# ARCHAEOLOGY 3610 Old World Prehistory Spring 2005

**Instructor:** Shawn Bubel **Lecture:** M W F 11:00 – 11:50 am

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Office Hours: M W 12:00 - 1:00 pm or by appointment

## **Course Description:**

This course will introduce students to the study of Old World Prehistory. We will begin with the earliest artefacts found, dating to c. 2.5 million years ago, and end with the transition to agriculture in the Neolithic Period, c. 10 000 years ago, thus focusing on the Palaeolithic periods and the artefacts associated with them. We will also investigate the biological evidence that scientists draw upon to interpret the various *Homo* species connected with the archaeological remains. Through lectures, films, assignments and class discussions we will cover the major sites, artefacts, periods and issues within Old World Prehistory. Students will have to opportunity to work with archaeological remains (biological and artefactual) from this period, and by the end of the course they will be able to correctly identify them.

# **Required Reading:**

The text *The Human Career* (Second Edition, 1999), by Richard Klein, plus additional reserve readings will be used for this class. Class attendance is strongly suggested, as many lectures will include additional information.

### **Course Requirements and Grading:**

You will be evaluated on a lab-based assignment and three exams. Late assignments will not be accepted. No make up exams will be given except in the case of serious illness as verified by a doctor's note.

### **Assignment:**

The lab-based assignment is worth 20% of your final grade. It will involve the hands-on analysis of artefacts, both real and casts. You will have class time to work on this assignment, however you must be well prepared in order to complete it in the allotted time. Thus it is imperative that you attend class and keep up with the readings. This assignment is due at the **beginning** of class on the date it is due. Late assignments will not be accepted. **You may work together on this assignment but everyone must hand in their own assignment, written in their own words**.

#### **Examinations:**

There are four exams worth 20% each. A number of question types are used, such as multiple-choice, matching, fill in the blank, and short and long answer, to assess your knowledge of the course material.

#### **Dates to Remember:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Exam:	20%	January 28 - in class
2 <sup>nd</sup> Exam:	20%	February 18 - in class
3 <sup>rd</sup> Exam:	20%	March 18 - in class
4 <sup>th</sup> Exam:	20%	April 18 - in class
Assignment:	20%	Due April 6 – at 11:00 am

# **Grading Scheme:**

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

#### **Course Outline**

# I. Setting the Stage: The Basic Framework of Human Evolution and Prehistory

The Hominids Phylogeny and Classification

Australopithecines Homo

Background reading Chapters 4 and 5

## **II.** The Geologic Time Frame

Stratigraphy Dating Methods

Geologic Time Scale Typology and Seriation

Background reading Chapter 2+ 1000 textbook on dating methods

#### III. The Lower Palaeolithic

Classification and Dates Geographical Range and Migration

Connected Hominids Artefact Classification

Main Sites Oldowan Tools
Site Modification and Fire Acheulean Tools

Subsistence Chopper/Chopping tool Industry

Behaviour Other Remains

Reading: Pg. 228-254 + Background reading Chapter 4
Reading: Pg. 327-366 + Background reading Chapter 5

# IV. The Middle Palaeolithic - The Neanderthals

History and Discovery Artefacts

Geological Antiquity Mousterian and Levallois Industries

Morphology of the Neanderthals

Main Sites

Other Artefacts

Settlement Systems

Subsistence and Behaviour Mortality

Reading: Chapter 6

# V. The Upper Palaeolithic - Homo sapiens

History and Discovery Artefacts

Morphology of *Homo sapiens* Upper / Late Palaeolithic Industries

Migration Mesolithic Industries

Main Sites Other Artefacts (Bone tools and Art)

Settlement Systems
Mortality
Subsistence and Behaviour
Population Expansion

Reading: Chapter 7

## VI. The Neolithic and Beyond

Development of Agriculture Artefacts (Lithics, Ceramics, +)

Main Sites Subsistence

Settlement Systems

Reading: On Reserve