ANTH 3702 - Archaeology

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 40131,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Matt O'Mansky

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Matt O'Mansky
Instructor Professional Qualifications: Ph.D., Anthropology, Vanderbilt University, 2007
Bachelor's, Anthropology, Indiana University, 1991
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Course Description

3702. Archaeology. An introduction to the methods and subject matter of archaeology in its reconstruction of Paleolithic and prehistoric cultures as inferred from artifacts. Prereq.: ANTH 1500 or ANTH 1503. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Archaeology Essentials: Theories, Methods, and Practice, 5th edition	Renfrew, Colin, Paul Bahn, and Elizabeth DeMarrais	978-0500845295

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Textbook ch. 1 pp. 12-25 (top)	Introduction to the course Archaeology Field Schools What is Archaeology? A Brief History of Archaeology	None
8/31	Textbook ch. 1, pp. 25-37, ch. 10 pp. 273-295 Binford, Lewis R. (1962) Archaeology as Anthropology	Frameworks for Interpreting the Archaeological Record: An Introduction to Archaeological Theory	None
9/7	Textbook ch. 3, pp. 62-88	Finding Sites: Surveying, Map Making, and Remote Sensing Hands on: Ground Penetrating Radar, Total Station, Pacing, Drones	None
9/14	Textbook ch. 2, pp. 38-61, ch. 3 pp. 88 (bottom)-104	Finding Sites, continued Site Formation Processes and Excavation	None
9/21	Textbook ch. 4, pp. 105-139	Site Formation Processes and Excavation, continued Archaeological Dating Techniques	Project 1, Mapping and Interpretations, Due Tuesday, 9/22 Hands on: Laying Out Excavation Units
9/28	None	Archaeological Dating techniques, continued	Exam 1 Thursday 10/1 (in class)

10/5	Textbook ch.3, pp. 100 (bottom) – 104 and ch. 4, pp. 110-112 (review)	Interpreting the Archaeological Record: Middle Range Theory Environmental Archaeology	None
10/12	Textbook ch. 6, pp. 174-189	Plant Remains, Animal Remains, and Diet	None
10/19	Textbook ch. 6, pp. 189-207	Bioarchaeology and NAGPRA	NOTE: Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W" – Sunday, 10/25
10/26	Textbook ch. 8, pp. 232-250	Bioarchaeology and NAGPRA	Project 2, Garbology Typology, Due Tuesday, 10/27 NAGPRA discussion/debate
11/2	Textbook ch. 5, pp. 140-173	Reconstructing Social and Political Systems Sex and Gender in the Archaeological Record	None
11/9	Textbook ch. 7, pp. 208-231	Reconstructing Economic Systems – Markets, Trade, and Exchange	None
11/16	Textbook ch. 9, pp. 251-272	Cognitive Archaeology and Interpreting Ancient Religion and Ritual	None
11/23	Textbook ch. 12, pp. 323-325	Cultural Resource Management, and the Future of Archaeology	None
11/30	Textbook ch. 12, pp. 316-333	Cultural Resource Management, and the Future of Archaeology, continued A Consideration of Ethical Issues in Archaeology	Exam 2 Thursday 12/3 [in class] Final Project Due Friday, 12/4

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.