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**ARKY 423 (LEC01)**  
**Archaeology of the Arctic**  
GFC Hours 3-0  
Winter 2024

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**Prerequisite(s):** 3 units from Archaeology 201, 205, 303.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the archaeology of the North American Arctic and Northeastern Siberia. We will examine important cultural developments, key debates at the forefront of current research and considerations that make arctic archaeology unique within the wider discipline. The course will begin with an outline of arctic environments, and an ethnographic snapshot of the contemporary array of dynamic Indigenous cultures. Special attention will be directed at the unique technologies and practices that are central to traditional subsistence. In the second part of the course, students will engage with the primary literature to build a strong working knowledge of human occupation in the arctic leading up to the development of Inuit culture, the colonial period, and the present. We will also address a range of topics that have specific methodological considerations in arctic archaeology including recent aDNA advances, dating practices, organic preservation, and others. The final section will focus on contemporary challenges for archaeology in the context of physical and political environments that are rapidly changing. We will discuss the relevance of arctic archaeology to social dimension of global climate change, and local impacts of global warming on arctic archaeological sites. Throughout the course we will explore developments in the relationship between archaeology and Inuit communities through case studies in Nunavut and Greenland. This course will be of importance to students with an interest in the arctic, long term relationships between peoples and their environments, and community archaeology.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Develop a comprehensive knowledge of the deep history of human-environment relationships in the arctic including cultural developments and key debates the forefront of current research
- Demonstrate the relevance of archaeology in ongoing environmental and political effects of climate change in the arctic
- Understand the history of community relationships with academic research and the extent to which this structures knowledge production in arctic archaeology

**READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:**

There is no course textbook but there will be required readings and articles. All assigned readings are available through digital access via the University of Calgary Library. There will typically be 2 peer-reviewed article length readings per lecture, and a schedule/list will be posted through D2L.

**REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:**

Students must have access to a computer with an internet connection and updated browser to access D2L, and a word processor or other basic software which will be needed for assignments/exams.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT**

Quiz (Arctic places and peoples)	Jan 18	15%
Exam 1	Feb 15	30%
Exam 2	Mar 19	30%
Annotated Bibliography	April 9	15% (Cumulative)
Assignment	April 9	10%

Quiz format: The quiz will include details of the geographical and ethnographic overview of the Arctic. Questions will include identifying features on a map and several short responses.

Exam format: The exam questions will be drawn from the lecture, course readings, homework assignments, and from films/interactive media in class. Prior to each exam date, specific instructions will be provided on required preparation, question format, pre-prepared responses, and aids that are permitted.

Annotated Bibliography: Students must produce a half-page, single spaced, annotation for at least 15 of the assigned readings. Each annotation will be worth 1% (up to 15% of the total course mark). The annotated bibliography is cumulative and will be handed in by April 12 via D2L. A rubric and discussion of annotation goals will be introduced in the first lectures.

Assignment: This will consist of short written responses (no more than one page each) on topics addressed in the final section of the course where we will look at the impact of global warming and changing political environments on archaeological practice in the Arctic. Rubrics and specifications will be introduced in class.

Missed work: Students may provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student.

Missed examinations/tests cannot be made up without the approval of the instructor. Students who miss a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It is at the instructor’s discretion if they will allow a make-up exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. A makeup test/exam will differ significantly in form and/or content from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within two weeks of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. Makeup tests/exams may differ significantly in format and/or content) from the regularly scheduled test/exam. For example, a makeup test may have a different balance of multiple choice and written questions. Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within two weeks (or one week etc.) of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor.

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, or a statutory declaration, etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note. Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

**Reappraisal of Graded Term Work:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

**Reappraisal of Final Grade:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

**Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:**

A+	95 – 100%	B+	80 – 84.9%	C+	67 – 70.9%	D+	55 – 58.9%
A	90 – 94.9%	B	75 – 79.9%	C	63 – 66.9%	D	50 – 54.9%
A-	85 – 89.9%	B-	71 – 74.9%	C-	59 – 62.9%	F	< 50%

Extra credit work is not available in this class. You do not need to pass each course component to earn a passing grade in the class.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

The University of Calgary, located in the heart of Southern Alberta, both acknowledges and pays tribute to the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).

### **Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity**

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology views diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

Please include the term ARKY 423 in the subject line of all emails.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: [www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html). 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 your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) 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.

### **SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources

- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

## TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	
T Jan 9	Introduction and Ethnographic Overview
R Jan 11	Seasonality of the Netsilingmiut
T Jan 16	Technology and Ecology
R Jan 18	Quiz (Peoples & Places) + Late Pleistocene
T Jan 23	Development of Arctic Maritime Lifeways +Aleutians 9000 BP - Present
R Jan 25	The Denbigh Flint Complex & Arctic Small Tool Tradition
T Jan 30	Choris/Norton/Ipiutak Cultures
R Feb 1	Pre-Dorset/Independence I
T Feb 6	Saqqaq culture and organic preservation at the Qeqertasussuk site
R Feb 8	The development of Dorset/Tunit Lifeways
T Feb 13	Late Dorset Period/guest presentation
R Feb 15	Exam #1
Feb 18-24	Reading Break. No classes.
T Feb 27	Norse Greenland
R Feb 29	Guest presentation on Thule-Inuit houses
T Mar 5	Old Bering Sea/Punuk/Birnirk culture
R Mar 7	Western Thule origins + Thule migration + aDNA/radiocarbon dating
T Mar 12	Thule to local Inuit transitions across the Eastern Arctic + Early Colonial Period
R Mar 14	Colonial interactions and impacts through time
T Mar 19	Exam #2
R Mar 21	Climate change and related threats to circumpolar sites
T Mar 26	Community archaeology and Inuit heritage
R Mar 28	New technologies and arctic archaeology
T Apr 2	Guest presentation/Assignment discussion
R Apr 4	Archaeology and the political ecology of the Canada/Greenland border
T Apr 9	Last Day of classes/ Further Topics; Assignments due
Apr 12-23	Fall Final Exam Period

## IMPORTANT DATES

M Jan 8	Start of Classes
R Jan 18	Last day to drop a class without a financial penalty
F Jan 19	Last day to add or swap a course
F Jan 26	Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.
M Feb 19	Alberta Family Day No Classes.
Feb 18-24	Reading Break. No classes.
F Mar 29	Good Friday no classes
M Apr 1	Easter Monday no classes
T Apr 9	End of classes Last day to withdraw from half courses.
Apr 12-23	Fall Final Exam Period.
May 20-25	Exam period for Registrar deferred final exams

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html#fall2017>