

## **ARKY423 - ARCTIC ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Instructor:** Dr. Peter Dawson

**Location:** ST130

**Time:** M,W,F @ 11:00am to 11:50am

**Office:** ES 820

**Office Hours:** Monday @ 1-3pm

### **Course Description**

In this course, we will examine the pre-contact and historic northern Aboriginal cultures of the Arctic regions of Northeastern Siberia, the Aleutian Islands, North America and Greenland. Archaeological constructions of the origins, migration routes, economies, technology, social organization, art, and ideology of Paleoeskimo and Neoeskimo cultures will be explored. In addition, the impact of early European exploration on the development of historic Inuit, Eskimo and Aleut cultures will be discussed. Course material will consist of formal lectures, assigned readings from the course text and a prepared reading package. Students will be required to submit an annotated bibliography on a selected topic in arctic archaeology. A list of possible topics is included at the end of this syllabus. The annotated bibliography will consist of 10 references, and will be due no later than Nov. 17. This bibliography will form the basis of a 2500 word research paper, to be submitted no later than Thursday, Dec. 8 (Last day of classes).

### **Required Text:**

Schledermann, Peter

1996 Voices in Stone: A Personal Journey into the Arctic Past. Komatic Press,  
Arctic Institute of North America.

ARKY 423 – Archaeology of the Arctic Reading Package (Download from Course Documents section of Blackboard).

NB\* On occasion, I may place extra readings on Blackboard that cover topics of interest in more detail. These will be recommended readings only.

### **Course Evaluation:**

#### **Course Mechanics**

|                 |     |                        |
|-----------------|-----|------------------------|
| Quiz 1:         | 20% | (Oct. 13, 2010)        |
| Quiz 2:         | 20% | (Nov. 19, 2010)        |
| Individual Wiki | 20% | (Dec. 8, 2010)         |
| Group Wiki:     | 10% | (Dec. 8, 2010)         |
| Final Exam:     | 30% | (Scheduled Final Exam) |

**Quizzes (20% Each).** The midterms will be multiple-choice exams written in class.

**Assignment: Wiki Entry (20% for individual wiki; 10% for group wiki)** A wiki is a collaborative website which can be directly edited by anyone with access to it. The most famous wiki site is Wikipedia. During the first week of classes, you will be given a list of topics which focus on two interactive web pages on Inuvialuit and Thule culture. Use Blackboard to rank these topics in terms of your interest. Blackboard will then place you into groups based on your choices. Your assignment is to write a **wiki no more than 1500 words** in length (6 double spaced pages) on the topic of your choice. Make sure that all work is cited from appropriate sources (this means no course textbooks, or internet websites) that you will list at the bottom of the page. Once your wiki is complete, post it to the wiki site using the link provided in class. If someone in your group has already posted a wiki, use your wiki to add to/make changes to the existing text. Feel free to add pictures, video, or links to other sites. You will be required to submit a hard copy of your original wiki entry for marking. In addition, groups will receive a mark for their combined wiki.

### **Final Exam (30%)**

The final exam will be a cumulative multiple choice exam that covers all course materials, including readings and lectures.

### **Late Penalties for Course Assignments.**

Late penalties will be 2% per day for the FINAL GRADE IN THE COURSE for any assignments that are handed in late. Delayed submission of assignments because of illness or family emergency will require official documentation.

### **Grade Scale:**

**97% = A+**  
**90% = A**  
**87% = A-**  
**84% = B+**  
**80% = B**  
**77% = B-**  
**72% = C+**  
**65% = C**  
**60% = C-**  
**55% = D+**  
**50% = D**  
**Below = F**

**Note:** The **A+ grade** will become an official grade at the University of Calgary starting Fall Session, 2002. The A+ grade is described as an honorific grade having the same grade point

value as an A grade (4.0). It will be used to indicate outstanding performance in a subject area but does not have a higher grade point value.

## **TOPICS TO BE COVERED**

### **WEEK 1**

*Lecture:* Geography, Climate, and Biology of the Canadian Arctic.

*Read:* Physical Environment – John K. Stager and Robert J. McSkimming (Readings Package).

*Film:* At the Winter Sea Ice Camp

### **WEEK 2**

*Lecture:* Early Views on the Origins of Inuit and Eskimo Peoples.

*Read:* Therkel Mathiassen and the Beginnings of Eskimo Archaeology – Frederica de Laguna.

