

TOPICS IN MESOAMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY:

Mesoamerican Frontiers

ARKY 537 - Fall 2008

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Office hours: Thursdays & Fridays 2:00-3:30

Particular attention will be paid to lower Central America, where the Greater Nicoya region has often been identified as a borderland for Mesoamerican interaction; and northern Mexico and the Southwestern US where scholars have interpreted varying degrees of Mesoamerican contact and influence. A final topic will be western Mexico, which exhibits interesting similarities and distinctions from core Mesoamerican traits—was this part of 'Mesoamerica?' Discussion will consider theoretical topics of ethnicity and cultural identity, as well as the economics of the Mesoamerican 'world system.'

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

Evaluation will be based on a take-home midterm exam (20%), a take-home final exam (20%), a research paper (50%), and class participation (10%). Exams will consist of two 2-3 page essays based on the readings.

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 research paper (10-12 pages) is required for the class. Paper topics should be cleared with the professor in advance. Referencing format **must** follow that of the journal *Ancient Mesoamerica*.

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 0 score, and the student will be turned in to the Dean of Social Sciences (see page 49 of the U of Calgary Calendar).