

ANT 304T – Introduction to Texas Archaeology

Unique # 31600

Class meets MW 1:00-2:30 pm

The class meets online: live online streaming

Instructor:

Dr. Mariah Wade

Office: SAC. 4.146

Office hours: M 10:00 am -12:00 pm

Email: m.wade@austin.utexas.edu

Teaching Assistants:

Mr. Jordan Bowers

Office: SAC. 4.166

Office hours: MW 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Mr. Duncan Hurt

Office: SAC 4.166

Office hours: TTH 12:00-1:00 pm

TA Email: onlineant304tta@austin.utexas.edu

Course description: People have been in Texas since about 12,000 years ago and the evidence of their presence throughout time is fascinating. Ever wondered how we know and can prove that? This course introduces students to Texas archaeology through lectures and a variety of media resources. Texas geographic and environmental diversity provided prehistoric and historic peoples with unique resources and possibilities, and people used that diversity to make choices and develop specific cultural characteristics while interacting with other peoples from the surrounding regions.

Doing archaeology requires teamwork, critical thinking and multidisciplinary approaches. In archaeology, it is often more important to ask relevant questions than provide ready answers. The lectures, readings, videos and homework assignments in this course aim to emphasize these requirements as well as how archaeology relates to other sciences.

This course may be used to fulfill the natural science and technology (Part II) component of the common core curriculum and addresses the following four core objectives established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board: communication skills, critical thinking skills, teamwork, and empirical and quantitative skills.

Pre-requisites: none

Course readings: This course uses textual and media material from The Texas Beyond History website.

<http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/>

All required readings, whether they are from The Texas Beyond History or from other sources, are available through links provided in the modules or posted on Canvas. Although not required, it is highly

recommended that students purchase *Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians*, by Ellen Sue Turner and Thomas R. Hester.

Evaluation:

Participation and attendance: 10 points

Tests: 3 @ 25 points each = 75 points

Projects: 3 projects = 15 points

Grading policy:

A - 100-90

B - 89-80

C - 79-70

D - 69-60

F - less than 60 points.

Description of Online Course Format

This course is streamed live to your computer. Unlike the majority of courses offered at the University of Texas, you will be viewing this class online from any place you choose. Though delivered as a live stream through Canvas, this course takes place at the official times described in the course schedule: Monday and Wednesday 1:00 to 2:30 pm. You are required to attend class by logging into the course site before 1:00 pm on Monday and Wednesday to watch the live, real-time video stream of the lectures and participate in class activities when required.

It is very important that you treat logging into the course website the way you would treat attending a traditional course held in a classroom; attendance is required. You must also treat the class period as a normal class: you must not answer the phone, a knock on the door of your apartment, etc. Otherwise you may miss an instapoll and important lecture material. Students are expected to pose questions online in real-time just as if you were raising your hand in class.

Technical Requirements: All students are required to have access to an internet-enabled laptop or desktop computer. Tablets and smartphones are not supported. Your computer should have enough battery life to last an entire class period and meet the following requirements:

- a. 2 GB RAM/memory (most computers purchased in the last five years will have this)
- b. Modern and updated operating system (Windows or macOS)
- c. Updated web browser: Chrome (recommended), Safari, Firefox
- d. 5Mbps internet connection speed ([check your speed here](#))

Specific information about the online course format follows.

Canvas class website: To get to everything associated with the class, go to:

<https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1227089>

You can enter directly at this URL or through Canvas (<https://utexas.instructure.com/>). To log into Canvas and the class website, you will need your UTEID and password. Once you reach the class website, you can navigate your way to other areas.

Some of the most important features include:

Homepage – The homepage will have links to the Course Syllabus, the technical requirements and test stream webpage, information regarding technical questions and other important information. On the left-hand side of each page of the Canvas course site are navigation tabs to all parts of the website, including the Syllabus.

Video Stream - The Video Stream page is where you will find the video stream for the course. The Video Stream page will also display the outline for the current lecture, links, and other participation activities including instapolls.

Modules – The Modules page includes links to the Assignments, Readings, Lecture video archives and other course documents.

Pre-Class Activities – These activities are required before the first day of class to ensure that you are prepared to take the online course. Activities include making sure your computer is up-to-date, testing your network connection, and watching screencasts that help you understand how to navigate and communicate in the course (see Technical Requirements above).

Frequent Asked Questions (FAQ): Please refer to this feature because it is set to answer most of your questions. If you do not find the answer to your question in FAQ, then please contact your Teaching Assistants or Dr. Wade.

