ARCHAEOLOGY 4100 Archaeological Theory Spring 2010

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Lecture: W 3:15 – 6:00 pm Room: C720 Prerequisites: Two 3000-level courses in archaeology Course Designation: Social Science

Course Description:

This senior seminar course will explore how archaeological theory, its history, evolution and current state, reflects how we think about the past and present. It will focus on such things as

-the identity, purpose and philosophy of archaeology;

-the framework of archaeological reasoning;

-the utility of various theoretical techniques in archaeology;

-the relationship between theory and method in archaeology;

-the relationships between archaeology and society;

-topics such as historical, theoretical, social, economic, evolutionary, gender, cognitive, behavioural and scientific archaeology.

Required Reading:

Trigger, Bruce G. 1994. A History of Archaeological Thought. 2nd edn. New York, Cambridge University Press

Material on reserve in the library

Recommended Texts:

Fagan, B. M. 1996. ed. *The Oxford Companion to Archaeology*. New York, Oxford University Press. [in reference section of library: call number CC 70 096 1996]

Renfrew, A.C. and Bahn, P. 2008. *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice*. 5th edn, London, Thames and Hudson.

Course Requirements and Grading:

You will be evaluated on the basis of class participation and weekly paper assignments.

Senior seminar courses require you to be actively engaged in the course material and prepared to discuss it in class. Therefore, your participation mark will be based on how well you articulate your knowledge and justify your opinions.

The papers may vary in length, but will generally be between six and nine typewritten pages. They must written in Time New Roman 12-sized font and be double-spaced. Standard margins must be used, i.e. 2.54 cm (1") top and bottom and 3.17 cm (1.25") left and right, along with page numbers. Papers must be properly cited and referenced using the APA (American Psychological Association) format. Information on citing and referencing can be found in the library. The papers will be marked on the quality and originality of thought, research, and writing. Late papers or papers submitted by another person will not be accepted, except by prior arrangement.

Class participation:	40%	Evaluated throughout the semester
Written work:	60%	Based on the written assignments

Grading Scheme:

A+ 95-100	B+ 77-79	C+ 67-69	D+ 56-59
A 85-94	B 73-76	C 63-66	D 50-55
A- 80-84	B- 70-72	C- 60-62	F 0-49