

ARCHAEOLOGY 325  
ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

FALL 2016

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Lectures: MWF 9:00-9:50 PM; ST 143  
Office hours: Wednesday 3:00-4:30 PM or by appointment



What is civilization? Why did it arise not once but several times in the Old and New Worlds? What do the earliest civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, sub-Saharan Africa, China, Mesoamerica and the Andes have in common? Did they develop along similar or different lines? What is the role of religion, of agricultural intensification, of cities, of trade? Why are all but one of these civilizations characterized by works of art that still are reckoned among humanity's greatest achievements?

These and other questions will be treated in this survey of the earliest civilizations in both hemispheres, in lectures illustrated by films and slides. Along the way, we will also touch upon the discipline of archaeology itself - its techniques, its strengths, and its limitations in the study of ancient civilizations.

*Required Text:*

R.J. Wenke & D.I. Olszewski 2007 *Patterns in Prehistory* (5th ed.), Oxford

*Grading:*

45% First mid-term exam (50 min)	Friday, October 14
45% Second mid-term exam (50 min)	Friday November 25
10% Final week quiz (45 min)	Friday December 9

Note: there is no final exam in this course

*Description of Exams:*

Exams are not cumulative.

It is not essential to pass all components to pass the course as a whole.

The use of computers in exams is not allowed.

Missed exams and quizzes require a medical certificate for rescheduling

*Grading Scheme (%)*

A+	90-100	A	85-89.5	A-	80-84.5
B+	76.5-79.5	B	73-76	B-	70-72.5
C+	66.5-69.5	C	63-66	C-	60-62.5
D+	55-59.5	D	50-54.5	F	49.5 and below

*Lecture and reading schedule:*

This schedule is approximate. Timing may vary. Films will be shown to supplement some lectures.

Students are responsible for their own note taking. Notes posted on Desire-to-Learn are minimal outlines and are not a substitute for in-class note-taking. Please be on time and prepared for lectures. Preparation involves completing the required readings before attending class.

**Week 1:**

- Introduction. Ancient civilizations defined.
- Approaches to the study of ancient civilizations.  
Reading: Wenke & Olszewski chapter 7

**Week 2:**

- Mesopotamia. Background to the civilization
- The study of ancient civilization: an archaeological approach  
Reading: chap. 6, p. 246-260; chap 8 to p. 341

**Week 3:**

- Early Mesopotamian civilization.
- A history of Mesopotamian civilization.  
Reading: chap. 8, p. 341 ff.

**Week 4:**

- Features of the Mesopotamian civilization
- Background to civilization in Egypt  
Reading: chap 9

**Week 5:**

- A history of the Egyptian civilization
- 1st mid-term exam: Friday, October 14

**Week 6:**

- History of Egyptian civilization (ctd)
- Features of the Egyptian civilization

**Week 7:**

- Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilizations compared

--The Indus civilization  
 Reading: chap. 10

Week 8:

--The Indus civilization (continued)  
 --The earliest civilization in sub-Saharan Africa

Week 9:

--Development of the North Chinese civilization  
 Reading: chap. 11

Reading days

Week 10:

--Features of the North Chinese civilization  
 --Background to civilization in Mesoamerica  
 Reading: chap. 13

Week 11:

--Civilization in Mesoamerica: the Maya  
 2nd mid-term exam: Friday Nov. 25

Week 12:

--Civilization in Mesoamerica: the Aztecs.  
 --Background to civilization in the Andes  
 Reading: chap. 14

Week 13:

--Features of the Andean civilization  
 --Ancient civilizations: a summary  
 Final quiz: Friday December 9

Plagiarism and Cheating:

Plagiarism: "to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own" (Webster's). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the submission. Any student caught plagiarizing will also be subject to additional University sanctions. Students are expected to be familiar with the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's policy on intellectual honesty.

Deferred Exams:

Deferral of a mid-term exam must be cleared with the instructor. Deferral will be granted only in cases of personal injury, illness, or immediate family emergency. An official note or other documentation explaining the reason for the absence is required. Deferral of the final exam requires Registrar approval.

#### Academic Accommodations:

The academic accommodations policy can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students that have not registered with the SAS are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about the academic accommodations can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access>.

#### Emergency Evacuation:

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/home/evacuation-assembly-points/assembly-points>

#### USRI:

At the University of Calgary, feedback furnished by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses are appreciated - please participate in USRI Surveys.

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology's FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy) policy requires all reports/examinations to be returned to students during class time or the instructor's office hours. Any term work not picked up will be placed in the Anthropology Office (ES 620) for distribution. Any student not wishing to have their work placed in the office must make alternate arrangements with the course instructor early in the term.

#### 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>

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### 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 helpline, 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 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrollment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Contact for 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)

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