



**UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY**

**DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
AND ARCHAEOLOGY**
Faculty of Arts

ARKY 345 (LEC01)
The Legacy of Mesoamerica
GFC Hours 3-0
Winter 2024

Prerequisite(s): None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In The Legacy of Mesoamerica, we examine the traditional cultures of Mexico and Central America prior to contact with Colonial European cultures, as they engaged with and resisted conquest during the Colonial period, and their diverse, modern ethnographic present. Course discussions will include the diverse of Indigenous cultures that still thrive in Mesoamerica: the Maya, Nahuatl, Huichol, Mixtec, Zapotec, and more, as well as Mestizo, Afro-Mexican, and recent immigrant groups. Understandings of traditional lifeways and activities will be contextualized with regard to both continuity, change, resistance and activism in the face of Colonial and modern-day pressures. Students will gain an appreciation of the traditional peoples of Mesoamerica through many different sources of information, including archaeology, epigraphy, history, and ethnography.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

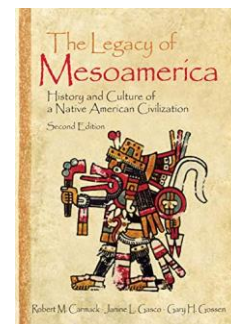
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Develop a basic understanding of the pre-history and history of Mesoamerica from ancient times to the present day.

- Understand the ways in which scholars utilize archaeology and scientific methods, epigraphy, historic documents, oral traditions, and ethnography to understand Mesoamerican cultures through time.
- Employ critical thinking skills in evaluating different sources of data about ancient and modern Mesoamerican lifeways and events.
- Develop cross-cultural sensitivity with regard to the management of, and research into, material remains and cultural heritage of Mesoamerican peoples.

READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS

- The Legacy of Mesoamerica: History and Culture of a Native American Civilization, by Robert M. Carmack, Janine Gasco, and Gary H. Gossen. 2nd edition, 2007. Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ (REQUIRED). Available online from the library.
- Readings from the relevant literature and digital videos, as indicated in the Course Schedule (see below). Links are provided on D2L in modules that correspond to the week in which they are due.
- All readings and videos are required, unless otherwise indicated.



REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT

In order to successfully engage in online assignments for this course, please make sure that you have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Word processing software (Instruction will be given using MS Word; Google Docs will also be accepted)
- PDF viewer
- D2L

SUPPLEMENTARY FEES

None

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

1.	Map Quiz	15%	75 marks	Wednesday, Jan. 31
2.	Midterm 1	25%	125 marks	Wednesday, Feb. 14
3.	Midterm 2	25%	125 marks	Friday, Mar. 22
4.	Peoples of Mesoamerica Project	30%	150 marks	Monday, April 8 (D2L)
5.	News article assignment	5%	25 marks	Portions due Apr. 3 and Apr. 8

NOTE: There is no registrar-scheduled final examination for this course. Students do not need to pass each individual course component in order to pass the course as a whole.

1. MAP QUIZ (15%)

There will be one in-class map quiz. This quiz will test your knowledge of important locations such as archaeological sites, Colonial/modern cities, and geographic zones. For archaeological sites and cities, you will be expected to know the chronological period with which they are most strongly associated. You will be expected to know the countries that constitute Mesoamerica, as well as the modern states/departments in Mexico and Guatemala. The exam will be closed-book. Study materials are provided on D2L.

2. MIDTERM EXAMS (25% EACH)

There will be two in-class mid-term exams. Exams will include material from the book, lectures, articles, films (in-class and on D2L), and websites. Exam 1 will include material from Weeks 1-6, while Exam 2 will be cumulative with emphasis on Weeks 7-11. The exams will be closed-book: text book and notes are not permitted during the examinations, nor are students permitted to communicate with others. The exam will be Scantron-based and questions may include multiple choice, true/false, matching, and/or fill in the blank questions. Opportunities for a make-up exam will not be offered unless valid documentation is provided (see below). Classroom guidelines for the examination will be posted on D2L.

3. PEOPLES OF MESOAMERICA PROJECT (30%)

In this project, you will explore the history of a particular place and people within Mesoamerica. This assignment will encourage you to gain in-depth knowledge of a particular area of Mesoamerica from the ancient past to the present day, and to think critically and creatively about the changes that its people have experienced over time. Please see the Peoples of Mesoamerica Project Description and rubric for details (D2L).

