

ARKY 531: Mesoamerican Ethnohistory and Ethnography
Fall 2021, Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:15
Earth Sciences 859

Professor Kathryn Reese-Taylor
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Course description:

This class is a seminar that focuses on ethnohistoric and ethnographic studies of indigenous cultures in Mesoamerica. We will cover five broadly conceived topics. The class format includes a lecture to introduce each topic, but emphasis will be placed on discussion of readings. Consequently, class participation is very important.

Required Readings: Links to articles and chapters will be posted on D2L

Course Learning Outcomes:

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development.

- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts, terminology, methods, theoretical perspectives, and issues in ethnohistoric and ethnographic research
- Demonstrate knowledge of the ethnohistoric and ethnographic record of Mesoamerica.
- Think holistically, comparatively, and with cultural sensitivity.
- Use appropriate analytical methods to understand historic indigenous cultures.

Statement of class and online etiquette

This class will foster a tolerant and safe learning environment. All comments must be respectful.

Required Learning Technology

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking are required to have reliable access to the following technology.

- A computer with an internet connection
- A current web browser
- Word processing software

Course Grading:

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| • Participation in class discussion | 10% |
| • Leading article discussions | 15% |
| • Five critiques | 35% |
| • Presentation | 15% |
| • Research Paper | 25% |

Readings and class participation (10%):

Each week, you will be given a list of readings that you will be expected to read for discussion the following week. We will read between two and three articles for each class, which does not involve a lecture. This is the equivalent of approximately 100-150 pages a week. You will be expected to be prepared for and contribute to the discussion of all articles.

Leading article discussions (15%):

Three times during the semester you will be required to lead the class discussion of an article or book chapter. This should include a brief summation of the article's major points (5 minutes) and the presentation of two discussion questions lead the class to debate or analyze the strength of the article's arguments, interpretations, and/or conclusions.

Critiques (35%):

For each of the five topics covered in class, you are required to submit a critique of the three related articles or chapters. This critique should highlight the common thread among the articles. It should also note the strength or weakness of the data presented, as well as the arguments and the conclusions reached. These summaries should be approximately 1000 words in length. They are due one week after the topic has been completed, so you have the benefit of the discussion to help you with your paper. Information on how to write a critique will be posted on D2L.

Presentation of research paper (15%):

The final presentation will cover your research paper and should be 20 minutes in length with an additional 5 minutes for questions. A detailed guidelines for presentations and a grading rubric will be posted on D2L

Final Research Paper, due the last day of classes (25%):

Your final paper should be approximately 15-18 pages in length and address the same topic as your presentation. Your paper is due on the last day of class. If the paper is submitted after the deadline, 5% of the grade will be subtracted for each subsequent day.

Your paper should present a strong thesis statement. This is a question or a problem that you intend to address in your paper. Your paper should be thoroughly researched, well organized, and well written. Your argument should be supported with points from the literature and your conclusions should be based on the data you present in your paper. Detailed paper guidelines and a grading rubric will be posted on D2L.

If you have never written a research paper like this before, please make an appointment to see me or go to the writing center in Mac Hall for help.

It is not essential to pass all components to pass the course as whole.

There is no final examination for this course.

Missed or Late Assignments

Official excused absences (as per university policy) must be reported to the instructor within 24 hours.

Students with official excused absences will be given an opportunity to reschedule their discussion leadership when possible. If rescheduling is not possible, the students may submit an additional written critique.

Research papers and critiques may only be turned in late with an official excuse as per university policy. 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. Alternative arrangements will be based on individual circumstances.

A penalty of 5% per day will be imposed on late papers and critiques, unless prior arrangements have been made.

Grading Scale:

A+	95–100	B+	80–84.9	C+	67–70.9	D+	55–58.9
A	90–94.9	B	75–79.9	C	63–66.9	D	50–54.9
A-	85–89.9	B-	71–74.9	C-	59–62.9	F	<50

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Supplemental Information:

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

“Academic Misconduct” includes such things as cheating, falsification, plagiarism, unauthorized assistance, and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

Further support on academic integrity is available at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES:

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Safewalk