Proseminar in Archaeology

Course Description: This course aims to provide a basic understanding of the major concepts in Archaeology. This course allows students to explore various aspects of archaeology and at the same time reflect on how this intersects with other disciplines. In this class we will examine methods, theories and practices of Archaeology. We will focus on specific case studies from around the world to identify specific features of archaeological practice. The readings will involve classic readings as well as more contemporary works.

Course Requirements: Students are expected to attend lectures, complete reading assignments, and participate in class discussions when appropriate. Readings will be posted on blackboard. Occasionally students will be expected to direct discussion in class. One exam will take place during the course. There will be a final exam at the end of the course which is the qualifying exam. This is a take home exam but it is due during the last class period.

Learning Outcomes:
1) Students will explore and learn the methods and theories that archaeologists use to construct concept of the past.
2) Students will investigate specific methodologies used to interpret behavior in the past.
3) Students will critically assess some of the past and present debates regarding the ability to reconstruct the past.
4) Students will explore how archaeologists interact with the public and the ownership of the past through archaeological practice.

Assessment: One in class exam represents 25% of the final grade. Class participation and class direction will make up 15% of your grade. 30% of the grade will be based on the project and final paper. The final portion of the grade will be based on the comprehensive exam at the end of the course. Letter grades will be generally be assigned according to the following scale: 90-100%=A, 86-89%=B+, 80-85%=B, 76-79%=C+, 70-75%=C, 60-69%=D, 59% or below=F. I reserve the right to adjust this scale down a bit if necessary. Thus, if you have an 89% at the end of the semester, your final letter grade will be at least a B+, however depending on the class’s performance as a whole, this might wind up being an A. In addition, excessive absences may result in failure or final letter grade reduction.

General Policies:

Make-up Exams: Make-up exams will NOT be given, except in cases of University conflicts, severe illness/family emergency, or other similar circumstances (documentation required).
Course Schedule and Topics*

these cases, the make-up must be taken within 1 week of the originally scheduled exam at a mutually convenient time/location.

Cell phones, PDA’s, laptop computers, etc.: It is my strong preference that these items NOT be used in class. If you have a compelling reason to take notes electronically, please see me to discuss your reasons and I will consider your request. Otherwise, I expect not to see these items out during lectures.

Essay Guidelines
All written assignments must be typed, double spaced, not have excessive margins, be an original, solo-produced work, and must conform in style to the standard employed in American archaeology for bibliographic references. Consult the guide for authors in the journal American Antiquity.

Final Project
Students will be expected to identify a particular topic that integrates both method and theory as part of a project that will involve the organization of an argument surrounding a contemporary topic in Archaeology. Papers that relates to a narrow topic are discouraged (the origins of maize domestication). However, these topics can be built into a large broader topic (Maize domestication as an insight into theoretical perspectives on domestication). You must propose a topic with a prospectus by October 22nd.

In Class Presentations
Each student will be responsible for guiding at least one in class discussion based on particular readings for that week. Students are expected to produce a written guide for the class discussion and direct discussion. These discussions should be based on readings as well as supplementary readings that the student seeks out during class preparations.

Extra credit: There will be no extra credit assignments.

PowerPoint: For many reasons, my PowerPoint slides will be posted on Blackboard in .pdf format AFTER the lectures. If you miss class you should get notes for the missed lecture from one of your classmates. There will be content in class that you will not be able to get from the readings or the powerpoint presentations. This makes it essential that you attend class.

Special Needs: If you require special accommodations for learning difficulties or physical disabilities, and you have official university acknowledgement of this condition, please see me as soon as possible to discuss appropriate arrangements. E-mailing/calling the day of an exam to notify me of your needs is NOT acceptable.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Class Meeting</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/27</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>An introduction to Archaeology</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>No Class; Dr. Braun at a conference.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Course Schedule and Topics*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>References</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/29</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>In Class Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>NO CLASS DR. BRAUN IN SOUTH AFRICA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>References</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/26</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Qualifying Exam Due by 1pm</td>
<td><em>While the topical portion of the schedule is subject to modification, the dates of exams will NOT change.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>