

# THE LEGACY OF MESOAMERICA

MWF 9-9:50, EDC 388

ARKY 345 - Fall 2019

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Office hours: M 10-11, W 10-11 or by appointment

This course is designed as a follow-up to the ARKY 341 & 343 sequence which surveyed the pre-Columbian cultures of Mesoamerica. In *The Legacy of Mesoamerica* we will consider how the traditional cultures of Mexico and Central America have adapted to post-Conquest contact with Colonial European culture. In some cases indigenous groups have acculturated and in the process lost many of their cultural traits; in other cases they have resisted change, or simply changed selectively; and in still other cases the resistance has erupted into active revolt, calling into question whether the “Conquest” has ever ended? Students will learn of the diversity of indigenous cultures that still thrive in Middle America: the Maya, Nahua, Huichol, Mixtec, Zapotec, and more. They will read ethnographic essays on traditional lifeways and view ethnographic films of traditional activities, including ritual, craft production, and domestic life. By focussing an anthropological lens on traditional peoples of Middle America, archaeology students will gain the richness that ethnographic analogy can bring to archaeological interpretations of the more distant past. Archaeology is a discipline ideally designed for the study of culture change, and the study of the historical anthropology of post-Conquest Middle America can reveal important patterns that can in turn inform on pre-Columbian Mesoamerica.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Students will be responsible for readings in the text, as well as assigned articles and documentary films to be shown in class. The course will be conducted as a lecture, with the expectation that students will participate in discussions of the films and readings. Requirements will include two midterm exams (25 pts each), five article/film summaries (2 pts each), and a final exam (40 pts), totaling 100 points. Students interested in writing a research paper, worth 25 pts, can substitute that for one of the midterm exams. Individual grades will be based on total points received:

|             |            |            |            |              |  |
|-------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|--|
| 97-100 = A+ | 87-89 = B+ | 77-79 = C+ | 67-69 = D+ |              |  |
|             |            |            | 93-96 = A  | 83-86 = B    |  |
|             |            |            | 73-76 = C  | 60-66 = D    |  |
|             |            |            | 90-92 = A- | 80-82 = B-   |  |
|             |            |            | 70-72 = C- | Less than 60 |  |
|             |            |            | points = F |              |  |

## RESEARCH PAPERS

A short research paper (4-6 pages) may be substituted in place of a mid-term exam. Paper topics should be cleared with the professor in advance, but may include such themes as cultures or

cultural practices. A good place to look for topics is in the textbook, readings, or in anthropology/archaeology journals. A research paper should involve at least 5 published sources (not including the textbook), and at least one of those should be from a scholarly journal; Web sources may be (cautiously!) included in addition to the 5 published sources. Referencing format should follow the example found in *American Antiquity*.

**IMPORTANT:** Plagiarism, defined as copying more than 5 words in succession or using information without adequate citation (i.e., reference and page number) of the original source, is a violation of academic integrity. Research papers that plagiarize will receive a score of 0, and the student may be turned in to the Faculty of Arts for potential expulsion (see the U of Calgary Calendar).

### **EXTRA CREDIT**

Students may receive extra credit points, up to 5 pts maximum, for work in addition to class assignments. For example, news items relevant to indigenous cultures of Middle America can be reviewed and shared with the class for extra credit. The University occasionally has lectures relevant to the class that can also be reviewed for extra credit. The goal of these assignments is to encourage students to learn about Middle America from sources beyond those offered through the course.

### **TEXTBOOK and READINGS:**

*The Legacy of Mesoamerica: History and Culture of a Native American Civilization*, by Robert M. Carmack, Janine Gasco, and Gary H. Gossen. 1996. Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ.

