

COURSE OUTLINE

**Anthropology 103
Prehistory**

Previously ANTHR 103 Archaeology

I. Catalog Statement

In this introductory course students interpret archaeological materials and information to see how archaeologists can reconstruct and inform our understanding of prehistory and periods of early history. Stress is placed on studying worldwide prehistoric cultural sequences and exploring the transformative processes and cultural changes leading into the historic periods of developing civilizations. The course specifically addresses early and significant examples of domestication, urbanization, developing social stratification, social conflict, manifestations of religious activities and advances in technological development.

Total Lecture Units: 3.0

Total Course Units: 3.0

Total Lecture Hours: 48.0

Total Faculty Contact Hours: 48.0

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 120 or ESL 151.

Note: This course is eligible to be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:

1. analyze short essays (at least five paragraphs in length) to identify thesis, topic development and concluding sentences, as well as traditional expressions used to increase coherence;
2. evaluate compositions for unity, and sufficiency of development, and coherence, as well as variety of sentence structure;
3. organize and write a thesis-driven, organized essay which:
 - a. is at least three paragraphs in length
 - b. has paragraphs containing a topic sentence and at least five additional sentences which further develop that topic sentence with explanations or examples
 - c. has sentences in logical order and connected by transitional expressions, where appropriate.

- d. has paragraphs that are tied together by appropriate transitions or other devices which provide cohesion.
4. use in their essays a variety of sentence types with minimal errors in such basics of the sentence as subject-verb agreement, subordination, and complementation.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. describe the techniques and methods utilized by archaeologists to develop their body of knowledge;
2. trace and analyze the pre-history of mankind through the various Stone Ages and to appreciate the steady rate of change which took place;
3. assess the often overlooked pre-history of their own Western Hemisphere;
4. demonstrate the critical skills needed by more work and possible majors in this field.

IV. Course Content

Total Faculty Contact Hours = 48

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| A. Definitions of the Discipline | 2 hours |
| B. Archaeology as a Profession | 2 hours |
| 1. How to become an archaeologist | |
| 2. Positions available and monetary rewards | |
| C. History of Archaeology | 8 hours |
| 1. Ancient times | |
| 2. Medieval times | |
| 3. Modern times | |
| D. Methods and Techniques in Archaeological Digs | 4 hours |
| 1. Definitions; stratigraphy, assemblage, typology, seriation | |
| 2. Types of sites – types of digs | |
| 3. Where to dig – methods of determination; visual, aerial, electrical | |
| 4. How to dig – trench, checkerboard, stepped, tunnel | |
| 5. Preservation of artifacts | |
| a. By nature – ice, dessication, oil, bogs | |
| b. Human methods of restoration and preservation | |
| 6. Analysis of facts in laboratory | |
| E. Dating | |
| 1. Carbon-14, Dendrochronology | 2 hours |
| 2. Potassium-argon, varve, palynology | |
| F. World of the Pleistocene | |
| 1. Gunz | |

2. Mindel	1 hour
G. Finding and Acceptance of Stone Tools	1 hour
1. Jacque Boucher de Perthes	
H. Geology and Fossil Work	6 hours
1. Hutton and Lyell	
2. Darwin and evolution	
3. Discovery of fossil humans – Australopithecines (Africanus and Robustus), Homo Erectus, Neanderthal, Cro-Magnon	
4. Experts on fossil humans – Dubois, Von Konigswald, Weidenreich, Dart, Broom, Leakeys	
I. Interpretation of Life and Culture of Primitive People in the Paleolithic	2 hours
J. Evolution of Tools	
1. Olduvan Chopper Through Flakes and Blades to Microliths	2 hours
K. Art of Primitive People	4 hours
1. Methods and materials – motivation	
2. Altamira and Lascaux – other cave works	
3. Sculpture work – Cap Blanc – the Venuses	
4. Religious significance	
L. Mesolithic Age	4 hours
1. Maglamosian cultures	
2. Star Carr – Graham Clarks	
3. The Forest Folk – Gordon Childe	
4. The Ktichen Middens	
M. Neolithic Age	4 hours
1. Incipient agriculture – the nuclear areas	
2. Domestication of grains	
3. Domestication of animals – Windmill Hill Corrals	
4. Early agricultural sites – Jarmo, Jehrico, Skara Brae	
N. Rise of the City	2 hours
1. Discovery of metal	
2. Spread of Middle East cultures to Western Europe – Bell Beakers, Battle-axe	
3. Megalithic people	
O. New World Archaeology	2 hours
1. Across the Bering Strait	
2. Fossil man in America – Folsam, Clovis, and Los Angeles Man - “Minnesota Minnie”	

3. Early cultures
4. The Mound Builders
5. Mesa Verde – Anasazi

P. Forensic Anthropology

2 hours

V. Methods of Instruction

The following methods of instruction may be used in the course:

1. lecture/discussions;
2. hands on use of artifacts;
3. reading assignments;
4. small group projects;
5. multimedia.

VI. Out of Class Assignments

The following out class assignments may be used in the course:

1. abstract writing (e.g. summarize articles from popular sources in the field of archaeology);
2. project (e.g. groups work on archaeological exhibition problem).

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

1. quizzes;
2. short written assignments;
3. at least three one-hour examinations and a final examination.

VIII. Textbook(s)

Scarre, Chris. *The Human Past 3rd Edition*. Boston: Thames & Hudson, 2013. Print. 12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN: 978-0500290637

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. apply what she/he has learned about archaeological technique to extrapolate on how models of prehistoric behaviors have been influenced;
2. explain what circumstances and processes lead to the development of agriculture and urbanization in the ancient world;
3. describe the diversity of biological and cultural identities of humans of the Middle and Upper Paleolithic and thereby develop an understanding of anatomical differences, genetic relatedness, and archaeological variation in Stone Age cultures.

