How did humans and humanity evolve? What were the lifeways of peoples in the prehistoric past – 5000, 12,000, 100,000, several million years ago? In this course we explore these questions through an examination of the coevolution of humans and culture, as evidenced through the archaeological record.

In the first section (5 weeks) we will explore the theoretical and methodological approaches used in anthropological archaeology. In the second half of the course, we will study how these approaches have been applied to understanding the past, beginning with the first evidence of culture approximately five million years ago up to the beginnings of plant and animal domestication, sedentarization and the beginnings of complex society.

Archaeology is of great interest to the general public and recent discoveries and new interpretations (whether scientifically grounded or not) appear frequently in the news on TV, as well as in magazines, films, newspapers, tabloids, etc. We will begin class every Friday with a discussion of recent media coverage of archaeology, both what has been presented and whether or not it accords well with our scientific understandings of archaeology. Please bring materials with you and be prepared to present them!

Course Requirements
Class attendance is required. You are responsible for completing all assigned readings, several short exercises, and participating in class discussions. In addition, there are three exams throughout the semester, and a research paper.

Book Review/ Research Paper
You may pursue one of two options for your research paper this semester. Either you may write a formal book review or a research paper on a specific topic of interest to you that falls within the scope of this course. We will discuss both of these options in class, as well as potential ideas for papers. The final product should be between 12-20 pages long.

Grading:
Exercises 25%
Exam I 15%
Exam II 15%
Exam III 15%
Review/ Paper 20%
Class Participation 10%
Total 100%

You must complete all assignments to pass the course. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior permission. If you must reschedule exams, etc. for religious or personal reasons, you must make arrangements with me in advance. (Please Note that participation counts for 10% of your grade – you therefore cannot earn an ‘A’ in this course without regularly participating in discussion.)

Required Readings
All assigned readings are required and should be read by class time on the date listed on the class schedule below. These include two textbooks, one workbook and a collection of reserve articles.

Textbooks


Coursepack Readings

Bates, Marston
“On Being Human,” in Gluttons and Libertines, Chapter 1, pp. 3-17.

Binford, Sally R. & Lewis R. Binford

Glassie, Henry

Deetz, James F. & E.S. Dethlefsen
“Death’s Head, Cherub, Urn and Willow.”
Diamond, Jared

Early, Ann M.

Fowler, Melvin
“A Pre-Columbian Urban Center on the Mississippi.”

Gero, Joan
“Genderlithics: Women’s Roles in Stone Tool Production.”

Gladkih, M.I. & N.L. Kornietz & O. Soffer

Hill, James

Lancaster, J.B. & P. Whitten
“Sharing in Human Evolution ,” in Anthropology: Contemporary Perspectives, Chapter 8, pp. 51-55.

Lee, Richard B.
“What Hunters Do for a Living, or, How to Make Out on Scarce Resources,” pp. 30-47.

Nelson, Sarah M.

Sharp, Lauriston

Snyder, Gary
“Re-Inhabitation,” in The Old Ways by Gary Snyder, pp. 57-66.

Trinkaus, Erik & Pat Shipman

Watson, P.J. & M.C. Kennedy

Course Schedule

1. Theories and Methods in Anthropological Archaeology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 26</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 28</td>
<td>Historical background: the development of Archaeology in Archaeology and Anthropology: some basic concepts and goals</td>
<td>Read: Thomas, Prologue and Ch. 1, pp. 1-32 Adventures in Fugawiland, Introduction and Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>Archaeology and Anthropology: some basic concepts and goals</td>
<td>Read: *Hill, *Nelson Adventures in Fugawiland, Ch. 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 2</td>
<td>Archaeology and Anthropology: some basic concepts and goals, continued</td>
<td>Read: Thomas, Ch. 2, pp. 33-58, Adventures in Fugawiland, Ch. 5–8.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Meet in the Computer Center for class (212 Buckman Hall).</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Thomas Ch. 3, *Sharp Complete exercises on pp. 84-92 in Adventures in Fugawiland; work out research strategy with your research partner.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 7</td>
<td>No Class – Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 9</td>
<td>Space, time and form: discuss excavation in class</td>
<td>Read: Thomas Ch. 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 11</td>
<td>Archaeological Fieldwork</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 14</td>
<td>Archaeological Fieldwork, continued.</td>
<td>Film: “Other People’s Garbage” Read: *Deetz and Dethlefsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 16</td>
<td>How old is it?</td>
<td>Fugawiland Final report due today!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 18</td>
<td>Archaeological analysis</td>
<td>Read: Thomas Ch. 6, *Glassie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sept 21  **Film** “Iceman”  
*Seriation exercise due today!*
23 Archaeological analysis, cont.
25 Archaeological analysis, cont.  
*“Material Culture” exercise due today!*

