

**Archaeology 351**  
**Archaeology of South America: The Lowlands and Northern Andes**

Fall 2010

MWF 9:00 – 9:50

EDC 287

**Instructor:** Sonia Zarrillo

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**Office:** ES 756

**Office hours:** MW 10 – 11:00

*OR* by appointment

**Course Description:**

This course introduces the archaeology of South America, *excluding* the Central Andes and Peruvian coast. It presents an overview of the prehispanic cultural development of a vast region, including: northwestern South America and the lower part of Central America; the Caribbean shore of South America and the Antilles; the tropical lowlands; the Guiana and Brazilian uplands; the southern plains and steppe of Patagonia and the Pampas; and the wet fjord coast of Chile and Tierra del Fuego. Because this is such an expansive area and archaeology in many regions is wanting, emphasis will be placed on current and traditional controversies and important research questions regarding human systems and processes. Some of the topics explored will include the peopling of the continent, the origins of food production, the potential for socio-cultural development in tropical environments, and humans' adaptation to, and cultural modification, of the environment.

**Note:** There is no textbook for this course. Seminar readings and readings that supplement the lecture topics will be posted on Blackboard.

**Course Objectives:**

- To acquaint students with a general understanding of the prehistory and of South America (excluding the Central Andes).
- To discuss and write about key issues related to the prehistory of the region.
- To familiarize students with the archaeological methods, theoretical frameworks, and the types of evidence that have been used in the region to study past human behaviour.
- To encourage students to think critically and to communicate effectively.

**Lecture and Reading Schedule:**

The lecture and reading schedule will be posted on Blackboard.

**Course Evaluation:**

You will be evaluated on the content of the course by a map quiz, two written commentaries during the term, completion of reading assignments and attendance/participation in tutorial discussions, three quizzes, and a final written commentary/paper.

*Map Quiz:*

You will be expected to become acquainted with the physical and political geography of the pertinent areas of

South America covered in the course. Further information on the map quiz will be provided in the lectures and on Blackboard.

*Reading/Video Assignments and Tutorial Participation/Attendance:*

The reading guides (questions that you will answer/address) deal with the readings and videos for the course. The assignments are designed to assist you in *identifying the important points* in and about the assigned readings and videos seen in class. Each assignment is not long and they will also contribute to class discussion during tutorials, as well as making good review sheets for the quizzes. It is your responsibility to complete each sheet and to ensure the information you record is accurate (I will not be marking these for content, but for *completion*).

Due dates for the assignments are on the Lecture and Reading Schedule, will be provided during lecture, and are posted on Blackboard.

Everyone will start with 20% and 1% will be deducted for each assignment that is not completed. You will also be deducted 1% for not attending the tutorials or for not completing a written commentary (see below).

*Written Commentaries:*

The purpose of the short written commentaries (3 pages maximum) is to *critically evaluate* one or more specific issues presented in the readings and videos. Written commentaries are due on the day of the tutorial/discussion and each tutorial/discussion will be just prior to each of the three quizzes. In-class discussion and/or discussion groups will be used to stimulate appraisal of the seminar readings and videos. There *will not* be a written commentary for the last tutorial/discussion, as your final written commentary/paper will take the place of this. Failure to submit a written commentary will not only result in the loss of the 10%, but also a deduction of 1% from the participation mark (see above).

*Quizzes:*

The quizzes will be a combination of multiple choice, true and false and short answer questions and will evaluate your knowledge of the lecture material, readings, and videos. The quizzes are *not* cumulative.

*Final Written Commentary/Paper:*

You will be required to write a Final Written Commentary/Paper in lieu of a final exam. Your paper is due by **NOON on December 13**. Your paper should be a *minimum* of 1000 and a *maximum* of 1500 words (about 6-8 pages, double spaced with 12-point font).

You will be given several questions/topics based on major themes from the course from which you will choose one to write about. *You will not be required to carry out any research beyond the assigned readings, videos, and your lecture notes*. While this is not a formal research paper, you will be required to follow prescribed formatting rules.

You will be required to reference any ideas or information drawn from the readings or videos as well as other sources you may choose to consult, including the internet.

All Written Commentaries (including the Final Commentary/Paper) will use the *American Antiquity* referencing format, which will be posted on Blackboard and can also be accessed here:

<http://www.saa.org/Portals/0/SAA/Publications/StyleGuide/styleguide.pdf>

Map Quiz	10%
Reading/Video Assignments and Tutorial Participation/Attendance	20%
Written Commentaries	20% (Two @10%)
Quizzes	30% (Three @10% each)
Final Written Commentary/Paper	20%

**Grade Scale:**

A+	96 – 100%	B	75 – 79.9%	C-	55 – 59.9%
A	90 – 95.9%	B-	70 – 74.9%	D+	53 – 54.9%
A-	85 – 89.9%	C+	65 – 69.9%	D	50 – 52.9%
B+	80 – 84.9%	C	60 – 64.9%	F	< 50%

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

**Missed Quizzes or Written Assignments:**

A student who is absent from a quiz or fails to hand in an assignment for legitimate reasons (illness, religious or spiritual observance, etc.) must discuss an alternative course of action with me; acceptable documentation may be required. If you miss a quiz due to illness or another critical event, please contact me *as soon as possible after missing the quiz so that I can reschedule.*

If you know ahead of time that you have a conflict for the day of a quiz, speak to me as soon as possible (*at least two weeks*) **prior** to missing a quiz so that I can make other arrangements for you.

Religious/spiritual observance **does not** preclude a student from having to meet deadlines for submission of written assignments when such deadlines fall on a day of observance and the deadline was determined at the start of the course, as per University of Calgary Academic Regulations. Students who miss classes for religious/spiritual observances must make up the material covered in that class on their own.

**\*\*Quizzes and assignment not completed will be awarded a "0" unless prior arrangements have been made with me or you notify me promptly upon missing a quiz (as detailed above).**

These policies are intended to encourage diligence and integrity on the part of each student as well as to uphold

## **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/secretariat/system/files/foip%20overview.pdf>

## **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>

### **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.

### **Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation**

Student Union Vice President – Academic

Phone: (403) 220-3911

Email: [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca)

Student Union Faculty Representative

Phone: (403) 220-3913

Email: [sociiscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:sociiscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

Student Ombudsman's Office

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/students-rights.html>