

Archaeology of the New World

Archaeology 273

Section: D100

Term: 2009 Spring

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Discussion Topics: This course surveys the archaeological record for details about the ancient history of contemporary First Nations. Students will become familiar with the theories that seek to explain the origins of American Indians and their relationship to other people of the ancient world. It examines the evidence for their lifeways, material culture and the diverse environments they occupied. Students will learn about the cultural adaptations that emerged in response to environmental changes.

The course surveys the historical development of New World archaeology and its attempt to determine the antiquity of First Nations history.

Some topics to be considered include:

- 1) Origin and antiquity of First Nations history
- 2) Palaeolithic lifeways in Ice Age America
- 3) Epipalaeolithic and Mesolithic lifeways
- 4) Neolithic foundations for American civilization
- 5) Human expansion into arctic regions
- 6) Historical archaeology in British Columbia

Grading: Midterm #1: 20%

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Midterm #2: 20%

Final Exam: 30%

Book Review: 30%

Total: 100%

Required Texts: Dixon, E.J. 2000. *Bones, Boats, and Bison: Archaeology and the First Colonization of Western North America*, University of New Mexico Press.

Recommended Texts: None

Materials/Supplies: None

Prerequisite/Corequisite: ARCH 100 or 201

Notes:

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