

Anthropology 110 ~ An Introduction to Archaeology Online

James Eighmey Fall 2019



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Office Hours: Room MD 252
M-W 2:15-4:30 P.M.,
Online Wed. 9:00-10:00 P.M. or by appointment
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Goals of the Course

Most people have a natural curiosity about the human past. Every year museums around the world are flooded with individuals curious about the ancient past. But how we actually know anything about the past? More particularly how do we know about things that happened in prehistory, before writing? Well Archaeology of course!

This course is world prehistory, but one that is designed to give students a thorough understanding of the basic concepts and methods underlying modern Archaeological studies. We begin by examining the discipline of Archaeology and its history, as well as the nature of the things that Archaeologists study and what they hope to find. In the process we will discuss important questions surrounding the nature of scientific inquiry, whether or not Archaeology is a science and where we should, or should not, have confidence in its findings. To understand these and other issues we will carefully examine both the methods Archaeologists use to study the world, and how these methodologies structure our understanding of the past.

The vehicle we will use for these subjects is a survey of world prehistory beginning with the origins of modern humans and extending to the Iron-age of Europe and Asia. We cannot do justice to all of the areas we will study, but you should come away with a good overview of how the various regions of the world developed the cultural complexes we see today.

Online classes are difficult to teach properly. This is especially true with a visually and spatially oriented field such as Archaeology. To compensate for this our class will consist of a variety of media, including traditional texts, a stand-alone software package, power point slides, offsite links, artifact visualizations, online discussion boards, streaming films, and weekly online lectures.

How This Course Differs From Typical Lecture Courses

Because of the format of the class it has several advantages for students over your typical lecture class:

- The class is largely self-paced except for the discussion boards. These are timed to make sure people stay up with the reading. You can complete most of the work around your schedule. The two exceptions to this is are the discussion boards, which must be completed every two weeks, and the online lectures which are posted every Wednesday night.
- You have more opportunities for interaction and questions than a traditional class. Our weekly discussion boards and forums allow a great deal of interaction.
- More media is provided as ancillaries to the text. I can post links and in-class media that will supplement the subjects at hand.
- You do not have to come to campus.

There may be certain drawbacks to the course depending on the student

- The initial outlay for books and software is more than required for the traditional class.
- Online courses do not allow for face-to face interaction with the instructor or students. I will have a webcam during my office hours and recorded lectures.
- This class requires a high degree of self-motivation. I will not be there to tell you every week what to do. If you fall behind there will be no way for me to know before it is too late to help.
- A degree of competence is needed for the software, and a tolerance for glitches which appear occasionally.

Contact Information and Communication

I am here to help you learn and you are encouraged to contact me if you have any questions about the material or the class. There are three ways to get in touch with me. First, you can drop into the Monday night online meetings. There you can ask me questions directly. Or you can call me and leave a message on my phone at x3936. You can also send email messages directly through Canvas. Because of my schedule the best way to reach me is by email directly at jeighmey@palomar.edu. If you send me an email and do not get a response within 24 hours please resend it! Given that I have almost 200 students this semester and the usual deluge of College emails, your messages sometimes get buried or scrolled down. Do not think I am ignoring you. I might forget to get back to you (flagged emails do sometimes get pushed so far down the list they disappear from view) but I will never ignore you.

I highly encourage you to take advantage of my online office hours which will be held on Monday night, 9:00-10:00 P.M. I will be covering the high points of that weeks topic during this and will be recording them. I will post these office hour recordings in Canvas. Now it so happens that some weeks there may be things that come up that prevent me from holding these, or may delay the lecture post, but I will make up the office hours later in the week and post the lecture ASAP if that happens. You can contact me and we can also set up an online session if that works.

If it is really important please call me or come see me! My office is located in room 252 of the new Multidisciplinary building. You can reach me there by phone at 760-744-1150 x3936. I also have a mailbox down the hall from my office where you can drop off materials if you desire.

