
ARKY 306
Field Course in Archaeological Techniques
GFC Hours F(72)
Spring 2024

NOTE: Course runs May 6-June 13, 2024. The only day off (besides weekends) during the course is Victoria Day, May 20, 2023.

Prerequisite(s): Consent of the Department

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will gain experience in all aspects of archaeological survey and excavation. Archaeological field work is a team effort and students will work in teams as they practice site survey and excavation techniques; archaeological mapping, excavation and survey; excavation photography; geoarchaeology, plan view and profile recording; note taking and form recording; artifact and sediment processing; remote sensing and cataloging of artifacts. Throughout the course, students will learn the rich history and culture of the Blackfoot people and their relationship to Siksikaiksahkoyi (Blackfoot lands).

Lectures will cover topics such as basic archaeological mapping and excavation techniques, artifact cataloguing and analysis (stone tools, faunal, ceramics, etc.), photography, remote sensing/drone mapping and so on. An integral topic of this course is the history of

Siksikaishkoyi as presented by Siksikaitsitapi elders and knowledge keepers. The students will come to experience Siksika protocol and ceremony involved in our relationship to the land.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand and apply Northwestern Plains cultural historical schemes
2. Explain the relationship between land and Siksikaitsitapi (Blackfoot) identity
3. Demonstrate the skills needed to work effectively as archaeological field crew in academic and industry contexts
4. Relate principles of Indigenous knowledge to the field of archaeology
5. Generate strategies and approaches for engaging Indigenous community partners and reconciling Indigenous and Canadian relations
6. Recognize basic artifacts, raw materials, and form types and be able to apply that knowledge to artifact cataloguing

READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:

Optional readings will be posted on D2L

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:

Specialized field gear will be provided. Students are required to provide all equipment necessary for working outside in a field setting, such as a day pack, hat, lunch, water, warm clothing, rain gear etc.

Prior to the field portion of the course, University of Calgary Safety policies require that all students sign a waiver and complete online Field Safety Training (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/environment-health-safety/programs-standards-cops/field-safety-standard>). Failure to complete either of these will prevent students from participating in field portions of the course.

For ceremony on May 7, students must follow cultural protocol and dress appropriately, including covering all shoulders and legs. All students will need to bring water and a cushion or blanket to sit on for the duration of the ceremony. In addition, females are required to wear a long (ankle length/maxi) skirt and all students will need a blanket to cover their shoulders if they wish to have their face-painted (optional). Any students wishing to have their face painted will be required to bring a small gift, such as tobacco, sweatgrass, cash, etc.

Tablets will be provided for cataloguing in the Alberta Heritage Project Lab; if students prefer to work on a computer they will be required to provide their own computer with Excel (available for free to University of Calgary students). All students require access to a computer with word processing software and D2L to complete required assignments for the course.

SUPPLEMENTARY FEES

A mandatory course supplemental fee of \$850.00 is charged for this course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

<u>Participation/Attitude</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Because this is a hands-on course, students are expected to attend all classes and to participate in all activities. A portion of this grade will be assigned for completion of the University of Calgary's online training related to Indigenous awareness. <i>Assessed throughout the course, mark assigned after June 13.</i>	20%
<u>Field Skills Tests/Field Competence</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Periodic field skills tests will be completed to ensure students are able to apply skills/concepts. Students will also be assessed on their general competence in all field tasks. Students are not expected to be experts, but rather to demonstrate continual improvement throughout the course. <i>Assessed throughout course (completed no later than June 6).</i>	20%
<u>Submission of Field Notes and Records/Catalogues (Weekly Submission)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Your field notes as well as level records, profiles and any other required records and catalogues will be assessed weekly for completeness and accuracy. <i>Assessed each Friday throughout the course. 5% per submission.</i>	25%
<u>Reflective Journals</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Students will submit three reflective journals, which are expected to articulate students learning journey through the archaeological field school experience. <i>Journal 1 is due May 6 by 10 pm, Journal 2 is submitted at the discretion of the student but must be submitted between May 17 and May 26. Journal 3 is due June 11 by 10 pm.</i>	20%
<u>Excavation Unit Final Report</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Descriptive, illustrated report for one unit you have excavated. <i>Integrated write up due by 10 pm, Tuesday, June 18.</i>	15%

Students must provide advance notice if unable to complete the assignment by the due date to request an extension. Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized by the loss of 10% of the grade for each day late. All assignments must be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L.

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation

provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, or a statutory declaration, etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note. Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

NOTE: Should a request to defer term work exceed the end of the term, a Deferral of Term Work form must be completed and submitted to the Office of the Registrar. The deferral will be recorded on the student record. Deferrals are granted at the discretion of the Dean or designate and are normally granted for 30 days beyond the last day of the term. Should circumstances warrant, the maximum time that may be granted for a deferral of term work is one additional term. Approved extensions must be sent to the Office of the Registrar. Application information is available at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-centre/student-forms>

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work:

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/e31a7115dca740ec83579e946d4a4193>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/uofcregs/university-regulations/reappraisal-term-work>

Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:

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%

*****Please note that no extra credit or ‘make up’ work is available in this class**
You do not need to pass each course component to earn a passing grade in the class***

Land Acknowledgement

The University of Calgary, located in the heart of Southern Alberta, both acknowledges and pays tribute to the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).

Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology views diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

COURSE POLICIES

Course Logistics:

The first week of the course (May 6 – May 10) will take place on campus in ES859 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The exceptions to this are Tuesday May 7, when students will be required to attend a ceremony at an off-site location (location and times TBD), and May 10 where the class will travel to Lethbridge to participate in the Blackfoot Archaeology Conference (7:30 am to 5:30 pm from campus). Beginning May 13, the course will involve hands on archaeological field work at a property north of Cochrane (May 13-14) and in Nose Hill Park (May 15-June 7). Vans will provide transportation to and from the field site, leaving from Science Theatres each morning. Students must be at the meeting place on campus at 8:00 am for departure and should expect to return at approximately 4:00 pm. The exception to this is May 22, when we will participate in a field trip to Majorville and Sundial Medicine Wheels (est. 7:30 am to 5:30 pm from campus). Any rain days will be spent in the Alberta Heritage Project Lab at the University of Calgary. The final week of the course (June 10-13) will also be spent in the lab.

Instructor Email Policy.

Because instructors and teaching assistants will be with you on a daily basis, there will be no office hours for the field School. Should you need to leave a message, contact us by e-mail, or ensure that a message is left on Dr. Amundsen-Meyer's office phone (403-220-6227). Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email. Emails should first be directed to your instructor.

Assessment Format and Deadlines:

1. Participation and Attitude (20%)

An overall mark of 20% will be assigned based upon how you conduct yourself during the field school. While we each have individual personalities, field settings place a premium on successful teamwork. The instructors and teaching assistants will make regular observations on your participation as a self-starting individual, capacity to take direction in a variety of settings, and your ability to show leadership as circumstances warrant. Although there are a number of pathways to achieve the desired results, our objective is to create a collegial working environment that secures timely and effective work products, values a variety of individual skills and approaches, and is considerate and responsive (to supervisors, research colleagues, members of the public, school groups). Students will also be evaluated for their role in essential daily tasks such as loading and unloading gear, assisting others while packing up, etc. ***Always being on time for departure and having appropriate field gear will be mandatory with respect to this grading category.*** A portion of this grade will be assigned for completion of the University of Calgary's "The Story of ii'taa'poh'to'p" or "Journey to Reconciliation" training, which must be completed no later than June 13, 2024.

All field school students must remain aware that we are ambassadors of the profession, the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, and the University of Calgary, and must conduct themselves to the high standards these roles require.

2. Field Skills Tests/Field Competence (20%)

Students will be assessed through a series of field skills tests, including laying in excavation units and/or baselines, creating plan maps, profiling, GPS wayfinding and total station and/or RTK setup. These field skills tests are completed at the students discretion when they feel they are ready, but must be completed no later than June 6. Field skills tests follow a pass/fail format. If the initial field skills test is not passed, students will have the opportunity for additional practice and a second test. Additionally, a portion of this grade will be assessed based on students general field competence. Students are not expected to be experts at field tasks, but are expected to show continual improvement in skills throughout the course.

3. Submission of Field Notes and Records (25%)

So that we remain on track for completion of cataloging and reporting needs as required by Alberta Culture, your field notes as well as level records, profiles and any other required records will be assessed for completeness and accuracy. The same will apply for catalogue records and catalogued artifacts as applicable. Regardless of handwriting skills, neatness and legibility **will be** a consideration: you are making records and catalogue entries that others may need to use over a period of decades or more, a responsibility we each must take seriously. These notes and records will be evaluated weekly while in field and lab (as per the grading schedule above), with feedback provided. Improvements for deficiencies **will be allowed**, prior to assigning a final mark for each submission.

4. Reflective Journals (20%)

Students will be responsible for completing 3 reflective journals through the course of the class, which are expected to articulate students learning journey through the archaeological field school experience. The first journal is due May 6 by 10 pm, the second journal will be submitted at the discretion of the student, but must be submitted between May 17 and May 26 at 10 pm, and the third journal is due on June 11 by 10 pm. Reflective journals must be submitted through the appropriate DropBox on D2L in Word or PDF format. Guidelines for each reflective assessment including reflection prompts and a marking rubric will be provided on the first day of class and will be posted on D2L. *10% of this grade will be assigned as credit/no-credit for Journals 1 and 2. The remaining 10% will be assessed based on Journal 3 (graded).*

Journal 1 (May 6 by 10 pm)– The first journal will be submitted during the first week of field school, prior to participating in ceremony and beginning work on the Siksika Nation. This submission is expected to be approximately one page single spaced in length will expand on guiding questions relating to student positionality and inherent bias.

Journal 2 (May 17 to May 26 submission) – The 2nd journal will be submitted throughout the field experience at the discretion of student participants. This journal is expected to be approximately one page in length and will be centered on learning experiences gained in the field .

