

## **The Evolution of Technology**

Archaeology 105

Section: D100

Term: 2000 Summer

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Day course, Burnaby campus

Class day and time: Monday 10:30 - 11:20 and Wednesday 10:30 - 12:20

Discussion Topics: Course description:

With more than two million years of technological and cultural change to study, archaeology is in a unique position to examine the role of technology in our lives. In fact, archaeology has been called "the Science of Technology" by some. In this course we will learn what perspectives archaeologists have found most useful for explaining technological changes and how technological changes have created other changes in cultures. Examples will be drawn from the full span of human existence, including the first appearance of tools to contemporary industrial societies.

The Evolution of Technology, although it can be of interest to all students, is a course specially designed for majors in engineering, chemistry, physics and other hard sciences. It focuses on the role of technology in culture, the reasons why technology changes and the effects that technological change has on culture. There are some "hands-on" components in this course in terms of designing technological solutions.

Grading: Grade distribution:

Midterm, project and exercises account for 33 1/3% of the final grade. The project will consist of choosing a prehistoric practical problem and designing a technological solution for it given prehistoric constraints. NO FINAL EXAM.

Required Texts: No text required.

Recommended Texts: none

Materials/Supplies: none

Prerequisite/Corequisite: none

Notes: Deferred grades will be given ONLY on the basis of authenticated medical disability.

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