Students are responsible for turning in original work for their assignment, for knowing and following university standards for academic integrity, and for avoiding academic misconduct and plagiarism in their assignments (see below). ChatGPT and other AI-based writing aids are strictly prohibited for this assignment, and use of these aids will constitute academic misconduct in this course.

4. NEWS ARTICLE ASSIGNMENT (5%)

For this assignment, you will contribute a news story or academic article on Mesoamerican archaeology, history or culture (within the last 3 years). You will be asked to post a link to your chosen article to a D2L discussion forum by Wednesday, April 3rd. No two links can be the same, and preference will be given to the student who posts first. Articles must come from a peer-reviewed journal or from main-stream media outlets that engage in fact-checking practices, and should be a factual piece about a new discovery rather than opinion pieces. You will be asked to read five of your classmate's news stories prior to class on Monday, April 8th, when we will have group discussions about current discoveries events in Mesoamerica, and what the future holds. Marks will be given both for the article submission and participation in the group discussion.

ChatGPT and other AI-based writing aids are strictly prohibited for this assignment, and use of these aids will constitute academic misconduct in this course.

MAKEUP POLICY

Assignments may only be deferred in the case of serious illness or medical emergency, religious observance, or domestic affliction. 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.

If you fall ill with COVID19, RSV, or another serious contagious illness, please follow all university and AHS guidelines with regard to isolation and testing recommendations: <https://www.alberta.ca/isolation.aspx>. Please do not attend in-person classes until your recommended isolation period is complete, and follow any masking recommendations. Please contact Dr. Paris by email within 24 hours to report the situation. Deferred exams/assignments, make-up activities and/or grade redistribution will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Should the need for a deferral arise, students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with regulations under the Deferral of Term Work section of the university calendar.

Midterm Exams and the Map Quiz: Missed exams and quizzes can only be made up with instructor approval. Deferred exams and quizzes will only be approved for the following reasons: serious illness, religious conviction, or domestic affliction. If there are ongoing emergency circumstances that result in missing a midterm assessment, the student should notify Dr. Paris within 48 hours. Please be prepared to explain the circumstances and/or provide documentation (see above). If an exemption is granted, further instructions will be provided regarding a make-up exam. Make-up exams may differ significantly in content from the regularly scheduled exam. Students who miss exams or quizzes without legitimate documentation for medical/emergency circumstances will receive a grade of zero marks for that exam.

News Article Assignment: If the assignment is missed for an approved medical/emergency circumstance, the weight of the assignment will be transferred to the Peoples of Mesoamerica Project. All assignments must be submitted to the Discussion Forum on D2L.

Peoples of Mesoamerica Project: As it is possible to turn in written assignments prior to the due date, foreseen schedule conflicts resulting from university athletic competitions, religious observances, etc. must be arranged individually with the professor in advance. If there are ongoing medical/emergency circumstances that result in a late assignment, please notify Dr. Paris within 48 hours. Please be prepared to explain the circumstances and/or provide documentation (see above). If the situation does not meet the criteria for medical/emergency circumstances, late submissions will be assessed a 5% penalty per day. All assignments must be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L.

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

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%

No 'make up' work is available in this class. There is one guaranteed extra credit opportunity, worth 10 points, associated with the Peoples of Mesoamerica Project (see assignment sheet). Additional extra credit opportunities are not guaranteed, and in the case that they are made available, they will be announced in class to all students present. 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 email policy: Please expect 48 hours for a response. If more than 48 hours have passed with no reply, check the email address and re-send. Please use your UCalgary email address for course business, and expect responses to emails during business hours (9 AM to 5 PM MT). Weekend responses will be limited to emergency circumstances. Please include "ARKY 345" in the email subject line

Course Format: The course will follow an interactive lecture-discussion style format. Students are responsible for all materials covered in the required readings and the lectures, including films and videos. Students should read the assigned materials for each week's lecture ahead of time. Lectures are designed to augment material in the text and will not repeat or cover all material in the text, but will elaborate on selected topics to provide a deeper understanding. Classroom materials missed due to absenteeism are the sole responsibility of the student. Segments of class time will be focused on learning through discussion and other participatory activities. Students are expected to be active participants in these activities and involved in their own learning. Active participation will help you achieve success. A respectful and safe environment for students to participate is considered a priority; disrespectful or condescending behaviours towards other students will not be tolerated.