Sept 28 **EXAM I**
29 Reconstructing past lifeways: diet and environment  
**Read:** Thomas, Ch. 7, *Bates*  
**FILM in Media Center – 6 – 7pm (Leakey #1)**

Oct 2 Reconstructing past lifeways: social organization  
**Read:** Thomas, Ch. 8  
**Research or Review Proposal due Today.**

II. The Human Past: Highlights in World History

Oct 5 The Pleistocene  
**FILM in Media Center – 6 – 8pm (Leakey #2-3)**  
7 Lower Pleistocene: Human origins  
**Read:** *Lancaster and Whitten*  
9 Lower Pleistocene: Human origins, cont.  
**Read:** Price and Feinman, Ch. 1

Oct 12 Lower Pleistocene: Human origins, cont.  
*Archaeology and the Web” exercise due Today!*  
**FILM in Media Center – 6 – 7pm (Leakey #4)**

14 Middle Pleistocene: Homo erectus expansion  
[Begin Armchair archaeology project with “Reindeer Moon”: Due Nov. 2]  
16 Middle Pleistocene, cont.  
**Read:** Price and Feinman, Ch. 2, *Binford and Binford*

Oct 19 No Class – Fall Recess
21 Upper Pleistocene: Neanderthals and the emergence of modern humans  
**Read:** Ch. 3, pp. 74-97, *Trinkaus and Shipman*  
23 Upper Pleistocene: Subsistence and Settlement  
**Read:** Price and Feinman, Ch.3, pp.98-105, 114-115, 122-134,

Oct 26 **Film in class: Leakey #5**  
**Read:** Price and Feinman, Ch. 3, pp. 106-113, 116-121.  
*Gladkih, et al.*

28 Upper Pleistocene: Symbolic behavior  
**Bibliography for Book Review/Term Paper due Today!**

30 Post-Pleistocene  
**Read:** Price and Feinman, Ch. 4
Nov 2  Modern Gatherers and Hunters Post-Pleistocene
   **Read:** *Lee, *Diamond
   **Armchair Archaeological analysis due Today!*

4  Occupation of the New World  **Read** Price and Feinman, pp. 248-253
   **Film:** “Seeking the First Americans”

6  **EXAM II**

**FIELD TRIP THIS WEEKEND**

Nov 9  Review of field trip, Archaic
11  Archaic, cont.
   **Read:** Price and Feinman, Ch. 5, *Gero

13  Archaic

Nov 16  Woodland and Hopewell
   **Read:** Thomas, Ch.9, Price and Feinman, Ch. 6, pp. 234-247
17  Woodland and Hopewell, cont.
   **Read:** *Snyder, *Watson and Kennedy

20  **Film:** “Myth of the Moundbuilders”

Nov 23  Beginning of the Mississippian
   **Read:** Thomas, Ch. 10

25 - 27  No Class - Thanks giving Recess

Nov 30  Mississippian
   **Read:** Price and Feinman, Ch. 6, pp. 248-279, *Fowler

**BOOK REVIEW/TERM PAPER DUE TODAY**

Dec 2  Decline of the Mississippian; old world states and empires
   **Read:** Feinman and Price, Ch. 9

4  **Film:** “Pyramid”
   **Read:** Thomas, Epilogue

Dec 7  Final remarks, review
   **Read:** *Early, *Kus

9  **EXAM III**