Journal 3 (June 11 by 10 pm) - The final reflective journal will be submitted at the end of the field portion of the course. The final reflective journal will be a more substantial and lengthy contemplation and expression (approximately 2-3 pages in length) on the entire process and learning experience of the field school program.

5. Excavation Unit Final Report (15%)

Each student will complete a descriptive, illustrated report for one unit you have excavated, followed by appendices for categories of information which may include: field notes/level records, profiles, catalogue records and any other information required by the instructors. The text portion of your final report will be descriptive and cover all pertinent information resulting from your excavation and will briefly integrate that information with adjacent units where appropriate (therefore involving work in consultation with your colleagues). It will also involve contextualizing your excavation work with pertinent information you have learned from course readings and instruction with topics that may include: soil science, Quaternary landforms, palaeoenvironments, regional prehistory and chronology, regional site settlement patterns, First Nations oral traditions or other information, and other information as appropriate. This is not a “reference heavy” assignment, but scholarly referencing must be applied, in the format used for American Antiquity (the standard for Archaeological Survey of Alberta submissions).

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/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: [K.3 Statement on Academic Integrity | UCalgary Catalog](#)

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy> 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 your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.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. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

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.

SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY

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

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

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

Class/ Week	Chapter/Module/Topic	Weekly Theme	Readings Learning activities Assessments	Date
1	Introduction to Course Overview of Indigenous Archaeology Impacts of Colonization - Historical Issues and Current Realities (Afternoon) Campus (8:00 am-4:00 pm)	Examine the key elements of North American Indigenous and Western Worldviews	Guest Presentation : Crystal Many Fingers <i>Journal 1 due May 6 by 10 pm (D2L)</i>	May 6
1	Ceremony with Kent Ayoungman, Location TBC Field Day (8:00 am to 4 pm) to be confirmed		Ceremony Location TBC	May 7
1	Technical Knowledge Campus (8:00 am-4:00 pm)			May 8
1	Technical Knowledge Campus (8:00 am-4:00 pm)			May 9
1	Blackfoot Archaeology Conference University of Lethbridge (7:30 am-5:30 pm)	Analyze the effects of the TRC in Canada Formulate strategies towards Reconciliation		May 10
2	On-Site excavation (Survey – Providence Homestead) Field day (8:00 am-4:00 pm)	Public archaeology and science communication		May 13-14

Class/ Week	Chapter/Module/Topic	Weekly Theme	Readings Learning activities Assessments	Date
2	On-Site excavation Nose Hill Park Field day (8:00 am-4:00 pm)	Public archaeology and science communication	<i>Journal 2 due at student discretion between May 18 and May 26 (D2L)</i>	May 15-18
3	Victoria Day (Holiday)		No Class	May 20
3	On-Site excavation Nose Hill Park Field day (8:00 am-4:00 pm)	Relate examples of oral traditions of Indigenous people in relation to the land	Sit with Elder(s): Clement Leather (to be confirmed) <i>Journal 2 due at student discretion between May 19 and May 26 (D2L)</i>	May 21
3	Field Trip Field day (7:30 am-5:30 pm)	Relate examples of oral traditions of Indigenous people in relation to the land	Field trip to Okotoks/A'kee Piskun with Kent Ayoungman (TBC) <i>Journal 2 due at student discretion between May 19 and May 28 (D2L)</i>	May 22
3	On-Site excavation Nose Hill Park Field day (8:00 am-4:00 pm)	Relate examples of oral traditions of Indigenous people in relation to the land	Sit with Elder(s): Clement Leather (to be confirmed) <i>Journal 2 due at student discretion between May 19 and May 28 (D2L)</i>	May 23-24
4	On-Site excavation Nose Hill Park Field day (8:00 am-4:00 pm)	Examine approaches for working with Indigenous communities	Sit with Elder(s) Herman Yellow Old Woman (to be confirmed)	May 27-31

Class/ Week	Chapter/Module/Topic	Weekly Theme	Readings Learning activities Assessments	Date
5	On-Site excavation Nose Hill Park Field day (8:00 am-4:00 pm)	On-Site excavation Nose Hill Park Field day (8:00 am-4:00 pm)	Sit with Elder(s): Francis Melting Tallow (to be confirmed) <i>Last day to complete field skills tests (June 6)</i>	June 3-7
6	Cataloguing – Alberta Heritage Project Lab On-Campus (8:00 am -4:00 pm)		<i>Journal 3 due June 11 by 10 pm (D2L)</i> <i>Last day to complete Indigenous awareness training (June 13)</i>	June 10-13
7			<i>Excavation unit final report due June 18 by 10 pm</i>	

IMPORTANT DATES

W May 1	Start of term
M May 6	Start of Classes
R May 9	Last day to drop a class without a financial penalty. Last day to add or swap a course
T May 14	Fee payment deadline.
M May 20	Victoria Day No Classes.
M Jun 17	End of classes Last day to withdraw from a course.
W Jun 19	Start of Exams
Sa Jun 22	End of Exams
Su Jun 23	End of term

<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/uofcregs/acadsched>