Most of your activity on Canvas will take place in the Live Video Stream and Modules tabs.

Tests: There are three tests that will be **taken in person** on the following dates, times and classroom:

Test One - October 8 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm - ECJ 1.214

Test Two – November 19 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm ECJ 1.214

Test 3 – December 10 – 1:00 – 2:30 pm ECJ 1.214

This is the link to the building and its location:

<https://maps.utexas.edu/buildings/UTM/ECJ/>

Out of the Classroom Projects:

a) *Material cultural workshop*. All students must attend to obtain a grade. Students will have to register online for the different workshop dates. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. The days, times and places are shown below:

Monday, September 17 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174

Tuesday, September 18 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174

Wednesday, September 19 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174

Thursday, September 20 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174

b) *Ethics in online classes and in archaeology workshop*

Monday, October 22 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174
Tuesday, October 23 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174
Wednesday, October 24 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174
Thursday, October 25 - @ 6:00-7:00 pm SAC 4.174

c) *Visit to the Bullock Museum.*

Friday, November 30 – time to be announced

Saturday, December 1 - time to be announced

ONLINE COURSE FORMAT

To prepare for these classes, we ask that you do two things before each class begins at 1:00 PM. First, you are required to view the pre-class modules assigned for that week. Each module emphasizes which videos or readings students will need for the following class, but you can do all weekly readings and view videos ahead. This allows students to better manage their own schedules and you can watch the videos at your own pace, rewinding when you feel it necessary. Second, students are expected to complete any readings associated with that day's class before the live class begins. The lecture videos will continue to be open for viewing throughout the semester but pre-class activities will no longer be accessible after the closing deadline.

Questions and participation DURING the live class—We have built in a way of interacting with students during the live course to ensure that material is clarified when necessary and your questions about the substance of the course are discussed. You will have the opportunity to pose questions online in real-time during lecture through the “**Ask the Profs**” button. We will incorporate some question- and answer- into the live classes. On the other hand, as anthropologists we wish to preserve personal contact with the students, so we encourage all students to visit Dr. Wade and the Teaching Assistants during their scheduled office hours. Attendance and participation will be assessed through Instapolls.

There are 28 classes but three of these classes are dedicated to the three tests. That means there are 25 lecture classes. Five randomized questions will be sent to you during each class. Your answers do not need to be correct; they need to show that you were attending class and participating. There will be NO Instapolls during the first four classes. Instapolls will begin on September 17. That means there will be a total of 105 instapoll questions. The Instapoll grading will be as follows:

90 or more - 10 pts.
80 or more - 9 pts.
70 or more - 8 pts.
60 or more - 7 pts.
50 or more - 6 pts.
40 or more - 5 pts
30 or more - 4 pts
29 or less - 0 pts.

The three tests that are part of the grading for this class will take place during the normal class period, as it would happen with a ‘normal’ class, and your answers will be submitted on Scantron. Tests will NOT

be comprehensive. Test One will cover the class material from the beginning of class, Test Two will cover the class material since Test One and Test Three will cover the material since Test Two. Please note that some of the material does overlap, but you will be given clues as to this material before the tests.

Questions and participation OUTSIDE of the live class – There are three approved avenues of communication outside of class. Note that the Canvas inbox is NOT a supported way to contact the teaching staff:

In-person office hours with Dr. Wade or the TA Team (see office hour times at the top of the syllabus)

Dr. Wade's email and the TA email – Please use these email addresses for private inquiries related to the course.

All technical support questions should be directed to gatewaytechsupport@austin.utexas.edu. Do Not email the teaching staff with technical issues. YOU MUST COMMUNICATE with the technical staff as soon as you experience a problem.

We expect that you will treat all discussions - online and in office visits - in a civil and respectful manner. Please refrain from using profanity or any euphemisms for profanity. Please do not use sarcasm in a way that can be misinterpreted negatively. Please just respect the right of your colleagues to ask questions and discuss their opinions about the subject matter of our course. Violators of these discussion rules will simply be shut out from all class communications—email, and office hours.

OFFICIAL RULES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Class instructions (please read carefully):

1. Class participation is required. All assigned readings are required.
Assignments will be due on the appointed dates. This is a fairness issue.

2. Scholastic dishonesty on any graded assignment will be dealt with according to University Rules.

Please see: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_whatish.php. This site also contains several useful links to students. On scholastic conduct see also:
<http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi05-06/app/appc11.html>

3. The University of Texas provides appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information please contact the Office of the Dean of Students at (512) 471-6259 or (512) 471-4641.

