have done the readings and seriously considered the main points in each.
- Participation grades for each class discussion will be assessed out of 5 points.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION LEADERSHIP (15%)

During the second week of class, you will sign up for a group consisting of three students (with one or two groups of four students, depending on enrollment) to make a presentation on one of the weekly topics. A class bibliography with approved readings for each topic will be posted on D2L. The group should select three-four articles from the list for the class to read. Article selection must be completed at least one week in advance. I must be notified of the selected articles in writing no later than Thursday at 5:00 pm, one week in advance of your group’s presentation. Links or pdfs of the selected articles will be posted on D2L and are part of the required class reading assignments each week.

Presentations should be based on these articles and any supplemental research. Each presentation should be 20-25 minutes in length. All articles must be incorporated into a well-organized, cohesive presentation that addresses the main issues within the topic. Students should collaborate to create the powerpoint and speak for an equal amount of time during the presentation.

After the presentation, the group will lead a class discussion on the topic and the assigned articles. Each member of the group should prepare one discussion question in advance to facilitate a dialogue.

Evaluation of presentation/discussion leadership will be based on the following:

- the appropriateness of the articles for the topic
- content of the presentation
- effectiveness in conveying information during the talk
- quality of discussion questions

CERAMIC ANALYSIS FINAL PROJECT (20%)

Analysis projects are an integral component of all analytical courses at the University of Calgary. The final ceramic project in this class will simulate the analysis carried out within the context of a professional (academic or cultural resource management) archaeological project. You will be given a collection of roughly 100 ceramic sherds from an archaeological site, which will constitute your assemblage. You should use the various techniques presented in this class to analyze your assemblage.

Your final product will consist of a written report, which should consist of an introduction, a discussion of your methods, a thorough description of your assemblage's characteristics, and your initial interpretations. The following should also be included in the final ceramic report: title page, table of contents, list of figures and tables, and references cited. The final report, including in-text citations and references, must follow the style guide of the journal *American Antiquity*.
[http://www.saa.org/Portals/0/SAA%20Style%20Guide Updated%20July%202018.pdf](http://www.saa.org/Portals/0/SAA%20Style%20Guide%20Updated%20July%202018.pdf).

A separate Ceramic Analysis Final Project Handout will be given to you with the specifications for the assignment. Make sure to follow the directions very carefully in order to receive credit.

Please note that you will receive some class time to complete the projects, but you should also plan to spend extra time outside of class to complete your analysis. Access to the prep room will be granted conditional on continuing appropriate usage; access to comparative collections may be arranged during instructor/TA office hours. You may email the instructor or TA to ask if they are willing to supervise at other times, but this is not guaranteed, and completely subject to instructor/TA availability and discretion.

Removing any ceramic specimens from laboratory spaces is not permitted for any reason. This includes materials assigned for projects and comparative collections. Removing course materials, knowingly or negligently damaging collections and/or

university equipment will be reported to the university as misconduct. At the instructor's discretion, the misconduct may result in failure of the assignment and/or the course.

IMPORTANT: Plagiarism, defined as copying more than 5 words in succession or using information without adequate citation (i.e., reference and page number) of the original source, is a violation of academic integrity. Research papers that plagiarize will receive a 0 score, and the student will be turned in to the Dean of Arts (see page 48 of the U of Calgary Calendar).

Research Papers are due before the end of the day (midnight) on the last day of classes, April 12. You should upload a WORD file of your final report to the class D2L dropbox. A time stamp will automatically be attached to your document when you upload it. A penalty of 5% per day will be imposed on late papers, unless prior arrangements have been made.

MAKE-UP POLICY

Rescheduling of practice labs is extremely difficult due to their involved nature. Official excused absences (as per university policy) must be reported to the instructor and TA as soon as possible, and students will need to be flexible and work with us for any attempts to reschedule.

Quizzes may be re-scheduled with an official excuse as per university policy. Official excused absences must be reported to the instructor or the TA as soon as possible. All rescheduled quizzes will consist of essay questions and must be taken within one week of the regularly scheduled quiz.

Research papers and lab reports may only be turned in late with an official excuse as per university policy. As it is possible to turn in written assignments prior to the due date, foreseen schedule conflicts resulting from university athletic competitions, religious observances, etc. must be arranged individually with the professor in advance. Unforeseen emergency or situations should be reported to the professor as soon as possible, and any alternative arrangements will be based on individual circumstances.

COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change as necessary)

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Readings</i>	<i>Quizzes and Assignments</i>
Week 1	Jan 10	Class Introduction		
Week 2	Jan 15	Characteristics of pottery	Rice, Chp. 1	Discussion leader groups assigned and topics selected
	Jan 17	Pottery materials	Rice, Chp. 2	
Week 3	Jan 22	Properties of clay	Rice, Chps. 3.2, 18	
	Jan 24	Topic: Physical characteristics of clay and pottery	TBA	Discussion leadership group #1
Week 4	Jan 29	Formation and firing	Rice, Chp. 4, 10	
	Jan 31	Topic: Manufacturing pottery	TBA	Discussion leadership group #2
Week 5	Feb 5	Manufacturing and form	Rice, Chp. 8, 9	
	Feb 7	Ceramic collections distributed, ceramic analysis project discussed after quiz		Quiz 1
Week 6	Feb 12	Compositional and provenance studies	TBA	Discussion leadership group #2
	Feb 14	Guest lecture, Dr. Carrie Dennett	Rice, Chp. 17, 23.1, 23.2.1-23.2.4	
Week 7	Feb 19/21	READING WEEK		
Week 8	Feb 26	Classification and chronology	Rice, Chp. 13	
	Feb 28	Topic: Type-Variety system	TBA	Discussion leadership group #3
Week 9	Mar 5	Sampling and quantification	Rice, Chp. 15	
	Mar 7	Topic: Sampling assemblages	TBA	Discussion leadership group #4
Week 10	Mar 12	Early ceramic distribution in the Maya lowlands, a case study from Yaxnohcah		
	Mar 14	Free time to work on projects after quiz		Quiz 2
Week 11	Mar 19	Production and specialization	Rice, Chp. 20, 21	
	Mar 21	Topic: Mass production	TBA	Discussion leadership group #5
Week 12	Mar 26	Commodities and consumption	Rice, Chp. 11, 22	
	Mar 28	Topic: Consumption patterns in the archaeological record	TBA	Discussion leadership group #6

Week 13	Apr 2	Topic: Guest lecture, Dr. Diane Lyons	Rice, Chp. 24	
	Apr 4	Topic: style and design	TBA	Discussion leadership group #7
Week 14	Apr 9	To be announced		
	Apr 11	Free time to work on projects after quiz		Quiz 3
	April 12			Final project reports due

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/>