

Ancient Peoples and Places

Archaeology 100

Section: C100

Term: 2009 Summer

Instructor: Dr. Brian Hayden

Discussion Topics: Archaeology is the study of past cultures using remains found in the ground. For many people these remains are mysterious and intriguing. Remains of past cultures lure some of these people to dig in the ground and wonder what the distant unrecorded past was like. Yet without special tools (both conceptual and physical), this past must remain mysterious and unknown. What are the tools needed to decipher our unrecorded past? This course begins with this topic, and explains the principles archaeologists use to reach their conclusions. Students will learn some of the more basic approaches to interpreting artifacts of bone, stone and ceramics, and to synthesizing archaeological facts in order to form a coherent picture of the human past.

The second part of the courses uses some of the most significant events and developments of the past two million years of human development in order to illustrate basic concepts of social and economic organization of domestication of plants and animals, and the rise of megalithic chiefdoms such as those centered on Stonehenge. The final units show how an understanding of the past can illuminate our view of the present human condition and even provide some insight into our probable future.

Grading: 6 exercises in 4 submissions 20%

Term paper 40%

Final exam 40%

Required Texts: Hayden, B. (1993). *Archaeology: The Science of Once and Future Things*. W.H. Freeman.

Hedges, J. (1987). *Tomb of the Eagles*. New Amsterdam Books.

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies: Course materials and service fee \$40.00

Deposit for additional materials \$35.00

Prerequisite/Corequisite:

Notes: To review the exam schedule go to: www.sfu.ca/code

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