My Objectives for this Course:

For you to learn something about archaeology and to have fun!! A great deal of emphasis in this class will be on your discussion boards and on the completion of some basic tasks. There are numerous small quizzes and the online modules, but only one exam. All of it can be completed online and most of it can be done at your own pace. I am here primarily to answer your questions not to cram information down your craw. So take advantage of me by putting time into your discussion boards and asking questions.

What I expect from you:

1. **Take the class seriously!!** A bad grade in this class is the same as a bad grade in non-linear calculus as far as your grade point is concerned. I will not be the one to tell you to get busy here. If you are lucky I will see that you have not been participating and I will contact you before the drop deadline, but it comes up pretty fast and you will be stuck with an F, not a FW or an incomplete, if you do not withdraw from the class.
2. **Meet your deadlines!!**
3. **Finish the quizzes!!** You can do them any time, **but you have to do them!** Don't tell me the last week of class you forgot. ☹ If you are having difficulties with getting the quizzes to work please let me know right away. Chances are you are not the only one.
4. **Do your weekly readings!!** Since you are taking this class you either cannot or do not wish to set through weekly lectures on campus. That means you are responsible for reading the texts without being reminded in person. If you don't read the text the quizzes will be tedious, and your posts on the discussion boards will be terrible. So you really do need to keep up with the readings as the discussion boards are time limited whereas the quizzes are not.
5. **Post in the discussion boards!!** This is a huge part of your grades. **Each discussion board is worth 20 points. Each board will be open for two weeks after which they will be closed forever.**
6. **Have fun!!** I hope you learn something from this class and that you enjoy it. I have tried to make it relatively low-stress.

Course Learning Outcomes

Officially, upon successful completion of the course you should be able to:

- Explain how archaeologists find and analyze artifacts and archaeological sites.
- Discuss the relationship of American Archaeology to its parent field of Anthropology.
- Explain the emergence of the field of modern archaeology from antiquarianism.
- Identify and critically discriminate between good and bad archaeological evidence and proper and improper archaeological methods.

- Explain in general terms the impact of changing climatic and demographic conditions during the Pleistocene and Holocene Epochs on the direction and nature of human cultural evolution.
- Outline the most common archaeological dating techniques, their appropriate applications, and their limitations.
- Compare and contrast the prehistoric development of representative old and new world civilizations.
- Knowledgeably discuss the basic ethical constraints and responsibilities associated with modern archaeology.

Important Note Regarding Participation in this Class

Many students tend to view online courses as easier than traditional lecture classes both in content and in expectations. Be forewarned that this is not the case here. This class usually requires considerably more time investment than a traditional class, but it can be scheduled on your timetable and the rewards will be greater. Please be sure you can devote the required effort to the class before signing up.

It is difficult to track students in this class, but if you have not registered any site activity for two weeks you will be dropped.

Texts

There is a single required text in this class. I have been using this text for several years. You can probably get by with an older version, particularly the 3rd edition, however there will be variations. The book is available through the bookstore, online, and in several formats.

MICHAEL CHAZAN

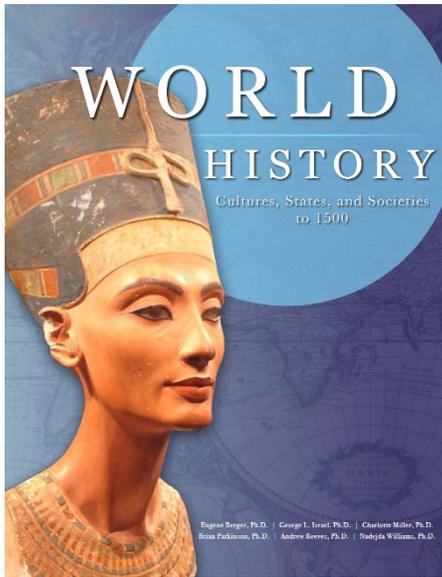
FOURTH EDITION
**WORLD
 PREHISTORY AND
 ARCHAEOLOGY**
 PATHWAYS THROUGH TIME



There are several formats to this book. You can find information on it here:

<https://www.routledge.com/World-Prehistory-and-Archaeology-Pathways-Through-Time-4th-Edition/Chazan/p/book/9781138089464>

I will be taking excerpts from this text as well for supplemental readings. These will be placed online, as well a free digital version of the entire book. It is a good supplement for those areas which span the prehistoric and historic periods.



