ANTHROPOLOGY 112, UCL, SPRING QUARTER 2004

PALEOLITHIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Instructor: Dr. P. Jeffrey Brantingham
Department of Anthropology

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM or by appointment (branting@ucla.edu), Haines Hall Room 311.

Class Venue & Time: MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM; ROLFE 2135

Course web page URL: http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/04S/anthro112-1/

Course Description: This course examines in depth the geological, fossil and archaeological evidence for human behavioral origins beginning with the earliest known archaeological sites, dated to around 2.6 million years ago, and ending with the intensification of hunter-gatherer adaptations that preceded the origins of agriculture approximately 12,000 years ago. We will explore in detail the theories that inform our understanding of human biological, cultural and behavioral evolution as well as the principal methodological tools employed in Paleolithic archaeology.

Prerequisites: Anthropology 8, or equivalent.

Required Textbooks:


2. Readings posted on course website.

Readings: THIS IS A READING INTENSIVE COURSE! You will be asked to read approximately 100 pages per week as part of the regular requirements for this class. Readings are to be completed by the date indicated. NOTE: We will have lecture on the first day of class and therefore you have readings to complete for the first day!

Additional readings not listed in this syllabus may be assigned throughout the semester.

Papers, Examinations, and Grading Policy: Your grade will be based on one midterm exam (Wednesday, May 12, 2004) and one 12-15 page research paper (due Friday, June 4, 2004). The final exam (Tuesday, June 15, 2004) is OPTIONAL. It is a comprehensive exam covering all of the course material. The optional final may be used to improve your grade by ONE FULL LETTER GRADE ONLY and cannot be used as a replacement for the midterm or paper. However, taking the final exam also will not hurt your grade.
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF STUDENTS WITH DOCUMENTED LEARNING DISABILITIES, SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TIMING OF EXAMS CANNOT BE MADE! IF YOU CANNOT BE PRESENT TO TAKE THE MIDTERM AND FINAL DROP THE COURSE NOW!

GRADING BREAKDOWN

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<tr>
<th>Percent of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>Paper</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Optional Final -

Note: Grades will be assigned based on the standard UCLA cutoffs (i.e., A’s > 90%, B’s = 80-90%, C’s = 70-80%, etc.) unless otherwise indicated. No grading curve will be used.

Papers: You will be required to complete a 12-15 page research paper on one of several possible topics (assigned in Week 2). The paper is due on or before 4 PM on Friday, June 4, 2004. Papers are to be handed in to the Anthropology Main Office (Haines Hall Rm. 341). NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

Incomplete grades: Incompletes will be granted only under exceptional circumstances.

Statement on Cheating & Plagiarism: Cheating and plagiarism are violations of the UCLA Code of Conduct, and carry penalties as severe as dismissal from the University. While most students are aware of what constitutes cheating in the case of examinations, many are genuinely confused about what it means to “plagiarize” in writing a paper. Plagiarism is the use of the work of another author without giving appropriate credit. Practically, what it means is that when you take a fact, an idea, or a passage of writing (a “quotation”) from the work of another author, you must provide an appropriate citation. Sometimes the meaning of “take an idea” can be unclear. Some ideas need not be cited: ideas that are in the public domain (that Los Angeles is hot in summer, for instance), well-established and generic ideas, like asserting that “Language is the fundamental behavior that differentiates human beings from their nearest primate relatives,” and folkloric or vernacular ideas: “It has been said that in the American West, water flows uphill to money”. If you use a fact, idea, or quotation from your reading, you must attribute it! If you have any doubt about the meaning of plagiarism, or how to define the boundary between legitimate information-sharing and outright cheating, you should consult with Dr. Brantingham or your Teaching Assistants at your earliest convenience. More information may be found on the UCLA Dean of Students web page, http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/.

Citation and Referencing Style: There are standard formats for attribution, including lists of “References Cited”, which differ slightly from field to field. American archaeology uses a citation format established by the journal American Antiquity and described in detail in the October 1992 issue (Volume 57, Number 4, pages 749-770), http://www.saa.org/Publications/StyleGuide/saaguide.pdf. You must follow American Antiquity style guidelines for all written exercises in this course.

General Problems: If you wish to discuss matters related to the lectures and reading, or in the event of any difficulties, you should not hesitate to contact Dr. Brantingham directly during walk-in office hours on Tuesdays (Haines Hall 311) or by appointment (310-267-4251; branting@ucla.edu).

Schedule of Classes and Readings: SEE ASSOCIATED DOCUMENT ON CLASS WEBSITE.