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CHEM 105-01, Chemistry, Archaeology and Art, Spring 2008

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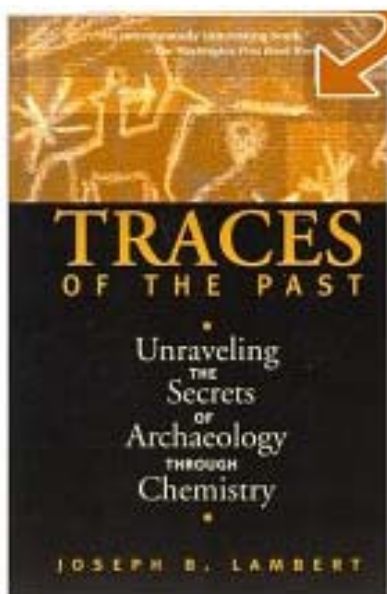
Chemistry 105
Chemistry, Archaeology & Art

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Chemistry, Archaeology & Art is an introduction to archaeometry, the interface between archaeology, art history, and the natural and physical sciences. This interdisciplinary field requires close collaboration between various specialists who mainly use modern instrumental methods to analyze and study ancient materials, that then provide answers to archaeological questions and problems. Studies that fall within this realm include ancient nutrition and diet, early tool use, provenancing ceramics and stoneworks, geoarchaeology, metallurgy, radiometric dating, and art forgery. We intend to offer a broad survey of the scientific methods used in the analysis of archaeological materials, as well as provide a foundation for the chemistry concepts most pertinent for studying ancient materials.

Goals: Our goals are not to train you to be archaeometrist, but to provide you a foundational knowledge of chemistry and the tools we use to solve problems posed by archaeologist. We will also strive to help you become better problem solvers by having you solve problems in the lecture and laboratory using the background information we provide.

Required Text: *Traces of the Past* by Joseph B. Lambert



Evaluation: During the semester, there will be four lecture exams worth 100 points each for a total of 400 points. *There will not be a comprehensive final.* The lecture exams constitute 80% of your final grade, the remaining 20% will be based on the laboratory assignments.

The course grade will be arrived at according to the following scale:

- A --- 450 - 500 points
- B --- 400 - 449 points
- C --- 350 - 399 points
- D --- 300 - 349 points
- F --- < 349

Plus and minus assignments will be made within these ranges.

Policies: Your attendance at every class meeting is expected and is important to your ultimate success in the class. In instances in which an absence is unavoidable, you should contact the professor as promptly as possible.

You will be allowed to make up a missed exam only with an excused absence. If possible, you should let the professor know ahead of time if you are not able to take an exam at its scheduled time so that we can make plans to prevent you from falling behind. If the absence is not excused, you will receive no points for the exam.

The Honor Code, of course, governs your activities in this class, and all work turned in for grading must be pledged to be your own.

Our doors are always open to you for questions arising out of your work in this class, and I am very interested in helping you understand the material and concepts. Please feel free to come see us.

Schedule

Chapter	Professor
1	Russ
2	Russ
Exam 1: September 18	
3	Jeter
4	Jeter
Exam 2: October 13	
5	Jeter
7	Jeter
Exam 3: November 8	
6	Russ
8	Russ
Exam 4: December 12 (1:00 pm)	

Laboratories: The laboratories will start September 1st.