World History: Cultures, States, and Societies to 1500

Contributors Editors

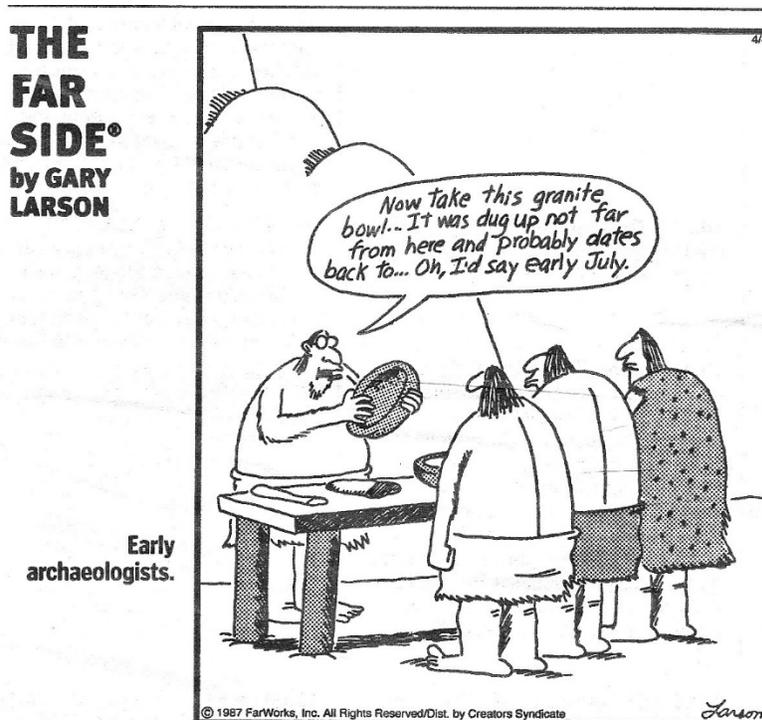
Eugene Berger, Ph.D.
George L. Israel, Ph.D.
Charlotte Miller, Ph.D.
Brian Parkinson, Ph.D.
Andrew Reeves, Ph.D.
Nadejda Williams, Ph.D.

ISBN: 978-1-940771-10-6

Digital Version: Free
Print Version: 29.99

<https://ung.edu/university-press/books/world-history-cultures-states-societies-to-1500.php>

I will also be posting many articles, videos, external links, and other materials. during the semester pertaining to the subjects at hand. We will discuss these in the discussion boards and there may be questions on them in the quizzes.



Structure of the Course: Chew on This!

Fall 2019

Home

Home Page: This is where you will land when you come to the site.

Syllabus

Syllabus: This file and a presentation of the due dates...the class calendar.

Announcements

Announcements: Here is where I will post communications to you.

Modules

Modules: This is the most important part of the site. All the assignments and content will be found here.

Grades

Grades: Self-explanatory. However, be aware that the total is a running total. It shows the total of assignments completed.

ConferZoom

ConferZoom: This is the application we will use for our Monday meetings. Log into this to join.

Conferences

Conferences: We will use this if we want to have individual or group meetings online outside of Monday night.

There are 5 (5) main areas of participation in this course:

- **1. Readings:** You will be responsible for the readings each week. Unless the readings are marked optional, they are required. Basically, you should go through all the materials presented unless they are specifically marked as optional. Please set aside enough time to do this. You can expect to spend at least six hours each week on each module. You need to have read the assigned text by the beginning of the week in which it will be covered. In other words, read ahead.
- **3. Online Quizzes.** Each week you will have an online quiz to complete that will pertain to the subject at hand. These are 20 to 25 questions. With the exception of the first two, you have three attempts to take each quiz. You will receive the highest score on each quiz. The quizzes are timed and they will shut off in 30 minutes.
- **PLEASE KEEP UP WITH THE QUIZZES.** These quizzes are meant as a study aid to see if you are understanding the materials. It is very difficult to pass the course if you do not take them. You can take the quizzes at any time, but if you let too much time pass you will not do well and will not be able to catch up.
- **4. Discussion Boards.** Each week we will have an online discussion board which you will be required to participate in. THEY ARE NOT OPTIONAL. I will typically pose at least three questions to get everyone started for the first week or so, but after that you will be responsible for posting your own questions.
 - I will NOT be interjecting in all the discussions unless I feel I need to correct something or lead the discussion in a different direction.
 - I WILL be monitoring the discussions and will enforce decorum.
 - To get a good grade the following requirements must be met:

- ❖ **YOU ARE REQUIRED TO POST AT LEAST FOUR TIMES EACH IN EACH SUBJECT BOARD (NOT EACH THREAD)!** That means you have to EITHER post questions or post answers or a mix of both four times in each board to get full credit. This is an important part of the class, so if you cannot do this then you should not be in the class.
 - ❖ **EACH DISCUSSION BOARD CORRESPONDS WITH A LEARNING MODULE AND WILL BE OPEN FOR ONE WEEK FROM MONDAY TO SUNDAY EVENING.**
 - ❖ The instructor does, however, reserve at all times his own opinion and has his own vote in the matter. In cases of clear abuse, neglect, lack of effort, or in the rare instance the post goes completely over the heads of the class, I can override the grade. If you simply write a single line in response to another post (example: “yes I agree with you”), you may not get credit for it. It behooves you to put effort into the posts. This is somewhat subjective, but I am pretty lenient.
- **5. Videos:** Each module has many embedded videos, some more, some less. In some cases they substitute for extensive texts. These videos are required viewing, so please set aside time to view them. All of them are closed-captioned The video content will may be the subject for the online discussions and exam questions.
 - **6. Final Exam:** **The Final Exam is comprehensive and will be online during finals week.** It is 150 points multiple choice. A study guide will be provided two weeks before the exam. The final exam questions are drawn largely from the weekly quizzes, which is why it is important to keep up with them. Please do not ask to take the exam earlier or for an extension. You may take it any time during finals week but it must be completed during that week.
 - **Extra Credit:** This semester I am trying a new thing. You can get 5 points of extra credit for every one of the Monday night meetings you attend. I think Conferzoom will produce an attendance list for me. If I can get it to work, I will ad those points in at the end of the class.

Grades and Grade Policies

Before we go any further one thing needs to be very clear. You cannot jettison any part of this class and get above a C. That means even if you ace every discussion and blow off the quizzes you will be lucky to get a C. Similarly if you miss all the lectures your grade will suffer. You could skip the final and get a B if you have all the points from the other sections, but that is about it.

There is a lot of grading to do in this class and a lot of it needs to be done manually. Your scores will automatically be posted in your Canvas grade book as I record them. Recall that the gradebook is a running total. For example, if you only complete 50% of the assignments but get an average of 90% on those assignments the total will show 90% or an A. But when I add in all the assignments you have not completed your grade may do down to a D.

I always attempt to update the grades every week, but there are times when I might fall behind. Please have patience in those cases and I will catch up. Email me with any concerns you have. Since the submissions are electronic there is little chance of them being lost, so if you know you posted something

let me know and I will check on it. You can also track your own scores easily enough by observing the threads and archiving your quiz results.

Grades within this course will be based upon the scores of 14 quizzes, 13 discussion boards, and the final exam.

This breaks out as follows:

14 Quizzes	330 pts.
13 Discussion boards	260 pts.
Final Exam	150 pts.
	<u>740 pts. total.</u>

There is no curve in this class, so you can track your grades as the class progresses according to a straight percentage score (e.g. 900 - 1000 = A).

