ANTH 217: OLD WORLD PREHISTORY
FALL 2003

INSTRUCTOR: Natalie Munro
OFFICE: Room 434 Beach Hall
TELEPHONE: (860) 486-0900
E-MAIL: Natalie.Munro@uconn.edu
OFFICE HOURS: Tues 1.30-2.00 PM
Wed 11.00 AM-12.00 PM
MEETS: Tuesday and Thursday 11.00-12.15 PM
WHERE: Wilfred B. Young, Agriculture, Room 332

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Old World archaeology is the study of the archaeological record of past humans and our hominid ancestors in Europe, Asia, Africa and the South Pacific. This course covers a vast temporal and spatial range, thus it is impossible to cover developments in all areas and time periods. Instead we will focus on landmark topics and events including the evolution of modern Homo sapiens, early hunting-gathering societies, the rise of the first permanent communities, the origins of agriculture, and the emergence of early civilizations. The course begins more than 2 million years ago with the first archaeological evidence for early hominids and terminates about three thousand years ago with the rise of the worlds first civilizations. Geographically we step beyond those regions that have received the most archaeological attention (i.e., Europe and Southwest Asia), and also examine key developments in human prehistory in Africa, the Far East and the South Pacific.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the semester I want you to:
1. be familiar with the major issues and events of Old World prehistory
2. be familiar with the basic principles of archaeological investigation
3. feel comfortable critically reading academic papers and journals
4. be able to critically evaluate archaeological data and the interpretations of various scholars

You will demonstrate that you have achieved these objectives through course examinations, short essays, and class discussions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: The bulk of your grade (60%) will be determined by two examinations—a midterm (25%) and a final exam (35%). The final exam will be cumulative, but will emphasize material covered in the second half of the semester. We will use a text and a course packet, but lectures may also cover additional material for which you are also responsible. The CD ROM at the back of your textbook provides a useful but optional study guide for the exams. You are also responsible for two short 5-page papers (15% each) on controversial topics in Old World prehistory. The paper topics will be assigned later in the semester. Five percent of your grade will be based on two map quizzes (2.5% each) that will help orient you in the Old World. The final 5% of the grade is based on class participation and may include participating in class discussions, asking questions in class, and demonstrating your knowledge of course
readings in class. This 5% can make or break your grade. Overall, to do well in this course it is imperative that you read the assigned papers prior to each class, hone your writing skills, contribute to class discussion, attend class regularly, and take good notes.

REQUIRED WEEKLY READING: The reading for this course comes from a required text and a course packet. The readings in the course packet are scholarly articles but were selected for their simplicity and straightforward presentation. The readings will be discussed in class and you will be examined on them in the midterm and final exams.


The text contains chapters on both Old World and New World prehistory. You are responsible only for assigned chapters on Old World Prehistory.

REQUIRED COURSE PACKET: The course packet is available for sale at Copy Run: 1244 Storrs Road. The packet contains scholarly papers on topics covered in class. All readings from the course packet and the text are required. I have an additional copy of the course readings in my office.

GRADE BREAKDOWN:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 1 (Due Tues Sept 30)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Paper 2 (Due Tues Nov 18)</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam (Thurs 16 Oct)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Final Exam (Sat 13 Dec)</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map Quizzes (2@ 2.5% each Date TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion and Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:
Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will not be tolerated in this class. Please read Part VI from Uconn’s student code below. [http://www.dosa.uconn.edu/Code2.html#top](http://www.dosa.uconn.edu/Code2.html#top)

Part VI from UCONN’s Student Code: Academic Integrity in Undergraduate Education and Research

The following policy on undergraduate academic integrity was originally formulated by the Scholastic Standards Committee. It was revised and adopted at the (April 10, 2000) meeting of the University Senate. This part of The Student Code describes the types of acts that shall be considered academic misconduct by undergraduates, and it presents the process for imposing sanctions for such acts.

A. Academic Integrity

A fundamental tenet of all educational institutions is academic honesty; academic work depends upon respect for and acknowledgement of the research and ideas of others.
Misrepresenting someone else’s work as one’s own is a serious offense in any academic setting and it will not be condoned.

Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, providing or receiving assistance in a manner not authorized by the instructor in the creation of work to be submitted for academic evaluation (e.g. papers, projects, and examinations); any attempt to influence improperly (e.g. bribery, threats) any member of the faculty, staff, or administration of the University in any matter pertaining to academics or research; presenting, as one's own, the ideas or words of another for academic evaluation; doing unauthorized academic work for which another person will receive credit or be evaluated; and presenting the same or substantially the same papers or projects in two or more courses without the explicit permission of the instructors involved.

