

MERCED COLLEGE
 SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION
 ARCH-01 / INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY
 FALL 2009

http://www.mccd.edu/anthropology/

INSTRUCTOR: Marcus Arguelles
OFFICE LOCATION: IAC 264
OFFICE TELEPHONE NUMBER: (209) 384-6246
EMAIL: arguelles.marc@mccd.edu

LAB TECHNICIAN / ASSISTANT: Christine Grimaldi
OFFICE LOCATION: IAC 111
OFFICE TELEPHONE NUMBER: (209) 384-6019
EMAIL: grimaldi.c@mccd.edu

TEXT: Thomas and Kelly, Archaeology, Fifth Edition

<u>WEEK OF</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>ESO</u>	<u>REACTION PAPER DUE</u>	
Aug. 17	Chapter 14	A,B,C,D,E,F	Reaction Paper #1	Aug. 24
Aug. 24	Chapters 15 & 16	A,B,C,D,F,H		
Aug. 31	Chapter 1	A,B,D		
Sept. 7	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY		Reaction Paper #2	Sept. 14
Sept. 14	Chapter 2	A,B,C,D		
Sept. 21	Chapter 3	E		
Sept. 28	Chapter 4	E,F		
Oct. 5	Chapter 5	F	Reaction Paper #3	Oct. 5
Oct. 12	Chapter 6	F,G		
Oct. 19	Chapter 7	F,G	Reaction Paper #4	Oct. 26
Oct. 26	Chapter 8	B,C,D,F		
Nov. 2	Chapter 9	F	Reaction Paper #5	Nov. 16
Nov. 9	Chapter 10	F		
Nov. 16	Chapter 11	F		
Nov. 23	Chapter 12	F		
Nov. 30	Chapter 13	A,B,C,D,F		
Dec. 7	Chapter 13	A,B,C,D,F		
Dec. 11-17	FINALS			

FINAL EXAM: Monday, December 14, 7:00 – 8:50 pm

REACTION PAPERS: Reaction papers will be due on the dates indicated above. The papers should reflect your thoughts about statements in the text or your reaction to class discussions, lectures, and videos. You may also express your ideas on relevant archaeological articles or programs you see outside of class.

Reaction papers will be worth between 0 and 25 points each, although I may award higher scores for exceptionally good work. Late papers will receive a reduced grade. Papers are to be prepared in a 12 point font, double-spaced, and should average two pages in length. **PLEASE!!!** Be sure to include the following information in the upper right hand corner of the first page:

NAME

CLASS TIME

DATE

MUSEUM: During the month of August you should visit the Merced County Historical Society Museum or similar museum in your community (i.e. Atwater, Los Banos, Mariposa). Be prepared to write about your tour. The Merced County Courthouse Museum is located at M and W. 21st Streets in Merced, and is open Wednesday through Sunday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

EXAMINATIONS: From time to time you will be asked to demonstrate your knowledge of the text, videos and lectures through examinations. These will be announced a week in advance. Quizzes may also be given at various times throughout the semester. The final exam will consist of a take home assignment and a comprehensive exam.

MAKE-UPS: Make-ups for exams must be completed within one week of the missed class time, and may not be in the same format as the original exam. There are no make-ups for quizzes. On occasion, Mr. Arguelles may ask you to contact Christine Grimaldi to arrange a make-up. No make-ups will be given during finals week.

CLASS EXERCISES: Artifacts will be used in class for projects and illustration of archaeological concepts. These exercises cannot be made up unless you have a valid excuse for missing the class and the material is still available for use.

ATTENDANCE: It is your advantage to attend each class since the lectures contain material that is not in the text. If you are absent for a class exercise you may loose points; if you miss a quiz you will loose points.

CELL PHONES: Phone calls and text messaging are not permitted during class. Turn off and put away your cell phones before entering the classroom. The use of a cell phone during an exam will be viewed as academic dishonesty: see “Academic Honesty” on the next page.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to archaeological theory and method. The class examines the historical development of the discipline, various theoretical and methodological approaches, and technical aspects of archaeology such as stratigraphic analysis, relative and absolute dating, lithic analysis and seriation. Artifacts from around the world are used in class to illustrate various concepts of archaeology and prehistory.

EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course the student is expected to:

- A. Understand the development of archaeology through critical appraisal of the contributions of significant theorists.
- B. Compare and contrast various theoretical approaches to archaeology.
- C. Apply the scientific method to the analysis of archaeological evidence.
- D. Critically analyze existing archaeological research.
- E. Evaluate and apply appropriate archaeological survey strategies and excavation methods to hypothetical field conditions.
- F. Analyze stratigraphy, artifacts, and ecofacts and assess their cultural and historic significance.
- G. Construct artifact typologies and formulate cultural and historic interpretations.
- H. Demonstrate a knowledge and appreciation of the importance of cultural resources and cultural resource management.

The relationship between the weekly reading assignments and the expected student outcomes are indicated on the first page of the syllabus. All of the outcomes will be addressed at various times throughout the semester in the lectures, video presentations and class exercises.

GRADES: The scores on your reaction papers, class exercises, and final exam will be added together to determine your grade. The top total score will be used to set the grading scale. The following increments will be used to establish the grades:

A	=	90-100%
B	=	80-89%
C	=	70-79%
D	=	60-69%

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If you have a verified physical, medical, psychological, or learning disability or perhaps you feel you may have one of these disabilities which impacts your ability to carry out assigned course work, please contact the Disabled Student Services (DSS) office. DSS staff will review your needs and determine what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential. DSS is located in the Leshner Student Services Bldg. Room 234, phone 384-6155.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: “Academic dishonesty is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misuse of college computers and software. Disciplinary action may include oral reprimand; a failing grade on all or part of a particular paper, project, or examination; or the assignment of an “F” grade in cases where dishonesty is more serious, premeditated, or a repeat offense. Serious or repeated offenses may result in suspension from the college.” (Merced College Catalog)