

ARCHAEOLOGY 615

TOPICS IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHOD AND THEORY

Fall 2013

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Office Hours: by appointment
Lectures: W 14:00 - 17:00
Room: ES 822

Course Objectives:

This seminar course is designed to provide graduate students in archaeology with a firm foundation in the history and development of theory and method in archaeological research. An important objective of the course is to examine how events in society, the personal histories of individual scholars, and theoretical developments in other disciplines helped to shape the advancement of archaeological theory. Students will be expected to attend classes fully prepared to discuss topics which will be assigned on a weekly basis. In addition, students will be required to do the following: a) submit a 5-page biography of a 'processual' archaeologist; b) make a presentation and lead discussions on a current topic of their choice, c) prepare a research paper on a theoretical topic of their choice, subject to the approval of the instructor, and d) critique the paper of another student in the class. All students are expected to submit a revised version of their paper by the due date. In addition, each student will be asked to evaluate the presentations and participation of their peers. These evaluations will be incorporated into the calculations of the final grades for each student. To give students some idea of their standing in the course, a grade will be provided at the end of October. This grade will reflect their performance in the biography and the class participation to that date.

Student Evaluation

a) Presentation 1	20%
b) Presentation 2	25%
c) Research Paper	30%
d) Critique	15%
e) Participation	10%

Grade Scale: A+ 95-100; A 90-95; A- 85-90; B+ 80-85; B 75-80; B- 70-75; C+ 65-70; C 60-65; C- 55-60; D+ 50-55; D 45-50; F <45

NOTE: One does not need to receive a passing grade in each component of the course to receive a pass in this seminar. A grade of C+ or less is a failing grade in this is a graduate level course.

Assignments:

- 1) **Presentation:** Each of you will be asked to prepare 2 presentations on current topics of debate in archaeological method and theory. Your presentations should include a description of the theoretical perspective, a discussion of its historical roots, and a critique of the theory and its application in archaeology. One week before your presentation you will also be asked to provide a list of key readings for the class (85-100 pages) and be prepared to discuss these as well as the content of your presentation.
- 2) **Research Papers:** Each of you will be required to prepare a research paper on a theoretical approach relating to your thesis research showing how you propose to relate theory and data. In other words, you will have to identify your research question and illustrate its relevance to a particular theoretical perspective. You will then be asked to demonstrate how this question can be addressed using specific archaeological data. I want you to identify the topic of your paper by the second week of classes and to have it approved by myself before proceeding with the research. Papers are due on November 20, 2011.
- 3) **Critique:** Each student will be asked to critique the paper of another student in the class. Your critique should highlight both the positive and negative aspects of the paper with a focus on the relationship between theory and data. Students will then have the opportunity to revise their papers and submit the final drafts for evaluation no later than **two** weeks after the critique.
- 4) **Participation:** This course is offered as a seminar which means that specific topics are to be discussed and debated. In such courses, there is an expectation that every student will read the material and come prepared to discuss the issues. Therefore, a component of the course grade deals with class participation.

NOTE: Course requirements and deadlines may be subject to change depending on enrolment numbers.

ADDITIONAL CONTENT

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

It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic

accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at www.ucalgary.ca/access.

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/legalservices/foip>

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>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not. Any ideas or materials taken from another source written, electronic, or oral must be fully and formally acknowledged. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- (a) The work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- (b) Parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- (c) The whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- (d) A student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis or dissertation.

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.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

Student Union Vice President – Academic

Phone: (403) 220-3911

Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Representatives

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

arts2@su.ucalgary.ca

arts3@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/>