A student who knowingly assists another student in committing an act of academic misconduct shall be equally accountable for the violation, and shall be subject to the sanctions and other remedies described in The Student Code.

**STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** Students who require academic adjustments due to a special need should notify the appropriate university authorities and me. I will then be able to implement any necessary arrangements.

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION
- TU 26 Aug: Introduction to the course
- TH 28 Aug: Introduction to the study of prehistoric archaeology: Method and theory

WEEK 2: HUMAN ORIGINS
- TU 2 Sept: The first hominids: the fossil record
- TH 4 Sept: Human cognition and the early hominid archaeological record

WEEK 3: EARLY HOMINIDS
- TU 9 Sept: *Homo erectus* and the colonization of Eurasia
- TH 11 Sept: The Neandertals

WEEK 4: THE UPPER PALEOLITHIC
- TU 16 Sept: The origin of modern humans
- TH 19 Sept: The Upper Paleolithic revolution: Ice age art and human cognition

WEEK 5: PALEOLITHIC HUNTER-GATHERERS IN AFRICA AND AUSTRALIA
- TU 23 Sept: African hunter-gatherers
- TH 25 Sept: The colonization of Australia

WEEK 6: THE PRELUDE TO AGRICULTURE
- TU 30 Sept: The Epipaleolithic Period of Southwest Asia **PAPER 1 DUE**
- TH 2 Oct: The Mesolithic Period of Europe
WEEK 7: THE ORIGINS OF AGRICULTURE
   TU 7 Oct: Models for the origins of agriculture and domestication
   TH 9 Oct: The first transition to agriculture: Southwest Asia

WEEK 8: THE ORIGINS OF AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA: EGYPT
   TU 14 Oct: The origins of agriculture on the Nile River
   TH 16 Oct: MIDTERM EXAM

WEEK 9: THE SPREAD OF AGRICULTURE INTO EUROPE
   TU 21 Oct: The spread of agriculture into the northern Mediterranean
   TH 23 Oct: The spread of agriculture into temperate Europe

WEEK 10: PASTORALISM IN NORTHERN AFRICA
   TU 28 Oct: NO CLASS Instructor Away
   TH 30 Oct: Pastoralism in northern Africa

WEEK 11: THE ORIGINS OF AGRICULTURE IN SE ASIA
   TU 4 Nov: The origin of agriculture in Japan: The Jomon Period
   TH 6 Nov: The colonization and spread of agriculture in Melanesia

WEEK 12: THE BRONZE AGE AND THE ORIGINS OF CIVILIZATION
   TU 11 Nov: The Metal Age: Europe before the Romans
   TH 13 Nov: Models for the origins of civilization

WEEK 13: EARLY STATES
   TU 18 Nov: The first civilization: Mesopotamia
   TH 20 Nov: Pyramids and Pharaohs: early Egyptian civilization

MON 24 NOV-FRI 28 NOV: THANKSGIVING BREAK NO CLASS

WEEK 14: EARLY AFRICAN AND ASIAN STATES
   TU 2 Dec: Nubian and other African States
   TH 4 Dec: EXAM REVIEW SESSION

FINAL EXAM SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER, 2003 from 1-3pm

REQUIRED READINGS:
WEEK 1: TEXT: Chapter 1 (Introducing World Prehistory)

WEEK 2: TEXT: Chapter 2 (Human Origins)

WEEK 3: TEXT: Chapter 3 (Homo erectus and Homo sapiens sapiens)

WEEK 4: TEXT: Chapter 4 (Europe and Eurasia c. 40,000-8,000 BC)

WEEK 5: TEXT: Chapter 6 (Africans and Australians)

WEEK 6: TEXT: Chapter 7 (Intensification and Complexity)

WEEK 7: TEXT: Chapter 8 (A Plenteous Harvest: The Origins)
Chapter 9 (The Origins of Food Production in Southwest Asia)

WEEK 8: TEXT: Chapter 11 (The First Farmers in Egypt and Tropical Africa) pp:268-273

WEEK 9: TEXT: Chapter 10 (The First European Farmers)


WEEK 11: TEXT: Chapter 12 (Asia and the Pacific, Rice, Roots and Ocean Voyages)

WEEK 12: TEXT: Chapter 14 (The Development of Civilization)

WEEK 13: TEXT: Chapter 15 (Early Civilizations in Southwest Asia)
Chapter 16 (Egypt, Nubia, and Africa) pp:375-396