Las Positas

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Course Outline for ANTR 2

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY

Effective: Fall 2013

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

ANTR 2 — INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY — 3.00 units

This course is an introduction to the study of concepts, theories, data and models of anthropological archaeology that contribute to our knowledge of the human past. The course includes a discussion of the nature of scientific inquiry; the history and interdisciplinary nature of archaeological research; dating techniques; methods of survey, excavation, analysis, and interpretation; cultural resource management; professional ethics; and selected cultural sequences.

3.00 Units Lecture

Strongly Recommended

- Eligibility for ENG 1A -

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

MIN **Lecture Hours:** 54.00 **Total Hours:** 54.00

- II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1
- III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:

A. -Eligibility for ENG 1A

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Identify the various archaeological theories, methods, and techniques used to investigate the human past.
 B. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of scientific inquiry and its application in archaeological research.
 C. Articulate the goals, and the legal, operational, and ethical framework of cultural resource management and heritage preservation.
 D. Illustrate the use of archaeological methods with reference to cultural sequences.
- E. Discuss the relationship between anthropology and archaeology.

- V. CONTENT:

 A. Types of archaeological data
 B. Archaeological theory and models and their relationship to data
 C. History and nature of archaeological research

 - C. History and matter D. Dating techniques
 E. Methods of survey
 - Excavation methods
 - G. Archaeological analysis and interpretation
 - H. Cultural resource/heritage management
 - Cultural sequences
 - J. Archaeological ethics and community relations

- VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:
 A. Field Trips Occasional visits to field sites.
 - B. Lecture Delivered via text or podcast online.

 - C. Projects Group and/or individual.

 D. Written exercises and case studies Case study and journal reviews.

 - E. Research Library, internet, and new research.

 F. Discussion Class and group discussions

 G. Audio-visual Activity Presentation of audio-visual materials

 When possible and appropriate.

 - Student Presentations Through the class discussion board.

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Lectures

- The ethical and academic responsibilities of archaeologists
 Flinders Petrie; using seriation to provide chronologies of archaeological sites
 The rise and fall of the Ancestral Pueblo culture
- B. Reading assignments

 - Read the textbook chapter on acquiring the archaeological record.
 Read an excerpt from the National Parks Service's dispositional report on Kennewick Man.
 Write a review of a journal article addressing a paleolithic site.
- C. Homework

 - 1. Read the textbook chapter on Mesoamerican civilizations and answer the following questions:
 a. When and where did Classic Maya civilization flourish? Describe the factors that led to its collapse.
 b. Describe the city of Teotihuacán. Where was it located? When did it flourish? When and why did it collapse?
 c. What circumstances led to the rise of the Aztec empire? How did they ensure their prominence in history? What happened to the Aztec empire?
- D. Class and group discussions
- Class discussion topic: A debate on the pros and cons of repatriation.
 Group discussion topic: Describe the differences between Oldowan, Acheulian and Aurignacian tool technologies.
- E. Audio-visual materials
 - 1. Danielle Peck's "Bones of Contention," for example. This is a Films for the Humanities videorecording which discusses the controversy over repatriating Native American remains.
- - 1. Choose any professionally excavated or resource-managed archaeological site and fully describe the archaeological process, from research plan to excavation and publishing.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. Methods

- Exams/Tests
 Quizzes
- 3. Papers
- Projects
- 5. Field Trips
- 6. Simulation
- 7. Group Projects
 8. Class Participation
- 9. Home Work

B. Frequency

- Midterm and Final Examinations
 Periodic quizzes
- 3. Homework evaluation
- 4. End-of-term evaluation of research project

- IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

 Price, T. Douglas and Feinman, G. Images of the Past. 6th ed., McGraw Hill, 2010.
 Fagan, Brian Ancient Lives: An Introduction to Archaeology and Prehistory. 4nd ed., Prentice Hall, 2010.
 Chazan, M. World Prehistory and Archaeology. 2nd ed., Prentice Hall, 2011.
 Pritchard Parker, Mari and Angeloni, Elvio Annual editions in Archaeology. 9th ed., McGraw Hill/Dushkin, 2010.
 Kelly, Robert and David Hurst Thomas Down to Earth. 5 ed., Wadsworth/Cengage, 2013.
 Renfrew, Colin and Paul Bahn Archaeology: Theories, Methods, and Practice. 6 ed., Thames and Hudson, 2012.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

A. None