



ANTH 440: SOUTHEAST ASIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Winter 2009	University of Oregon
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Email: wsayres@uoregon.edu	Prerequisite: ANTH 150 (or consent of instructor)
Office Hours: MW 14:00-15:00 and by appointment	Class Meetings: MW 16:00-17:50 203 CON

Texts/Readings:

Ayres, William S. 2009 *Southeast Asian Archaeology*. Packet 1

Bellwood, P. 1997 *Prehistory of the Indo-Malaysian Archipelago*. 2nd ed.

Higham, Charles. 2003 *Early Cultures of Mainland Southeast Asia*. Chicago

Content: The early archaeology of the Southeast Asian region is reviewed by examining prehistoric and early historic cultural sequences for the region extending from South China to Indonesia and from Burma to the Philippines and Irian Jaya. Reviewing basic archaeological method and theory provides a background for discussing hunter-gatherers to early civilization in the region. The relationship of contemporary and historically-known peoples to the archaeological record and documenting this through material culture represent a starting point for the class. As well, the question of how Southeast Asian peoples view their past is of interest. The oldest materials, of Stone Age hunters and gatherers, are examined first and then a regional framework for studying the foundations of early civilization is formulated. Critical to the latter is an assessment of early evidence for agricultural production in the region. Final topics center on the development of urbanism, public architecture, trade networks, and early states.