Fundamentals of Archaeology
Anthropology 340

Instructor: Dr. Guy L. Tasa

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Office Hours: Thursday 2:00-3:00 PM; Friday 9:00-10:00 AM

Website: http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~tasa/anth340.htm

Meetings: Thursday and Friday 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM; Cascades Hall 118

Course Description and Objectives: This course will cover the basic methods and techniques used to locate, recover, record, analyze, and interpret the materials left behind by past cultures. Among the topics to be addressed include survey and remote sensing techniques; stratigraphy; excavation techniques and mapping; recovery strategies and sampling; classification and typology; chronologic techniques; faunal analysis; trace element studies; macrobotanical analysis; and debitage analysis.

Course Organization and Format: Classes incorporate both lecture and discussion formats. Thursday and Friday lectures will consist primarily of lectures focusing on field and laboratory methods in archaeology. Lectures will rely on readings from Hester et al. 1997 and Sutton and Arkush 2002. Exercises will be undertaken during the Friday class and will offer students analytical and practical experience with field and laboratory methods.

Grading and Exams: Grades will be based on eight in-class and take-home assignments (15 points each), two unannounced quizzes (15 points each) and two examinations –a midterm and final (each worth 75 points) for a total of 300 points.

Required Texts:

Hester, Thomas R., Harry J. Shafer, and Kenneth L. Feder
1997 *Field Methods in Archaeology*, 7th Edition. Mayfield Publishing Company, Mountain View, California.

Sutton, Mark Q., and Brooke S. Arkush
2002 *Archaeological Laboratory Methods: An Introduction*, 3rd Edition. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, Dubuque, Iowa.

Anthropology 340 Fundamentals of Archaeology
Spring Term 2006
Reading and Assignment Schedule

Date	Topic/Assignment	Assigned Readings
	Introduction	
April 6, 7	Introduction: what is anthropology/archaeology?, the archaeological record, archaeological approaches, scientific method, phased approach, legal/ethical considerations	Hester et al.: Chp. 1, 2; S&A: Chp. 1
13, 14	Research design, sampling techniques; **EXERCISE 1: Sampling Strategies**	Hester et al.: 3; S&A: 2
	Field Work	
20, 21	Site survey; remote sensing techniques, site forms, isolate forms; maps, GPS **EXERCISE 2: Map Reading and Survey Planning - Pilot Butte State Park**	Hester et al.: 4, 9: 177-215
27, 28	Site mapping; excavation; stratigraphy **EXERCISE 3: Field Survey - Pilot Butte State Park**	Hester et al.: 9: 215-234; 5, 10
May 4, 5	Provenience systems: recording and collecting, artifact handling considerations, photography **EXERCISE 4: Total Station and Mapping**	Hester et al.: 6, 7, 8
	Laboratory Techniques/Analysis	
11, 12	Artifact catalogs, classification; **MIDTERM EXAM (May 12)**	S&A: 3
18, 19	Lithic analysis: flaked stone and ground stone: shell and bone tools **EXERCISE 5: Projectile Point Typology**	S&A: 4, 5 ,7
25, 26	Faunal analysis/midden analysis; Human remains **EXERCISE 6: Bone Identification**	Hester et al.: 11, 13: S&A: 10, 12
June 1, 2	Specialized studies: obsidian hydration/sourcing; macrobotanical and pollen analysis; historic artifacts **EXERCISE 7: Historic Artifacts**	Hester et al.: 12; S&A: 11, 13
8, 9	Chronological methods **EXERCISE 8: Radiocarbon Dating and Seriation**	Hester et al.: 14; S&A: 13
12-16	**FINAL EXAM - WEDNESDAY JUNE 14, 10:15 AM-12:15 PM**	