Classroom Etiquette:

- Please make this class a scheduling priority. It is important to arrive on time. Please only leave class before the end of the period if there is an emergency, in which case, please notify the professor as soon as possible. If there is an emergency, please exit quietly and discretely. However, you may not leave the room during a scheduled exam or quiz, for academic honesty reasons.
- Treat everyone in the class as a colleague—show respect to both your fellow students and the professors, even if you strongly disagree with someone's opinion. Be friendly, courteous and kind during discussions and in email communications. Do not talk over or interrupt the professor or other students.
- Silence and stow your phones, and do not use them during class. They are distracting to everyone.
- Only use laptops and tablets for note-taking purposes. Using them for other activities is highly distracting. If your laptop or tablet is distracting the professor or your fellow students, you will be asked to place it on the podium for the remainder of the class period.
- You may not make photo, video and audio recordings of lectures and review sessions without the explicit consent of the professor, nor transfer them to another student, whether or not that student is enrolled in the course. Please see the statement on Professor Intellectual Property below.

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: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/

Policy on Digital Devices: You may use computers in class to take notes, engage with course activities, and consult D2L resources, except during exams and quizzes, where they must be stowed for the duration of the exam. Please do not engage in non-course activities on your electronic devices. Please be courteous to your fellow students and remember

that those behind you can see your screen. Display of highly distracting materials may rise to the level of Non-Academic Misconduct and referred to the Dean. Please keep all electronic devices silenced or muted for the duration of the lecture period. If emergency circumstances arise requiring you to answer a phone call, please leave the lecture hall prior to answering.

All course content, including lectures and recorded meetings, may not be shared with anyone. Only students enrolled in the course may participate in the course.

All course content is the intellectual property of the professor, with the exception of external links, unless indicated otherwise. You may not make or duplicate photo, video and/or audio recordings of synchronous sessions without the explicit consent of the professor, nor transfer them to another student, whether or not that student is enrolled in the course. Please see the Statement on Instructor Intellectual Property below.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

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 professors. 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 Professor 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: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

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: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html. 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 Anthropology and Archaeology recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

PROFESSOR 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 Professor 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 professor 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

Students should do all readings and assignments by the date of the course meeting for which they are assigned.

****Note that the topics and readings are subject to change at any time at the professor's discretion.**

WEEK	DUE DATE	TOPICS AND READINGS
Week 1	M, Jan. 8	Topic: Introduction to the course
	W, Jan. 10	Topic: What is Mesoamerica? Legacy Introduction
	F, Jan. 12	Topic: Studying Mesoamerica I Robin 2006 (D2L)
Week 2	M, Jan. 15	Topic: Studying Mesoamerica II Robin 2006 (D2L)
	W, Jan. 17	Topic: Mesoamerican Origins Legacy Chapter 1
	F, Jan. 19	Topic: Development of Mesoamerican Civilization Legacy Chapter 1
Week 3	M, Jan. 22	Topic: Languages of Mesoamerica Legacy Chapter 11
	W, Jan. 24	Topic: Classic Period Mesoamerica I Review: Legacy Chapter 1 Video: The Popol Vuh (D2L)
	F, Jan. 26	Topic: Classic Period Mesoamerica II Canuto et al. 2018 (D2L)
Week 4	M, Jan. 29	Topic: Epiclassic and Early Postclassic Mesoamerica Jordan 2017 (D2L) Optional: Brittenham 2009 (D2L)
	W, Jan. 31	Topic: Late Postclassic Mesoamerica I Legacy Chapter 2 Video: The Fifth Sun (D2L)

