

ARKY 325 L03
Ancient Civilizations
FALL 2008
Saturday, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM.
September 13, 20, 27; October 4, 18, 25, November 1, 15, 22, 29
Room ES 859

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Office Hours: Saturday, 12:00 - 1:00 PM or by appointment

Course Description

In this course we will examine the central questions in the study of ancient civilizations. Questions and topics will concern: What is a civilization? How many times and where did civilizations develop? How were these ancient civilizations organized? What makes these civilizations similar and different? Lectures will focus on the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Andes, Mesoamerica, China, and India. Key themes will be examined through lectures, readings, videos, guest speakers, and in-class discussion. Students will also learn some of the basics pertaining to the discipline of archaeology and how research questions dealing with civilizations in this field are designed and undertaken.

Required Text:

Patterns in Prehistory: Humankind's First Three Million Years, 5th Edition (2007)
Robert J. Wenke and Deborah I. Olszewski. Oxford University Press

*** any additional readings will be distributed in class or via Blackboard*

Assignments and Evaluation

The course grade will be calculated as indicated below:

Participation (based on weekly comment form)	10%
Midterm 1 (Oct 18)	30%
Midterm 2 or alternate research paper (Nov 15)	30%
Final examination (Nov 29)	30%

*Note: midterms and the final examination are primarily non-cumulative and will be based on material drawn from lectures, films shown in class, guest speakers, and assigned readings. A short research paper (4-6 pages) may be substituted for the second midterm

with the permission of the instructor. Additional details regarding this option will be provided in class.

Grading System:

A+	96-100	B+	80-84	C+	67-69	D+	55-59
A	90-95	B	75-79	C	64-66	D	50-54
A-	85-89	B-	70-74	C-	60-63	F	49 or lower

Policy for Late Assignments

Students who miss an exam or hand in a late assignment with out legitimate documentation for medical reasons or a family emergency will receive a grad of 0% for that exam or assignment.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

WEEK	LECTURE TOPIC AND ASSIGNED READINGS	ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY (subject to change)
Week 1 (Sept 13)	Intro to course, archaeology, and civilizations	
Week 2 (Sept 20)	Origins and development of agriculture; Definitions of civilizations, theories of rise of social complexity (Wenke, Ch. 6 & 7)	Guest speaker TBA
Week 3 (Sept 27)	Civilization in ancient Mesopotamia (Wenke, Ch. 8)	Video
Week 4 (Oct 4)	Egyptian civilization (Wenke, Ch. 9)	Video
Week 5 (Oct 11)	NO CLASS - Thanksgiving weekend	
Week 6 (Oct 18)	MIDTERM; The Indus Valley civilization and Ancient China (Wenke, Ch. 10 & 11)	Video
Week 7 (Oct 25)	Later Complex Societies of the Old World, Africa, and Pacific (Wenke, Ch. 12)	Guest speaker TBA
Week 8 (Nov 1)	Ancient Mesoamerica (Wenke, Ch. 13)	Guest speaker TBA
Week 9 (Nov 8)	NO CLASS - Reading break	
Week 10 (Nov 15)	MIDTERM/PAPERS; Andean civilization (Wenke, Ch. 14)	Guest speaker TBA
Week 11 (Nov 22)	Early Cultural Complexity in North America (Wenke, Ch. 15)	Video (?)
Week 12 (Nov 29)	Course conclusions (Wenke, Ch. 16); course evaluation and discussion; FINAL EXAM (in-class)	

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (SS 106, efwr.ucalgary.ca) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.