

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY AND PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

**Tues and Thurs 2:15-3:30
SCHW 414**

INSTRUCTOR

Aztec human-skull mask, Tenochtitlan, Mexico City

Dr. MIKAEL HALLER

mhaller@stfx.ca

Lab: 334A Bruce Brown
(902) 867-5107

Office Hours: Tues 5-7:00
Wed 12-5:00
Thurs 12-2:00
or by Appointment



Course Summary

Archaeology and Physical Anthropology, with their long temporal framework, provide a unique opportunity to examine the development of human society; including how humans, and their ancestors, evolved both culturally and biologically over the past five million years. This course examines the nature of modern archaeological and physical anthropological research including topics of hominid evolution, primatology, origins of agriculture and civilization and First Nations archaeology. We will examine how archaeologists and physical anthropologists work in the field, how they construct their interpretations and how analogical reasoning is crucial to this process. Through practical exercises, students will have an opportunity to apply this knowledge using real research data.

Course Text Olszewski, Deborah I.

2016 *Archaeology and Humanity's Story: A Brief Introduction to World Prehistory*.
Oxford University Press, New York.

Course Requirements

- | | | |
|----|---|------------|
| 1) | READING SUMMARIES (1% each; 15 in total)
These will be a summary of the main themes and arguments of the reading, due on the day assigned before class. Follow specific format. | 15% |
| 2) | Midterm Exam (Oct. 19)
This will be a multiple-choice, short answer, and essay exam based on the first part of the course (Chapters. 1-7). | 30% |
| 3) | Final Exam (Dec. 5-15)
This will be a multiple-choice, short answer, and essay exam primarily based on the second part of the course (Chapters. 8-15). | 30% |

Exams will be based on information from lectures, readings, discussions, and videos.

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------|
| 4) | Assignment Grade | 18 % |
| | The Assignment grade will consist of 2 assignments | |
| | 1) Otzi, the Ice Man (Oct. 10) | (9 %) |
| | 2) Animal Domestication and Social Complexity (Nov.30) | (9 %) |
| 5) | PARTICIPATION | 7 % |
| | Attendance will be taken and used in conjunction with your preparedness (did you read the text and articles) and your contributions to class discussions. Class disruptions (talking, tardiness, etc.) will be subtracted and can end up as a negatively score. | |

Summaries

2 typed pages double-spaced for the class's readings (1-inch margins, 11 font). These will be a summary of the main themes and arguments of the reading, due on the day assigned before class (no late submissions will be accepted). These are to be in your own words—do not plagiarize the in-text summaries.

Follow specific format. **Use headings.**

Title: (complete bibliographic information; single-spaced)

Summary: (include a detailed summary of the main themes and arguments of the reading; 2/3 text).

Relevance: (Describe how this reading relates to the course and our class discussions; 1/3 of text).

(Summaries are worth 1% each)

Grading Policy

If a student misses an exam it will be possible to write a make-up exam, but the make-up exam will be in essay format.

Handing in exercises late will result in losing 25% of the total for each day. Late Assignments should be handed in to the Anthropology Main Office (JBB 208) to be time stamped. Do not slide it under my door! If students miss class, they are responsible for obtaining their own notes. I do not give out my class notes.

Cheating and plagiarism will be dealt with in strict accordance to the StFX's Academic regulations (http://www.sites.stfx.ca/registrars_office/academic_integrity).

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

I encourage students that require special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications to contact Learning Services (http://sites.stfx.ca/accessible_learning/services). You must provide documentation of your disability within two weeks from the start of the course.

All StFX students have access to Microsoft Cloud services and should take advantage of this to ensure a backup of academic files. If you choose not to use this service, you are responsible for making your own backups to prevent losing data and not being able to submit required coursework

Communication

All students have a StFX e-mail account, which must be checked regularly as notices and information pertaining to the course will be sent electronically. You can send electronic correspondence to my university e-mail address (mhaller@stfx.ca).

WEBSITE: Handouts and syllabus are available on my website: <http://people.stfx.ca/mhaller/>

MONTH	DAY	TOPIC	TEXT	HAND OUT	DUE (summaries)	DUE (in class)	
SEPT	5	Introduction					
SEPT	7	Acquiring and Interpreting Data	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 1				
SEPT	12	Acquiring and Interpreting Data	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 1		Chapter #1		
SEPT	14	Humanity's Roots	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 2	Assignment #1	Chapter #2		
SEPT	19	Becoming Human	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 3		Chapter #3		
SEPT	21	Becoming Human	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 3				
SEPT	26	Otzi Assignment					
SEPT	28	Modern Humans	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 4		Chapter #4		
OCT	3	Modern Humans	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 4				
OCT	5	Hunting, Gathering, Foraging, Farming	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 5		Chapter #5		
OCT	10	North American Southwest	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 5/6			Assignment #1	
OCT	12	North American Southwest	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 6		Chapter #6		
OCT	17	Eastern North America	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 7		Chapter #7		
OCT	19	MID-TERM EXAM					
OCT	24	Early Dynastic Mesopotamia	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 8	Assignment #2	Chapter #8		
OCT	26	Early Dynastic Mesopotamia	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 8				
OCT	31	Pharaonic State and Old Kingdom Egypt	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 9		Chapter #9		
NOV	2	Pharaonic State and Old Kingdom Egypt	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 9				
NOV	7	Shang China	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 10		Chapter #10		
NOV	9	Indus Valley	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 11				
NOV	14	Mesoamerica and Classic Maya	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 12		Chapter #11, #12		
NOV	16	Mesoamerica and Classic Maya/A#2	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 12				
NOV	21	Andean South America and Inka Empire	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 13		Chapter #13		
NOV	23	Andean South America and Inka Empire	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 13				
NOV	28	Mapungubwe and Great Zimbabwe in Africa	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 14		Chapter #14		
NOV	30	Politically Complex Societies in Perspective	Olszewski 2014: Chapter 15		Chapter #15	Assignment #2	
DEC	5 to 15	FINAL EXAM					