

Archaeology 505: Topics of Debate Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Diane Lyons
Seminar: Monday 2-4:45pm ES 859
Office: Wednesday 1-2 pm ES 854 but it might be easier to reach me by email:
dlyons@ucalgary.ca or phone 403 220 6370

Course Description

This course is a seminar format. Students must come prepared to debate a weekly topic based on a series of readings that will be provided one week in advance of the class. Students will debate topics in archaeology that will include theoretical, philosophical and methodological issues. Topics will include a few early debates that are considered as foundational to archaeological theory, but the emphasis will be on debates that have emerged since the 1950s with a focus on contemporary topics.

Students must be prepared to debate both sides of the weekly topic. The course is intended to develop students critical, analytical and debating skills, and to prepare them for graduate school.

Reading lists will be posted on blackboard for each week's debate. Readings are from materials that can be downloaded from journals/books available online.

Course Evaluation:

Participation Grade: 20%

It is critical that students attend every class. Debates require enough people in attendance to make it useful for all participants. Everyone must contribute to every debate and provide critical analysis or at least raise questions that can be addressed in the class.

Summaries: 50%

Each student will prepare a 4-page summary of five debates – these must include at least one debate from each section of the course as indicated in the readings outline. This summary should include a statement outlying each side of the debate; evidence to support each side of the debate from readings and seminar discussions; and a critical evaluation of each side of the debate. Each summary is due **no later than 1 week following the seminar** being evaluated. Students must use the readings provided but they may include additional readings in their summary if they find this useful.

Take-home midterm and final (30%)

There will be two exams (15% each). Exams will ask question(s) that require students to make connections among different debates in an essay format.

No particular course component need be passed in order to pass the course as a whole, however, students must complete all elements of the course in a diligent manner in order to complete the course.

Section 1: Archaeological Foundations

September 9:

Week 1: Introduction, debating theory, what are your interests.

Context for week 2.

September 16:

Week 2: Culture History Paradigm

Debates in artifact form, space and time.

Section 2: Neo-evolutionary and Processual Approaches

September 23

Week 3: Neo-Evolutionary Theory: return to evolutionary explanations

History vs. Evolutionary Explanation; but what type of evolution?

September 30

Week 4: The New Archaeology: Archaeology as anthropology

Inductive and deductive methodologies

October 7

Week 5: Processual Archaeology

Binford: Schiffer debate

October 14: Thanksgiving holiday

Week 6

October 21

Week 7: Behavioral Archaeology: Binford: Schiffer debate

Section 3: Post-Processual Approaches

October 28

Week 8: Post-processual Critique of positivism

November 4

Week 9: Reading Identity from archaeological materials: gender and ethnicity

November 11: Remembrance Day holiday

Week 10

Section 4: Evolutionary Archaeologies and Student Choice

November 18

Week 11: Evolutionary Archaeologies

November 25: Student choice

Week 12:

December 2: Student choice

Week 13

ADDITIONAL CONTENT

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.

Academic Accommodation Policy

It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at www.ucalgary.ca/access.

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>

Academic Misconduct

Academic dishonesty is an unacceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section of the University

Calendar. Quite 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 you own without proper referencing
- 3) Using work completed for another course

This activity will not be tolerated and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the University Calendar.

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>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not. Any ideas or materials taken from another source written, electronic, or oral must be fully and formally acknowledged. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- (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 impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- (b) Parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- (c) The whole work (e.g., an essay) 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 (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

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 offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis or dissertation.

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>

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? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- 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.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

Student Union Vice President – Academic

Phone: (403) 220-3911

Email: suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Representatives

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

arts2@su.ucalgary.ca

arts3@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/>