

**ARKY 531/631: The Development of Complex Societies**

**FALL 2015**

Monday, 14:00 - 16:45

ST 129

Dr. Shawn Gregory Morton

Earth Sciences - Department of Anthropology and Archaeology

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**Course Description:**

This is a senior undergraduate and graduate level seminar focusing on the rise and development of complex societies throughout the world, the characteristics of these societies, and theories concerning the processes driving these developments. Readings must be completed prior to attending class; come prepared to discuss.

**Required Text:**

Chapman, Robert

2003 *Archaeologies of Complexity*. Routledge, London and New York.

**NOTE:** While copies of this text have been made available at the book store, this text is also available on Kindle. Additionally, reserve copies will be placed on hold at the Library. There is **NO NEED** to purchase this text (though it is a good one if you feel so moved).

**Additional Readings:**

Each week, you will be given a list of readings that you will be expected to read for discussion the following week. Each of you will be asked to lead the discussion on individual articles; however, you will be expected to be prepared for and contribute to the discussion of all articles. All readings will be posted on D2L.

**Grading:**

Research Paper 40% - Due on Dec. 7, 2015

Presentation 25% - TBA (Nov. 30 or Dec. 7, 2015)

Weekly Critiques 25% - Due on Dec. 7, 2015

Class Participation 10%

**Grading System:**

A+	96-100	B+	80-84.9	C+	67-69.9	D+	55-59.9
A	90-95.9	B	75-79.9	C	64-66.9	D	50-54.9
A-	85-89.9	B-	70-74.9	C-	60-63.9	F	49.9 or lower

**Policy for Late Assignments**

Students who miss their presentation or hand in a late assignment without legitimate documentation for medical reasons or a family emergency will receive 0% for that presentation or assignment. Failure to attend class will negatively impact your participation mark.

**Critiques:**

Five times during the semester, you are required to submit a critique of the weekly readings. This critique should highlight the common thread among the articles by comparing and contrasting the readings. It should also note the strengths of the arguments presented, as well as the weaknesses. These critiques should be approximately 1200-1500 words in length. All critiques are due prior to submission of your final paper.

**Presentations:**

The final presentation is topical. It is expected that undergraduate presentations measure 15 minutes in length. Graduate presentations are 30 minutes in length. The presentation should be a thorough study of some aspect of complexity discussed in class. You will be assigned a culture area to address.

**Final Research Paper:**

Your final paper should be approximately 10 pages in length for undergraduates, 20-25 pages in length for graduates, and address the same topic as your presentation. Your paper is due on the last day of class.

Your paper should be thoroughly researched, well organized, and well written. The sooner you start the better. You may find that you will need to order some sources through Interlibrary Loans.

## Schedule of Lectures and Readings

WEEK	LECTURE/DISCUSSION TOPIC (subject to change)	ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY (subject to change)	READINGS (read BEFORE class)
Week 1 (Sep 7)	Labour Day - No classes		
Week 2 (Sep 14)	Intro to course, and to the study of 'complexity' in archaeology	<b>No lecture</b> - concentrate on readings.	Chapman - Chpts. 1 - 4
Week 3 (Sep 21)	Complex archaeologies and archaeologies of complexity		Chapman - Chpt. 7
Week 4 (Sep 28)	Sociopolitical organization - Pt. 1		TBA
Week 5 (Oct 5)	Sociopolitical organization - Pt. 2		TBA
Week 6 (Oct 12)	Thanksgiving - No classes		
Week 7 (Oct 19)	Sociopolitical organization - Pt. 3		TBA
Week 8 (Oct 26)	Economy - Pt. 1		TBA
Week 9 (Nov 2)	Economy - Pt. 2		TBA
Week 10 (Nov 9)	Cognitive and symbolic aspects - Pt. 1		TBA
Week 11 (Nov 16)	Cognitive and symbolic aspects - Pt. 2		TBA
Week 12 (Nov 23)	Cognitive and symbolic aspects - Pt. 3		TBA
Week 13 (Nov 30)	Class Presentations		
Week 14 (Dec 7)	Class Presentations	Final paper due	

## **ADDITIONAL CONTENT OF THE COURSE OUTLINE**

### **Attendance**

It is strongly advised that students attend all classes. Although lectures, discussions, presentations, and readings will provide overlapping material, students are responsible for all materials covered. **A strong passing grade will be difficult without regular class attendance.**

### **Cell Phones, etc.**

Ringers must be set to 'silent' or 'meeting' to avoid disrupting the class. Cell phone conversations are not permitted in class and students must excuse themselves from the lecture room to receive calls. Internet and other electronic devices (e.g. laptops, tablets) are permitted in class. However, if a student's activity on such devices is interrupting the learning experience of others, they will be asked to cease such activity.

### **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: [socilscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socilscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

Student Ombudsman's Office

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

### **Statement of *Fair Warning***

In this course readings and lectures may contain ideas and information that some students find disturbing or otherwise troubling. Any student not wishing to undertake this work should contact the instructor immediately so that enrolment in an alternative course more in keeping with the student's interests can be facilitated.