

# LEGACY OF MESOAMERICA

Tues/Thurs 9:30-10:45, KNB 0126

ARKY 345 - Winter 2007

Prof. Geoffrey McCafferty

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Office hours: Wed 1-3, Thurs 11-12

This course is designed as a follow-up to the ARKY 341 & 343 sequence which surveyed the pre-Columbian cultures of Mesoamerica. In *Indians of Middle America* we will consider how the traditional cultures of Mexico and Central America have adapted to post-Conquest contact with Colonial European culture. In some cases indigenous groups have acculturated and in the process lost many of their cultural traits; in other cases they have resisted change, or simply changed selectively; and in still other cases the resistance has erupted into active revolt, calling into question whether the "Conquest" has ever ended? Students will learn of the diversity of indigenous cultures that still thrive in Middle America: the Maya, Nahua, Huichol, Mixtec, Zapotec, and more. They will read ethnographic essays on traditional lifeways and view ethnographic films of traditional activities, including ritual, craft production, and domestic life. By focussing an anthropological lens on traditional peoples of Middle America, archaeology students will gain the richness that ethnographic analogy can bring to archaeological interpretations of the more distant past. Archaeology is a discipline ideally designed for the study of culture change, and the study of the historical anthropology of post-Conquest Middle America can reveal important patterns that can in turn inform on pre-Columbian Mesoamerica.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Students will be responsible for readings in the text, as well as articles in a reading package and documentary films to be shown in class. The course will be conducted as a lecture, with the expectation that students will participate in discussions of the films and readings. Requirements will include two midterm exams (25 pts each), five article/film summaries (2 pts each), and a final exam (40 pts), totalling 100 points. Students interested in writing a research paper, worth 25 pts, can substitute that for one of the midterm exams. Individual grades will be based on total points received:

97-100 = A+    87-89 = B+    77-79 = C+    67-69 = D+

93-96 = A    83-86 = B    73-76 = C    60-66 = D

90-92 = A-    80-82 = B-    70-72 = C-    Less than 60 points = F

## RESEARCH PAPERS

A short research paper (4-6 pages) may be substituted in place of a mid-term exam. Paper topics should be cleared with the professor in advance, but may include such themes as cultures or cultural practices. A good place to look for topics is in the textbook, readings, or in anthropology/archaeology journals. A research paper should involve at least 5 published sources (not including the textbook), and at least one of those should be from a scholarly journal; Web sources may be (cautiously!) included in addition to the 5 published sources. Referencing format should follow the example found in *American Antiquity* (the Monaghan article uses this format).

**IMPORTANT:** Plagiarism, defined as copying more than 5 words in succession or using information without adequate citation (i.e., reference and page number) of the original source, is a violation of academic integrity. Research papers that plagiarize will receive a score of 0, and the student may be turned in to the Associate Dean (Students) of the Faculty of Arts (see page 49 of the U of Calgary Calendar).

**PET PEAVES:** #1 The past tense of "to lead" is "led," "lead" as the past tense is incorrect. #2 Conjoining "it" + "is" results in "it's;" "its" is the possessive of "it." Misuse of these terms *may* result in a loss of points.

## EXTRA CREDIT

Students may receive extra credit points, up to 5 pts maximum, for work in addition to class assignments. For example, news items relevant to indigenous cultures of Middle America can be reviewed and shared with the class for extra credit. And the Latin American Studies program occasionally has lectures relevant to the class that can also be reviewed for extra credit. The goal of these assignments is to encourage students to learn about Middle America from sources beyond those offered through the course.

## TEXTBOOK and READINGS:

*The Legacy of Mesoamerica: History and Culture of a Native American Civilization*,  
by Robert M. Carmack, Janine Gasco, and Gary H. Gossen. 2006 (2<sup>nd</sup>  
edition). Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ.

Additional readings will be available on Blackboard

## COURSE OUTLINE:

Week 1 (1/8-12) - Introduction

Reading: Carmack, Gasco and Gossen 2006, Introduction

Week 2 (1/15-19) - Origins and Development of Mesoamerican Civilization

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 1; Joyce 2004

Week 3 (1/22-26) - Mesoamerica in the Postclassic and at Spanish Contact

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chaps. 2-3

Week 4 (1/29-2/2) - Mesoamerica and Spain: The Conquest

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 4; McCafferty 2000

Week 5 (2/5-9) - The Colonial Period in Mesoamerica

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 5; Chance 2000

MIDTERM EXAM #1

Week 6 (2/12-16) - Indigenous Literature in Pre-Conquest and Colonial Mesoamerica

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 6; Hamann 2002, Monaghan 1990

Week 7 (2/19-23) - READING WEEK - NO CLASSES

Week 8 (2/26-3/2) - Mesoamericans in the NeoColonial Era

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 7; Brandes 1988a, b

Week 9 (3/5-9) - Native Mesoamericans in the Modern Era

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 8; Campbell 1993, Jansen 1990

Week 10 (3/12-16) - Transnationalism and the Political Economy of Mesoamerica

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 9; Sandstrom 1991

Week 11 (3/19-23) - The Mayan Zapatista Movement

Reading: Carmack, Gasco and Gossen 2006, chap. 10

MIDTERM EXAM #2

Week 12 (3/26-30) - Language and Languages in Mesoamerica

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 11; Dakin and Wichtman 2000, Taggart 1983

Week 13 (4/2-6) - Women and Gender in Mesoamerica

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2006, chap. 9; McCafferty and McCafferty 1999, Stephen 1991

Week 14 (4/9-13) - The Religious Traditions of Mesoamerica

Reading: Carmack, Gossen, and Gasco 2006, chap. 8; Schaefer 1996a,b; Vogt 1998

## ADDITIONAL CONTENT OF THE COURSE OUTLINE

### Writing Across the Curriculum

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and may use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

### Academic Accommodation Policy

The purpose of academic accommodation is to provide students with documented disabilities equal opportunity to master the essentials of a post-secondary education. Students with disabilities at the University of Calgary have met all admission requirements but may have done so with the use of accommodations. Similarly, they are expected to meet all academic and non-academic requirements. Adaptive technology and other academic accommodations do not relieve students of their responsibility to develop the essential skills and abilities expected of all students.

Please refer to the following web link for detailed information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/71>

### Disability Resource Centre Accommodations

It is the responsibility of the student to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at (403)220-8237.

Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Students are also required to discuss their needs with the instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

### Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Please refer to the following link for detailed information:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/system/files/foip%20overview.pdf>

### Academic Misconduct

Academic dishonesty is an unacceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section of the University Calendar. Quite 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 you own without proper referencing
- 3) Using work completed for another course

This activity will not be tolerated and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the University Calendar.

For detailed information on what constitutes academic misconduct, please refer to the following link:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

### Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not. Any ideas or materials taken from another source written, electronic, or oral must be fully and formally acknowledged. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

(a) The work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),

(b) Parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,

(c) The whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,

(d) A student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence.

It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis or dissertation.

### **Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points**

In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, please refer to the following link to become familiar with the assembly points for the class: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

### **Safewalk Information**

Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at (403) 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security Officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation**

Student Union Vice President – Academic

Phone: (403) 220-3911

Email: [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)

Student Union Faculty Representative

Phone: (403) 220-3913

Email: [socilscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socilscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

Student Ombudsman's Office

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/students-rights.html>

Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca)

[arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca)

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