

ARCHAEOLOGY 627

SEMINAR ON THE ORIGINS OF AGRICULTURE

Winter 2015

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Seminar hours: Tuesday 1-3:45
Room: ES 822
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Course description

This course is a seminar designed to explore the origins of plant and animal domestication, and the impact of this change in subsistence strategy on social and cultural developments in the Old and New Worlds. You will be expected to participate in the discussion, lead at least one discussion session, complete weekly reading assignments, write an original research paper and present an oral critique of the research paper of a classmate. The Origins of Agriculture is a broad subject with an extensive literature. Following discussion of the first set of readings, we will discuss whether we wish to narrow our focus on the subject, and if so, how.

Readings

Each week for the first weeks, you will be given a list of readings which you will be expected to read for discussion the following week. One or more of you may be asked to lead the discussion on the weekly topic; however, each of you will be expected to be prepared for and to contribute to the discussion.

Research Paper

Your paper should be thoroughly researched, well organized, and well written. You should select a topic during the first two weeks. The sooner you start the better. You will probably find that you will need to order some sources through Interlibrary Loans. You will be given a time schedule indicating when your paper will be discussed. Your paper is to be duplicated (at your cost) and distributed to the members of the class at least one week before it is scheduled for discussion. (It is particularly important that the critic receive a copy as early as possible).

Critique

Your critique should be a careful, thorough analysis and examination of the merits of the paper. You should concentrate on substantive issues, e.g. on use of data, methodology, thoroughness of the use of resources, logic of argument, and clarity of the presentation. Avoid personal and picky criticism but be frank. If you disagree, say so and be prepared to support your disagreement. If important sources have been overlooked, find them and mention them. By the same token, don't be afraid to praise. If you think a paper has been brilliantly researched and written, let us know and tell us why.

Grading

Annotated bibliography	10%
Paper outline	10%
Paper presentation	40%
Critique	20%
Class Participation	20%

Grade Scale: A+ 96-100; A 91-95.9; A- 86-90.9; B+ 81-85.9; B 76-80.9; B- 71-75.9; C+ 66-70.9; C 61-65.9; C- 56-60.9; D+ 51-55.9; D 46-50.9; F <45.9

NOTE: A grade of C+ or less is a failing grade in this graduate level course. At minimum, a passing grade in the research paper is required for a passing grade in the course.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 220---8237. You are required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation.

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 Anthropology Department's policy on intellectual honesty available at: <http://anth.ucalgary.ca/intellectual---honesty---guidelines>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION:

In the event that the classroom should need to be evacuated due to an emergency situation please note that the primary assembly point shall be at the Professional Faculties Food Court and the Education Block Food Court shall be used as a secondary assembly point.

SAFEWALK:

Campus security will escort individuals day or night (www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk). Call 220---5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone, or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.

USRI

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/>