

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS (ARKY 325-20)

SPRING 2013

Saturdays 1:00 to 5:30 PM in SA 104

INSTRUCTOR	Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer
OFFICE	ES 744
OFFICE HOURS	Saturdays 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM or by appointment
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine central questions in the study of ancient civilizations. What is a civilization? How many times and where did civilizations develop? Did they develop along similar or different lines? How were these ancient civilizations organized? What makes these civilizations similar and different? These and other questions will be examined in a survey of the earliest civilizations in both hemispheres. Lectures will focus primarily on socio-cultural, political, and economic formations that emerge in Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, India, Mesoamerica and the Central Andes. Students will also learn some of the basics of the discipline of archaeology and how research questions dealing with civilizations in this field are designed and implemented. Key themes will be examined through lectures, readings, videos and in-class discussions and activities.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students should have the necessary skills and knowledge to:

- ❖ Describe how archaeologists are able to reconstruct the past from material remains.
- ❖ Outline key developments in the evolution of complex societies
- ❖ Define the locations, chronologies and important characteristics of key archaeological civilizations

COURSE LOGISTICS

Lectures are presented every week on Saturdays in ST 104. Each session will generally be divided into four 50-60 minute long segments with a 10-15-minute break between each, with the exception of the week of the midterm. Students are responsible for returning to the classroom after the break.

Students are responsible for all materials covered in the required readings and the lectures, including films and videos. Ideally, students should read the assigned materials for each week's lecture ahead of time; lectures are designed to augment material in the text. Classroom materials missed due to absenteeism are the sole responsibility of the student.

Segments of class time each week will be focused on learning through classroom 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.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Scarre, Chris

2013 *The Human Past: World Prehistory and the Development of Human Societies*. Thames and Hudson Ltd., London.

ASSESSMENT

The course grade will be assessed through four components: short quizzes outside of class time on Blackboard, one in-class midterm, one reading/online discussion board assignment, and one final exam outside of class time on Blackboard. These components will be weighted as follows:

Blackboard quizzes (5 quizzes)	10% (2% each quiz)
In-class midterm exam	35%
Reading/Discussion Board assignment	20%
Blackboard final exam	35%

ASSESSMENT FORMAT AND DEADLINES

1. Blackboard Quizzes

Five 15 minute open-book, multiple-choice quizzes each worth 2% will be administered through Blackboard following lectures on May 11, 18, 25 and June 8 and 15. The quizzes will be posted on Blackboard from 4 PM on the Sunday after the lecture to 4 pm the following Tuesday. Once you start, you will have a maximum of 15 minutes to complete each quiz. Each quiz addresses material from the previous week only (including lecture, discussion, readings and any audiovisual materials). You must start and finish the quiz in one continuous attempt; you cannot continue the quiz at a later point and will not be able to log in to the quiz more than once. Answer each question consecutively. Do not leave any questions unanswered, as once you move to the next question you cannot go back to an earlier question. Unanswered questions will be marked as 0.

2. Midterm Exam

A 90 minute in-class midterm exam will take place on June 1 at the beginning of class (1 PM). The exam will not be open book, and may include multiple choice, true/false, matching, fill in the blank and/or short answer questions. The midterm is cumulative, including material from all prior course lectures, readings, audio-visual components and discussions. Guidelines for the examination will be posted on Blackboard.

3. Reading/Discussion Board Assignment

Students will be responsible for writing two, one page critical summaries of articles provided by the instructor relating to culture areas discussed in the class. These summaries will be worth 15% of the grade for this assignment. Students will be assigned to culture areas by May 14, but will have an opportunity to indicate culture area preference (additional details to be provided on the first day of class). Article summaries are due by 6 PM on June 7 and must be submitted through Drop Box on Blackboard. You may include non-lecture scholarly material if it is cited and referenced appropriately following the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) reference style. A pdf copy of the SAA reference guide can be found at saa.org/AbouttheSociety/Publications/StyleGuide/tabid/984/Default.aspx. The remaining 5% of the grade for this assignment will come from an online, small-group Blackboard discussion. Students will be formed into small-groups online based on culture area. Students will be responsible for posting a single paragraph critical review of their articles on the discussion board by 6 PM June 14. Posts must be substantive and must not simply replicate or copy the post of another student. Students will then be responsible for responding to at least two other posts on the discussion board, which must be completed by 4 PM on June 23. Inappropriate posts or

bullying of other students will not be tolerated and will result in students receiving an automatic 0 on ALL portions of this assignment. Additional details and instructions will be provided to students on the first day of class.

4. Blackboard Final Exam

The final exam will be two hour, open-book exam administered through Blackboard. The exam must be completed between 3 pm and 8 PM on June 25; you must log on during this time to write the final exam. You have a maximum of 2 hours to complete the exam in one continuous stretch. If you log off the exam before the 2 hours are done, you cannot log back in to the exam. This exam is cumulative, including material from all prior course lectures, readings, audio-visual components and discussions. The exam may include multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, matching, and/or short answer questions.

GRADING SCALE

A+	96-100%	A	90-95.99%	A-	85-89.99%
B+	80-84%	B	75-79.99%	B-	70-74.99%
C+	65-69.99%	C	60-64.99%	C-	55-59.99%
D+	53-54.99%	D	50-52.99%	F	0-49.99%

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day. Any assignment handed in more than one week after the given deadline will automatically be given a mark of 0.

Assessments administered through Blackboard can only be written during the times set aside on specific days. Specific deadlines for each assessment component are provided above as well as in the separate course outline. Failure to log on and write an online assessment in the available time frame will result in a grade of 0 for that component. Please ensure that you have set aside sufficient time to start and complete the assessment *in one sitting* before you log on. The instructor cannot give you a second chance to log on if you already made an attempt. Whatever was completed will be graded and each incomplete answer will automatically receive a mark of 0 points.

For the in-class mid-term, students must be present prior to the start of the exam to write the exam. Opportunities for a make-up exam will not be offered unless valid documentation is provided (see below).

MISSED ASSESSMENT

Students who miss assessments without legitimate documentation for medical reasons or a family emergency will receive a grade of 0 for that exam. As per University of Calgary policy, students who have missed a mid-term exam and/or-assignment deadline for documented reasons such as illness may arrange alternatives with the instructor. Students are responsible for discussing the situation with the instructor as soon as possible. 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.

APPROPRIATE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN CLASS

Bring your computers to class if you like to take notes on them. Throughout the class we will be doing a number of activities using an app called Socrative, which can be used on any laptop, tablet or smart phone. However, students will still be able to participate in the activities if they do not have

access to these devices. Additional information on the program will be provided on the first day of class.

Please keep phones on silent mode and, in the event of an emergency, please step outside to take or make any calls. It's a long class, so if you want to surf the web, check Facebook, chat on-line or use some other social media, do so during your scheduled break.

ADDITIONAL CONTENT

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/legalservices/foip>

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>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not. Any ideas or materials taken from another source written, electronic, or oral must be fully and formally acknowledged. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- (a) The work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- (b) Parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- (c) The whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- (d) A student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis or dissertation.

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.

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 SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at 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 (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 Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

Student Union Vice President – Academic

Phone: (403) 220-3911

Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Representatives

Sarah Damberger arts1@su.ucalgary.ca 587-7777-5244

Hana Kadri arts2@su.ucalgary.ca 403-667-9220

Kelsy Norman arts3@.su.ucalgary.ca 403-861-2624

Student Ombudsman's Office

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/>