

ARCHAEOLOGY 3120
Plains Archaeology
Spring 2017

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Lecture: Mondays 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Room: C756

Course Description:

This course examines the archaeological record from the Great Plains region of North America. Students are introduced to the major sites and material remains found in this region, and will explore the cultures and lifeways that existed over the past 11,500 years. Course materials are organised chronologically and regionally, beginning with the Paleo-Indian Period and ending with the arrival of Europeans during the Historic Period. Through lectures, case studies, films, assignments, and class discussions we will cover the rich and diverse archaeological record of the Great Plains.

Textbook and Required Reading:

Archaeology on the Great Plains edited by W. Raymond Wood is the primary textbook for this course. *Record in Stone: Familiar Projectile Points from Alberta* by Bubel, McMurchy, & Lloyd is also required. Additional course readings will be made available through Moodle and the U of L library. Class attendance is strongly suggested as lectures will include additional information.

Course Requirements and Grading:

You will be evaluated on the basis of two assignments and two exams. No make up assignments or exams will be given except in the case of serious illness as verified by a doctor's note. Late submission of your assignments will be penalized 10% every day they are late.

Assignment 1, Part 1:	20%	February 6 – submitted at the beginning of class
Assignment 1, Part 2:	10%	February 6 – submitted at the beginning of class
Exam 1:	20%	February 13 – in class
Assignment 2, Part 1	20%	March 20 – submitted at the beginning of class
Assignment 2, Part 2	10%	March 27 – submitted at the beginning of class
Exam 2:	20%	April 3 – in class

Grading Scheme:

A+ 90-100	B+ 77-79	C+ 67-69	D+ 57-59
A 85-89	B 73-76	C 63-66	D 50-56
A- 80-84	B- 70-72	C- 60-62	F 0-49

Assignment 1: Archaeological Classification of Artifacts and Ecofacts

Assignment 1 focuses on the classification of artifacts and ecofacts from Prehistoric Period sites throughout the Great Plains region. Part 1 involves the classification of a number of artifacts and ecofacts from several different sites. This part of the assignment must be completed during the scheduled class times. Part 2 is an independent assessment of the archaeological remains recovered from Prehistoric Period Great Plains sites. You must let the instructor know which sites you will be examining beforehand to ensure they meet the requirements of the assignment. ***Both parts of Assignment 1 are due by 6 pm on February 6, 2017.***

Assignment 2: Archaeological Classification of Features and Structures

Assignment 2 focuses on the classification of features and structures from sites within the Great Plains region. Part 1 involves the analysis of a number of cultural features and structures from several different sites. This part of the assignment must be completed during the scheduled class times. Part 2 is an independent assessment of the similarities and differences between these types of cultural remains. Your analysis must include at least two different sites from two or more regions or time periods. You must let the instructor know which sites you will be examining beforehand to ensure they meet the requirements of the assignment. ***Assignment 2, Part 1 is due by 6 pm on March 20, 2017. Assignment 2, Part 2 is due by 6 pm on March 27, 2017.***

Assignment Formatting:

Part 1 of Assignments 1 and 2 are to be completed on the hand-outs provided. Final answers must be written in ink. Part 2 of Assignments 1 and 2 must be about 1500 words, written in essay format, double-spaced, and in Time New Roman 12-sized font. Standard margins must be used (i.e. 2.54 cm (1") top and bottom and left and right). You must use academic sources, none of which can come from the web unless it is from an online refereed journal.

Citing and References:

When using the work of another you must formally recognise the reference from which you obtained this information. Therefore, all thoughts and ideas not your own must be properly cited using the APA (American Psychological Association) style and included in a bibliography. Information on citing and referencing can be found in the library.

Examinations:

The two exams are each worth 20% of your course grade. A number of question types will be used on these exams, such as multiple-choice, matching, fill in the blank, short answer, and long answer, to assess your knowledge of the course material.

Course Outline (subject to change if necessary)

Chapter

- 1 & 2 Introduction and Great Plains Setting** **Jan. 9**
-Introduction
-The Physiographic Areas
-Climatic Phases
- 3. A History of Great Plains Prehistory** **Jan. 16**
-History of Archaeological Studies
-Theoretical Approaches
- Archaeological Classification (Bubel et al.)**
-Archaeological Semantics
-Typology
-Alberta's Cultural Sequence
- 4. The Paleo-Indian Cultures** **Jan. 23**
-Environment and Climate
-Pre-11,500 BP
-Early Prehistoric Period
-Paleo-Indian Lifeways
-*Assignment 1*
- 5. The Northwestern and Northern Plains Archaic** **Jan. 30 & Feb. 6**
-Environment and Climate
-Middle Prehistoric / Archaic Period
-Artifacts from the Region
-Subsistence Strategies
-*Assignment 1 cont.*

Assignment 1, Parts 1 & 2 *Due at the beginning of class on Feb. 6*

- 6. The Central and Southern Plains Archaic** **Feb. 6**
-Culture History
-Regional Diversity

Exam 1 *Feb. 13*

7. **The Plains Woodland** **Feb. 13 & Feb. 27**
 -Ceramics and Projectile Points
 -Burials
 -Sonota Complex
8. **The Central Plains Tradition** **Feb. 27**
 -Origins and Termination
 -Adoption of Horticulture
 -Cultural Phases
9. & 10. **The Middle Missouri and Coalescent Traditions** **Mar. 6**
 -Taxonomic Studies
 -Cultural Variants
 -Settlement Patterns
 -Cultural Relationships
 -*Assignment 2*
11. **The Oneota Tradition** **Mar. 13**
 -Archaeological Assemblage
 -Seasonal Round
 -Regional Examination
 -*Assignment 2 cont.*

Assignment 2, Part 1 ***Due at the beginning of class on Mar. 20***

12. **The Southern Plains Villagers** **Mar. 20**
 -Mississippian Interaction Sphere
 -Horticulture
 -Sedentary Villages

Assignment 2, Part 2 ***Due at the beginning of class on Mar. 27***

14. **Euro-American Archaeology** **Mar. 27**
 -European Contact
 -Historical Archaeology
 -Fur Trade Posts
 -Military and RCMP Posts
13. **The Late High Plains Hunters** **Mar. 27**
 -High Plains Groups

Exam 2 ***April 3***