		MAP QUIZ on Wednesday, Jan. 31
	F, Feb. 2	Topic: Late Postclassic Mesoamerica II Review: Legacy Chapter 2 Article: The Flower Songs of Nezahualcoyotl, Ancient Nahua (Aztec) Poetry (D2L) Video: Poems by Hungry Coyote Nezahualcoyotl, poet of ancient Mexico (D2L)
Week 5	M, Feb. 5	Topic: Late Postclassic Mesoamerica III Review: Legacy Chapter 2 Video: Calendars of Ancient Mexico 5: The Codices (D2L)
	W, Feb. 7	Topic: The Mesoamerican World at Spanish Contact Legacy Chapter 3
	F, Feb. 9	Topic: Mesoamerica and Spain: The Conquest, Part 1 Legacy Chapter 4
Week 6	M, Feb. 12	Topic: Mesoamerica and Spain: The Conquest, Part 2 Review: Legacy Chapter 4
	W, Feb. 14	MIDTERM 1 on Wednesday, February 14
	F, Feb. 16	Topic: The Colonial Regime Legacy Chapter 5 Video: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico City, Mexico (D2L)
Week 7	M, Feb. 18	TERM BREAK
	W, Feb. 20	TERM BREAK
	F, Feb. 22	TERM BREAK
Week 8	M, Feb. 26	Topic: Indigenous Literature From Colonial Mesoamerica Legacy Chapter 6
	W, Feb. 28	Topic: The Liberal Century I Legacy Chapter 7
	F, Mar. 1	Topic: The Liberal Century II Legacy Chapter 7
Week 9	M, Mar. 4	Topic: The Mexican Revolution Legacy Chapter 8
	W, Mar. 6	Topic: Central American Civil Wars Review: Legacy Chapter 8 Video: Forensic Anthropology of mass graves of "the disappeared" from the Guatemalan civil war (D2L)
	F, Mar. 8	Topic: Development and Indigenous Mesoamerica I Online article: Debt and Dispossession among Maya Peoples (D2L)
Week 10	M, Mar. 11	Topic: Development and Indigenous Mesoamerica II Online article: Debt and Dispossession among Maya Peoples (D2L)

	W, Mar. 13	Topic: Transnationalism and the Political Economy of Mesoamerica I Legacy Chapter 9 Video: Jason De León: Decoding Stories of Border Crossing (D2L)
	F, Mar. 15	Topic: Transnationalism and the Political Economy of Mesoamerica II Video: Our food system hurts: living with migrant farmworkers by Seth M. Holmes (D2L)
Week 11	M, Mar. 18	Topic: The Mayan Zapatista Movement I Legacy Chapter 10 Video: The Zapatista Uprising (20 years later) (D2L)
	W, Mar. 20	Topic: The Mayan Zapatista Movement II Legacy Chapter 10 Video: The Zapatista Uprising (20 years later) (D2L)
	F, Mar. 22	MIDTERM 2 on Friday, Mar. 22
Week 12	M, Mar. 25	Topic: Women and Gender in Mesoamerica I Legacy Chapter 12 Video: Manuela & Esperanza: The Art of Maya Weaving (D2L)
	W, Mar. 27	Topic: Women and Gender in Mesoamerica II Video: Women's Collective in Mexico works to save bee species (D2L)
	F, Mar. 29	Good Friday, No Classes
Week 13	M, Apr. 1	Easter Monday, No Classes
	W, Apr. 3	Topic: Indigenous Voices in Mesoamerican Literature and Art Legacy Chapter 13 Video: Slajem k'op Musta'k (Tzotzil rap) (D2L) Video: Svokol Oloetik by Yibel Jme'tik Banamil (Tzotzil rock) (D2L) News article assignment DUE (D2L)
	F, Apr. 5	Topic: The Religious Traditions of Mesoamerica I Legacy Chapter 14 Kingsbury 2021 (D2L) Online article: Ritual Huichol Art. The Drum Fiesta and The Use of Body Paint (D2L) Video: Wixarika: connecting with nature, spirit and higher world-Cilau Valadez (D2L)
Week 14	M, Apr. 8	Topic: Mesoamerica Today News article activity (In-Class)
	Apr. 12-23	Winter Final Exam Period. FINAL EXAM: Schedule TBA

IMPORTANT DATES

M Jan 8	First day of Winter Term lectures
R Jan 18	Last day to drop a class without a financial penalty
F Jan 19	Last day to add or swap a course
F Jan 26	Fee payment deadline for Winter Term full and half courses.
Feb 18-24	Reading Break. No classes.
F Mar 29	Good Friday, University closed. No classes.
M Apr 1	Easter Monday, University closed. No classes.
W Apr 9	Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Winter Term half courses.
Apr 12-23	Winter Final Exam Period
May 20-25	Exam period for Registrar deferred final exams

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html#fall2017>