

Arky 303: Archaeology of North America

Saturday: 1:00 – 5:00 PM
Earth Sciences, Room 859

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Office Hours: Saturday 12-1:00 PM

Course Description:

Arky 303 is a general survey course on the archaeology of North America, north of Mexico. Geographical areas covered will include the Arctic, Subarctic, Great Plains, Plateau, Great Basin, West Coast, Northwest Coast, and Eastern Woodlands. The time span covered will include the earliest evidence of human occupation in the New World to the period of European contact. While the course is primarily descriptive in nature, current debates and issues will be explored, in particular during class discussions and written commentaries. Students taking this course will also gain a basic knowledge of the methods and goals of archaeological research.

Required Text:

Fagan, Brian M.

2005 *Ancient North America: The Archaeology of a Continent*. Fourth Edition. Thames and Hudson, London.

Course Evaluation:

The lecture portion of the course will be evaluated by a map quiz, a mid-term exam, and a final exam. The other method of providing information and assessment is through seminar readings, in-class discussion of those readings, and short written commentaries. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice, true and false, and short answer questions. Participation is mainly assessed through in-class discussion of the assigned readings as well as the written commentaries.

No particular course component need be passed in order to pass the course as a whole.

Map Quiz	10% (May 16)
Mid-term Exam	35% (May 23)
Written Discussion Commentaries	10% (Two @ 5% each)
Discussion Participation	10%
Final Exam	35% (June 20, non-cumulative)

Grade Scale:

95 – 100%	A+	78 – 81.9%	B	62 – 65.9%	C-
90 – 94.9%	A	74 – 77.9%	B-	56 – 61.9%	D+
86 – 89.9%	A-	70 – 73.9%	C+	50 – 55.9%	D
82 – 85.9%	B+	66 – 69.9%	C	Below 50%	F

Preliminary Course Outline:

Dates for topics vary according to the pace of the class, but the schedule for exams, quizzes and discussions will remain fixed. *Written commentaries for discussions are due at the beginning of the class.*

May 2

- 1) Introduction, Course Requirements
- 2) Background
 - Preface (Note on Radiocarbon Dates pp. 12 -13), Clash of Cultures (pp. 17 - 32).
 - Culture History and North American Archaeology (pp. 33 - 52).
 - Explaining Culture Change (pp. 53 – 68).

May 9

- 1) Map Quiz Review
- 2) First Settlement (pp. 71 – 96).
- 3) Later Paleo-Indian Cultures (pp. 97 – 114).

May 16

- 1) Map Quiz
- 2) *Discussion:* Colonization of the New World
- 3) Bison Hunters on the Plains (pp. 116 – 141).
- 4) Village Farmers of the Plains (pp. 142 – 164).

May 23

- 1) Mid-term Exam
- 2) The Far North
 - Early Arctic Cultures (pp. 166 – 190).
 - Norton, Dorset, and Thule (pp. 191 – 212).

May 30

- 1) The West
 - Early Foragers on the West Coast (pp. 214 – 232).
 - Later Societies of the West Coast (pp. 233 – 263).
 - The Great Basin and Western Interior (pp. 264 – 294).
 - The Archaic of the Southwest and Lower Pecos (pp. 295 – 314).
 - The Origins of Southwestern Agriculture and Village Life (pp. 315 – 334).
 - Villages and Pueblos (pp. 335 – 367).

June 6

- 1) The Eastern Woodlands
 - Early and Middle Archaic Cultures (pp. 370 – 398).
 - Middle to Late Archaic Cultures (pp. 399 – 420).
 - Early Woodland and Adena Complex (pp. 421 – 434).
 - Middle Woodland and the Hopewell (pp. 435 – 456).
 - Mississippian Climax (pp. 457 – 488).

June 13

- 1) After Columbus
 - The Archaeology of European Contact (pp. 511 – 540).
- 2) *Discussion*: Native American Perspectives
- 3) Exam Review

Students should familiarize themselves with the University of Calgary's policies regarding Academic Misconduct, as detailed in the University Calendar and available online:

http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/2008/how/How_MB.htm

Students may also find helpful resources regarding Academic Honesty on the University of Calgary webpage: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/honesty/>