A:	>666	90%
B:	592-665	80-89%
C:	518-591	70-79%
D:	444-518	60-69%
F:	<443	59%>

Timetable

Please look carefully at the class calendar (this will be available by the first day of class). Each week's readings schedules can be found here. I will attempt to adhere to this schedule as closely as possible, **but I reserve the right to modify it if the need arises**. For example, if for some reason I am unable to present the lecture on Wednesday we might delay that sections assignments for a week. Similarly, if I fail to post the questions or boards on time I will move their due dates back. Students are expected to use this schedule to read ahead in the class assignments and anticipate the quizzes and discussion boards. The worst that will happen is that you are prepared a bit early.

Attendance & Dropping the Class

Online classes take a great deal of self motivation on the part of students. It is very easy to get behind in a class like this so please stay up with the assignments. **Read the syllabus carefully.** This is not a class where you can let it slide and then catch up. It is my goal to help you learn this subject and that is impossible if you are doing the work. In an online class it is sometimes difficult for me to know if you remain engaged with the course. I will be tracking you sporadically during the semester, especially at first so as to learn your names. If I find that you have missed two weeks without explanation I will try and contact you and then I will consider dropping you from the class. If you actually intend to drop the class please notify me so that I may remove you from the roster. This is a helpful courtesy.

PLEASE DO NOT ASK TO HAVE DISCUSSION BOARDS REOPENED. I will only reopen boards in case of documented emergency.

PLEASE NOTE: **It is the STUDENTS responsibility to add and drop courses, not the instructors.** In a full class like this it is very easy for the drop date to pass before I realize you are absent. The drop dates are very early in the semester (see table above). If you simply quit showing up late in the semester **I cannot drop you without a grade.** Simply walking away from the class will result in a failing grade. A failing grade in any

class can ruin your college career, so beware! Do not enroll in this class and then assume that you will be dropped for non-attendance.

HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS CLASS:

There is no secret to being successful in this class. It is very straightforward: **attend class regularly, do your readings regularly, review your notes and online resources regularly, take the quizzes regularly, and make an effort to enjoy the learning process (key word - regularly!).** There are several tools listed at the beginning of this class which can help you make sure you are up to speed.

IF YOU NEED HELP:

- *Visit me during office hours or make an appointment for help.*
- *Use the **FREE** tutoring services available at the library. There are anthropology tutors waiting and willing to help you.*
- *Visit Dr. O'Neil's website regularly for Physical Anthropology tutorials and practical quizzes: [Anthropology Tutorials Menu \(http://anthro.palomar.edu/tutorials/\)](http://anthro.palomar.edu/tutorials/)*
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THINGS THAT WILL HELP YOU THROUGH

- First of all, if you are a new college student and feel like you might need some help know that we have all sorts of resources for you at Palomar College. We are here to help you learn, and if you want to learn we can help you reach your goals. A great place to start is to open up this page and scroll through all the support services we have.
- <https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/studentresources/>
- Sometimes students come to us without a lot of training on how to properly write at a college level or how to compose research papers. All of us can learn and better ourselves in this area. If you are feeling insecure about this please take some time to walk through this free learning module on canvas. You will be glad that you did.
- <https://palomar.instructure.com/courses/5252>
- And remember, I put my contact information on here for a reason. I try to be very consistent in keeping my office hours. Come talk to me. That is what I am here for.
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Points of Decorum

One of the lessons of Anthropology is that *all* societies need rules of etiquette in order to mediate the interactions of individuals and insure social harmony. Sadly these elemental behavioral scripts are showing signs of degradation in our society, leading to discord amongst the polis. As a reminder of basic courtesies the following behavioral patterns are considered anathema (that means they are prohibited and I should not even have to ask you to stop) by your instructor:

- Personal insults
- Racial, religious, or ethnic slurs
- Commercial or political advertising

Finally, materials on this site are copyrighted. You may download or copy the lecture notes for your own study use only. All other means of reproduction of, or external linking to, the media on these sites is expressly prohibited. By enrolling in this course you are agreeing to the student code of conduct and agree to conform to the fair use standards of Palomar College.

ATTENTION: I have made every effort to ensure that this course is accessible to all students, including students with disabilities. If you encounter a problem accessing any portion of this course, please contact me immediately.