The Problem of the Eskimo – Diamond Jenness (both from Readings Package).

### **WEEK 3**

*Lecture:* Early and Later Cultures of the Pacific Coast of Southwestern Alaska.

- Anangula Tradition
- Aleutian Tradition
- Ocean Bay Tradition
- Kodiak Tradition

*Read:* People of the Pacific Coast - D. Dumond (Readings Package)

### **WEEK 4**

*Lecture:* The Earliest Paleoeskimo Cultures: North America and Greenland.

- Denbigh Flint Complex/Arctic Small Tool Tradition
- Pre-Dorset
- Independence 1/Saqqaq

*Read:* The True Pioneers and Visitors from the Sunny Side - Schledermann (course text)  
People of the Later Tundra - D. Dumond (Readings Package)

### **WEEK 5**

*Lecture:* Later Paleoeskimo Cultures Part 1: Northeastern Siberia and North Alaska.

- Old Whaling Culture
- Choris
- Norton

- Ipiutak

*Read:* People of the Bering and Chukchi Seas - D. Dumond (Readings Package)

## WEEK 6

*Lecture:* Later Paleoeskimo Cultures Part 2: The Eastern Arctic.

- Early Dorset
- Independence II
- Middle Dorset

*Read:*

The Arctic Renaissance, and Silent Shores - Schledermann (course text).

## WEEK 7

*Lecture:* Later Paleoeskimo Cultures Part 2: The Eastern Arctic (cont...)

- Late Dorset
- Terminal Dorset
- The Dorset/Thule Succession

*Read:*

The Shamans Gather - Schledermann (course text)

The Dorset-Thule Succession in Arctic North America: Assessing Claims for Culture Contact - R. Park (Readings Package).

Contact between the Norse Vikings and the Dorset Culture in Arctic Canada - R. Park (Readings Package)

Social Bonding and shamanism among Late Dorset groups in High Arctic Greenland – Hans Chistian Cullov and Martin Appelt (Readings Package).

## WEEK 8

*Lecture:* The Origins and Expansion of Thule Culture.

- The Origins of Thule Culture (Okvik/Old Bering Sea, Punuk, Birnirk).
- Theories for Thule Migration into the Eastern Arctic
- Thule Migration Routes and Dates for Migrations.

*Read:*

People of the Northern Coasts - D. Dumond (Readings Package)

The Arctic Whale Hunters - Schledermann (course text)

The Earliest Thule Migration – David Morrison (Readings Package).

Late Dorset “Longhouse” Occupations of Creswell Bay, Somerset Island and Their Possible Relationship to the Thule Migration – Eric Damkjar (Readings Package).

Population Movements, Interaction, and Legendary Geography.- William Sheppard (Readings Package).

## WEEK 9

*Lecture:* Thule Culture in the North American Arctic and Greenland.

- Technology
- Economy
- Socio-Political Organization
- Current Research Issues in Thule Archaeology

*Read:*

A Critical View of Thule Culture and Ecological Adaptation - M.R Freeman (Readings Package)

The Nature of Thule Eskimo Whale Use - A.P McCartney (Readings Package)

## **WEEK 10**

*Lecture:* The Emergence of Historic Inuit Cultures from Thule Culture.

- Economic Change
- Environmental Models
- European Contact

*Read:*

Disease and the Development of Inuit Culture - R. McGhee

Death and Abandonment - Schledermann (course text)

## **WEEK 11**

*Lecture:* The Influence of European Exploration on Inuit/Eskimo Cultural Development.

- The Norse in Greenland
- Early Voyages to Polar Regions - Martin Frobisher and Henry Hudson
- The Franklin Era in Arctic Exploration
- European and American Whaling and the Fur Trade

*Read:*

Vikings in the High Arctic - Schledermann (course text)

Cows, Seals and Churchbells: Adaptation and Extinction in Norse Greenland –Thomas McGovern.

An Examination of Processes of Culture Change among Nineteenth Century Copper Inuit – Clifford Hickey.

## **WEEK 12**

*Lecture:* Contemporary Issues Facing Inuit and Eskimo Peoples Today.

- Whaling, Sealing, and the Animal Rights Movement
- The Settlement Era and Housing in the Canadian Arctic
- The High Arctic Relocations: Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord
- The Creation of Nunavut

*Read:*

A Question of Sovereignty - Schledermann (course text)

Images of the Inuit - A.R Marcus.

## **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>

### **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.

### **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>