If you have a disability you must let me know no later than the second week of class. SSD accommodation letters must be delivered in person to Dr. Wade. Failure to do so will result in delaying appropriate provisions and will affect testing accommodations.

4. Please do not ask for grades or grade information by email. Information about grades will only be given in person, or through official means.

Weekly schedule

Class schedule and corresponding material are shown by themes and respective Power Points (PP). If we need to make any changes you will be informed in class or by email.

Week 1

Wednesday August 29

PP 1 - Introduction - Important issues about this class

What is archaeology and what archaeologists do.

Week 2

September 3 - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

September 5

PP 2 - Archaeological Methods and Techniques

Module 1 covers Weeks 1 and 2.

Week 3

September 10 -12

PP 3 - Texas Physiography, Archaeological Regions and Archaeologists

PP 4 - The First Americans - Routes, hypotheses, and evidence.

Week 4

September 17-19

PP 5 - The Antiquity of humans in America - Blackwater Draw.

PP 6 - Dating Methods and Paleoindian sites. Notes on Social Organization

Module 2 covers Weeks 3 and 4.

Material Culture Workshop (see schedule above).

Week 5

September 24-26

PP 7 - Ways of making a living. Video

PP 8 - Paleoindian Burial Behavior. The Late Paleoindian Period/Transitional Archaic.

Week 6

October 1 -3

PP 9 - Late Paleoindian Period/ Early Archaic. East and Central Texas.

PP 10 - The Late Paleoindian Period/ Transitional Archaic -Climate and life changes.

Module 3 covers Weeks 5 and 6.

Week 7

October 8 – TEST ONE

October 10

PP 11 - The Late Paleoindian Period/ Transitional Archaic. The Lower Pecos. Microbotanical evidence to reconstruct the environment.

Week 8

October 15 -17

PP 12 - The Middle and Late Archaic Periods. Landscape and Resources.

PP 13 - The Middle and Late Archaic Periods. Dwellings and structures.

Coastal, Trans-Pecos, Lower-Pecos.

Module 4 covers Weeks 7 and 8.

Week 9

October 22 -24

PP 14 - Late Archaic and Early Prehistoric, general characteristics: Central, South,

PP 15 - Woodlands - The Middle and Late Archaic Periods - Mound Building, Burial Customs.

Ethics Workshop (see schedule above)

Week 10

October 29-31

PP 16 - The Late Archaic and Prehistoric Periods: Texas Panhandle.

PP 17 - Material Culture and Rock Art. Preservation and Conservation.

Module 5 covers Weeks 9 and 10.

Week 11

November 5 - 7

PP 18 - Trade and material culture - The Lower Pecos and Trans-Pecos.

PP 19 - Late Prehistoric in Central Texas – Austin and Toyah Phases.

Week 12

November 12 -14

PP 20 - The Jornada Mogollon and Hueco Tanks

PP 21 - Hueco Tanks and La Junta de los Rios.

Module 6 covers Weeks 11 and 12.

Week 13

November 19

November 19 - TEST TWO

November 21 – 24 Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 14

November 26 -28

PP 22 - Historic Period: European Encounters.

PP 23 - The Spanish Colonial Mission Period.

Field Trip to The Bullock Museum

Week 15

December 3 -5

PP 24 - The Mission Period. Presidios and soldiers. The Red River Wars.

PP 25 - The 1800s in Texas

Module 7 covers Weeks 14 and 15.

Week 16

December 10

December 10 -TEST THREE

December 10: last day of class.

Course Expectations and Outcomes:

You will not become a Texas Archeologist, but we hope you become one in the future.

You will learn about Texas environmental and archaeological diversity and the ways native inhabitants made use of the state's natural resources;

You will learn about Texas connections to other archaeological areas and why present state boundaries are pointless in terms of archaeology;

You will handle and learn about how prehistoric and historic Texas Inhabitants made a living and the materials they used in their daily lives;

You will have a comprehensive understanding of the methodologies and techniques archaeologists use to date sites, discover clues about the ancient environment, classify and study lithic tools and ceramics and contribute to the preservation and conservation of archaeological artifacts;

By the end of this course, we hope you have develop admiration and respect for the past Texas inhabitants and are knowledgeable to contribute to the preservation of the archeological objects that are Texas legacy.

You will become aware of TARL as a curatorial facility and TARL's superb archaeological collections.