**Anthro 2: Intro to Archaeology**

# Week 0:

* Archaeology can be used as a weapon
* Focused on things
* Garbage tells us a lot about people
* You make decisions about what ends up in the bin
* What actually gets preserved in the garbage
* Modern archaeology is trying to explain why we differ why we have different things around the world
* We discover things other than things we make like pollen
* Agree on what the important topics are, limited data sets
* Long term explanations and views
* Methods are used from bio social physical sciences and mix them

# Week 1: Lec 1: 26/09/2022

## Threads of Antiquarianism in Europe:

* Interpretative framework was completely defined: bible
* People's lives that were described in the texts isn't all that different from actual lives 500 years ago (no industrial revolution)
* The ways that people were thinking was constraining what archeology could be as a study

## Antiquarians in Western Europe

* Starts questioning, ‘some parts of these worlds arent in the classical books’
* Still young earth

## Danish archeology

* Thomsen
  + came by with concepts like close
  + He started to think about there being a progression of time
  + Stone objects were hardly placed with iron, could see the change/progression in tech
  + Seriation is thinking about the change in human created objects over time
* Worsaae
  + He started to think about as you go down into the earth you go back in time

## Breakthroughs

* Sir Charles Lyell:
  + Founder of geology
  + The idea of uniformitarianism - if we’re going to explain the world than we can only explain it by things we see now
* Jacques Boucher de Perthes
  + Started recognising some of the physical evidence
  + Period of industrialization - start finding stone objects
* More unis, more academic turf, archaeology is developing

# Week 1: Lec 2: 28/09/2022

* What questions are of value? How? Why?
* You can't answer how and why without when and where
* Archeology is part of anthropology because it started with wanting to study indeginous people
* The early 1800s was the time in which a lot of the indeginous people were removed

## Direct historical approach

* Thomas tries to find out about the myth of the mound, the relation between the
* He found the direct historical approach
  + Start somewhere where you know the actual date and work backwards
  + Tries to use historical records as a crutch to place time in the archeological record

## Developing Chronology

* Early 1900s people graduating w anth degrees
* Find surface layer and then look at the change of artifacts over time
* Where did I find this object, excavating carefully: more refined archeology
* Anthropology created culture maps to see similarities and differences

## Cultural Evolution & Ecology

* People start to do cultural evolutionary modules
* Trying to answer questions about the culture and behavior

## Processual Critique

* Binsford made the argument that culture history isn't needed because it doesn't answer the big questions

## Criticism of Processualism

* They questioned the different aspects if archaeology
* Meg conkey critiqued why is the conversation always focused on hunters/males
* The main criticism was there were biases in the archaeological record
* The way people think starts to matter

## Processual Plus

* Take the best from both
* Field archeology was similar in both approaches
* Criticism was ‘anything goes’

# Week 1: Lec 3: 30/09/2022

# …

* Middle Range Theory: how do we figure out the connection between
* Ethnoarchaeology: look at people's relationship with trash and discard. There are patterns in there, but most people don't live in their trash.
* Disconnect between what we do and what's in the trash
* The way stone tools get made
* Systemic Context is just live people doing live things with stuff
  + How do u get from that stuff to archeological context
  + What was potentially exited the system in the process
  + Burials are important because that stuff is in the archeological record intentionally, we know that stuff goes together
  + After that cultural process of what do u want to do w your trash,
  + In secondary context stuff gets mixed together, conflating social groups and individuals, also conflates time as pits get used over and over. There is stratigraphy in there but its not a snapshot in time.
  + In the extreme, a set of artifacts may become sealed in a deposit which preserves the exact spatial relationships of the event of which they were a part. Deliberate burial creates such conditions, as when artifacts are cached and the dead entombed.
  + This evidence, consisting of isolated artifacts, artifact scatters, monuments, sites, and other vestiges of human behavior, is called the archaeological record, and the processes responsible for it are known as formation processes
  + (2) *Cultural deposition*, the transformation of cultural materials from a systemic (behavioral) context to an archaeological (environmental) context, includes discard of broken, worn-out, and obsolete items; accidental loss; ritual deposition, such as disposal of the dead and their accompaniments, caching of artifacts when a structure is dedicated,
  + The individual graves on the other hand we would consider to be primary context as the locations and associations of the artifacts found are close to the systematic context and haven’t been subsequently altered.

# Week 2: Lec 4: 03/10/2022

## Ancient DNA

* DNA molecules break down into tiny fragments, get contaminated by bacteria and modern DNA.

## Archeological Explanation

* Processual archeology wanted to turn this into a top down science
* Emphasize on deductive research

## Project Research Design

* Processual archeology made it more efficient now you ask questions on what do you wanna find and use the correct methods
* Excavation is destructive

Archaeological Survey

* You have to keep baseline level of information
* Recording other things apart from what he was looking for so that others don't have to come through here again
* Drawing maps, now everything done w gps
* Vertical units are thin and deep, horizontal units are broad wide and shallow.
* As we excavate we collect and bag the artifacts
* Excavate in levels
* Mapping as u go, bc destroying things as we go
* Screens

# Week 2: Lec 5: 05/10/2022

* A bunch of different field techniques, excavating, surveys
* Now we use screens so everything more than a quarter inch gets found. This is a way of standardizing the process.
* Recording forms
  + Systematic information that gives a lot of context
  + Usually asks about the type of excavation, a description, photos
  + Early they used to just keep notes, but notes can differ from person to person so this helps make uniform recordings
* Backfiling: you spend the last week filling back the holes
* Data
  + Some of the data he was looking for was chronological
  + Turing dates: tells you exactly when the tree dies

## Basic Dating Principles

* What are the challenges we have to overcome to
* 2 categories: Relative and Absolute techniques
* Relative is order: earlier and later, doesn't say anything about rate of change
  + This was all we had till radiocarbon dating
* Absolute gives us rate,
* Direct and indirect dating
  + Indirect is assigning dates to an object based on its association with another object
  + We always need multiple dates and we have to think about what would be best to associate
* Stratigraphy
  + Law of association: objects in the same layer are closer in time than those that are in different
  + Law of superposition: objects in deeper layers were deposited earlier than those in upper layers

# Week 2: Lec 6: 07/10/2022

## Stratigraphy

* Not always in distinct layers, need to account for holes and more

## Seriation

* Ordering artifacts in time based on their shape or size
* Radiometric Techniques

# Week 3: Lec 7: 10/10/2022

* Paleontologists study current biological processes also + dinosaurs
* Fossils are bones that are mineralised
* What we know changes a lot bc the record it relatively small

# Week 3: Lec 8: 12/10/2022

# Week 3: Lec 9: 14/10/2022

## Oldowan Sites

Homo erectus/ergaster

* Our genes were entirely in Africa until

Cooperative child bearing

More robust females

# Week 4: Lec 10: 17/10/2022

# Week 4: Lec 11: 19/10/2022

## Emergence of Modern Behavior

* Which biological populations were involved?
* How does this relate to genetic changes?
* Was the emergence of modern behavior gradual or rapid?
* Once we get to 100 000 years ago we can start seeing symbolic behavior
  + But have to keep in mind needle in haystack

## The Neanderthals

* Artistic depictions dating over 20000 years before appearance of H
* Leang Tedongnge, Indonesia
  + More secure dating 44000 years ago
  + Emergence of symbolic behavior is happening everywhere
* In the last 20 years people have started to look for symbolic behavior in Africa from modern humans.
* We've found ochre ‘crayons’ showing that people are making art but we just haven't been able to find it, this is unusual

## World Hunter-Gatherer Population