Additional readings will be available on JSTOR and other web sites:

### **COURSE OUTLINE:**

Week 1 (9/5-6) - Introduction

Reading: Carmack, Gasco and Gossen 2007, Introduction

Week 2 (9/9-13) - Origins and Development of Mesoamerican Civilization

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 1

Week 3 (9/16-20) - Mesoamerica at in the Postclassic and at Spanish Contact

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chaps. 2-3; McCafferty 2015; McCafferty and McCafferty1994

Week 4 (9/23-27) - Mesoamerica and Spain: The Conquest

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 4; McCafferty 2000

Week 5 (9/30-10/4) The Colonial Period in Mesoamerica

Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 5; McCafferty 2012

Week 6 (10/7-11 ) - Indigenous Literature in Pre-Conquest and Colonial Mesoamerica  
Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 6

Week 7 (10/14-18) - Mesoamericans in the NeoColonial Era  
Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 7  
NO CLASS 10/14 - Thanksgiving

Week 8 (10/21-25) - Native Mesoamericans in the Modern Era  
Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 8  
MIDTERM EXAM #1

Week 9 (10/28-11/1) Transnationalism and the Political Economy of Mesoamerica  
Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 9

Week 10 (11/4-8) - The Mayan Zapatista Movement  
Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 10

Week 11 (11/11-15) - NO CLASSES

Week 12 (11/18-22) - Language and Languages in Mesoamerica  
Reading: Carmack, Gasco and Gossen 2007, chap. 11, 13  
MIDTERM EXAM #2

Week 13 (11/25-29) - Women and Gender in Mesoamerica  
Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 12; McCafferty and McCafferty 1999

Week 14 (12/2-6) - The Religious Traditions of Mesoamerica  
Reading: Carmack, Gasco, and Gossen 2007, chap. 14

### **Academic misconduct**

The University expects Students to conduct Academic Activities with integrity and intellectual honesty and to recognize the importance of pursuing and transmitting knowledge ethically. "Academic Misconduct" includes such things as Cheating, Falsification; Plagiarism, Unauthorized Assistance and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Academic Misconduct is a serious form of intellectual dishonesty with significant consequences. Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For more information see the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>)

### **Instructor intellectual property**

Lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor includes copyright protected works under the Copyright Act and all forms of electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, laboratories, tutorials, presentations, performances, electronic (computer) information, the duplication of course material, and to the translation of recordings or transcriptions of any of these materials to another form by electronic or mechanical means by students is not permitted, except.

- As a formal accommodation as assessed by the Student Accessibility Services and only for individual private study and only at the discretion of the instructor.
- With the permission of the instructor, students without a formal accommodation may audio record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered. Any audio recording by students is permitted only for the purposes of private study by the individual student. Students may not distribute, email or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person.
- For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed.
- Any use other than that described above (e.g. distributing, emailing or otherwise communicating these materials to any other person, constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.
- Students are encouraged to make notes of classroom discussions, lectures, demonstrations etc.

### **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. The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology keeps exams and any term work not picked up for a minimum of one year after which it is destroyed. Please refer to the following link for detailed information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

### **Academic Accommodations**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies. Students requesting an Accommodation on the basis of Disability are required to register with Student Accommodation Services (SAS) by submitting a Request for Accommodation in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). SAS will issue a Letter of Accommodation which must be presented to either designated contact person within the Department or the appropriate Instructors within 10 days of the beginning of term. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to

fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

### **Copyright**

All **students** are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **Support and Resources:**

Non-course-specific related information can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

**Note:** information here includes

- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Safewalk

### Deferred Exams:

A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must discuss an alternative course of action with the instructor. Deferral of the final exam requires Registrar approval. The instructor at their discretion may transfer the percentage weight for the test to the final examination, if there is a final examination in the course, set another test, etc. Documentation supporting the reason for missing an exam may be required. Deferred exams may be in a different format than the regularly scheduled exam, e.g. essay style questions instead of multiple choice questions. Students must be aware that they are responsible for payment of any charge associated with the medical assessment and documentation as this service falls outside the realm of services provided by the Provincial Health Care Plan

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