

ANTH 5340-001/ANTH 6340-001
ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE DESERT WEST
FALL 2017

Lecture: Monday, 2:00-4:30 pm (GRADUATE)
Tuesday, 4:30-7:00 pm (UNDERGRADUATE)
Old Main 243

Instructor: Judson Finley

Office: Old Main 245F
Phone: (435)797-9621
Email: judson.finley@usu.edu

Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 9:30-11:00, or by appointment

Course Description

This class focuses on the archaeology of the Great Basin—a part of the vast interior of western North America that has been the focus of considerable anthropological inquiry into hunter-gatherer lifeways. Archaeology of the Desert West surveys the culture history and development of anthropological theory and method in the Great Basin with a critical examination of the interdisciplinary role of paleoecology and environmental reconstruction. Readings are drawn largely from the peer-reviewed literature with topics covering the role of archaeology in understanding past environments, the variability of hunter-gatherer adaptations to desert landscapes, the adoption of maize agriculture throughout the region, and rise of complex societies in the eastern Great Basin and northern Colorado Plateau.

Learning Objectives

- Students will gain a factual knowledge of the archaeology of the Great Basin including terminology, classifications of artifacts and lifeways, as well as methods applied in the discipline
- Students will learn the fundamental principles of archaeology as it is practiced in western North America including generalizations about past Native American lifeways and the theoretical paradigms through which we understand them
- Students will develop competency in and gain a broader understanding of the archaeology of the Desert West required of professionals in the field
- Students will learn how to find and use resources while asking appropriate questions and solving problems related to the archaeology of the Desert West

Requirements

This course follows a seminar structure where in-class discussion is the primary mode of communication. Attendance and participation are mandatory, which means you must

keep up with the readings. Grades for this class are based on the following individual components:

- Class Participation (125 points): Since this is the archaeology capstone, the reading load is heavy. Each student is expected to contribute to meaningful discussion each week.
- Discussion Lead (75 points): Each student will lead three paper discussions (25 points each) over the course of the semester. You should prepare a 15 minute presentation with an accompanying Powerpoint presentation
- Map Exercise (25 points): Because everything begins with geography, we will too. Students will be expected to have a solid command of the geography and physiography of western North America
- Reflection Essay (25 points): As you approach the end of your undergraduate education, each student is asked to position themselves within the discipline. What drives your interest, and where do you see it taking you into the future?
- Culture Element Distribution Survey (25 points): Culture element distribution surveys are a foundation of early 20th Century American anthropology. Students will use the work of Julian Steward, Omer Stewart, and others to analyze the social organization, subsistence strategies, and technology of communal hunting, seed gathering, or root/tuber processing in the Great Basin
- Reflection Essay (25 points): Now at the end of the semester with this depth exposure to Great Basin archaeology, reflect back on your original essay, what you have learned this semester, and where you see it taking you into the future.
- Mid-Term exam (100 points)
- Final Exam (100 points)
- **This course is worth 500 points**

****FINAL EXAM— TUESDAY DECEMBER 12, 2017, 3:30-5:20, ANTHROPOLOGY 243**

Required Texts:

Simms, Steven (2008). *Ancient People of the Great Basin and Colorado Plateau*. Left Coast Press, Walnut Creek, California

GRADUATE ONLY

Lekson, Stephen H. (2009). *A History of the Ancient Southwest*. School for Advanced Research Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 August 28- September 1, 2017	Course Introduction READING: Simms (2008) Chapter 1 GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2009) Chapter 1 FILM: Luther Cressman—Quest for the First People
Week 2 September 4-8, 2017	Great Basin Anthropology READING: Beck (1999); Rhode (1999); Simms et al. (2014) GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2009) Chapter 2 *LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2017
Week 3 September 11-15, 2017	First People READING: Connolly et al. (2017); Miller et al. (2014); Holliday and Miller (2014) GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2009) Chapter 3
Week 4 September 18-22, 2017	Paleoarchaic Problems Part 1: Paleoindian or Paleoarchaic? READING: Goebel and Keene (2014); Smith and Barker (2017); Goebel et al. (2011) GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2009) Chapter 4
Week 5 September 25-29, 2017	Paleoarchaic Problems Part 2: Wetland Adaptations READING: Adams et al. (2008); Oviatt et al. (2005); Duke and King (2014); Schmitt et al. (2007) GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2009) Chapter 5
Week 6 October 2-6, 2017	Archaic Transitions READING: Louderback et al. (2010); Wriston (2009)*; Ollivier et al. (2017) GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2009) Chapter 6 *Find this paper in 'Hockett 2009 BLM Fowler Volume.pdf'
Week 7 October 9-13, 2017	Hunting Hypotheses READING: Schmitt et al. (2002); Hildebrandt and McGuire (2002); Broughton and Bayham (2003); Hildebrandt and McGuire (2003) GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2009) Chapter 7
Week 8 October 16-20, 2017	Archaic Rock Art READING: Woody and Quinlan (2009)*; Whitley (1994); Francis and Loendorf (2002) GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2009) Chapter 8 FILM: The Rock Art Engravings of the Coso Range *Find this paper in 'Hockett 2009 BLM Fowler Volume.pdf'
Week 9 October 23-27, 2017	MIDTERM EXAM GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MEETINGS
Week 10 October 30- November 3, 2017	Archaic Rockshelters and Caves READING: Madsen (2014); Rhode (2003); Hattori and Fowler (2009)*; Barker (2009)*

	GRADUATE READING: TBD *Find this paper in 'Hockett 2009 BLM Fowler Volume.pdf'
Week 11 November 6-10, 2017	At High-Elevations READING: Bettinger (1991); Thomas (2014); Scheiber and Finley (2010) GRADUATE READING: TBD
Week 12 November 13-17, 2017	Fremont: Formative Transitions READING: Madsen and Simms (1998)*; Barlow (2002); Janetski (2002) GRADUATE READING: Freeman (2012); Zvelibil (2006) *Please read through page 291
Week 13 November 20-24, 2017	Fremont: Diversity in Lifeways READING: Madsen and Simms (1998)*; Spangler (2000); Coltrain and Leavit (2002); GRADUATE READING: Lekson (2014) *Please read through page 336 THANKSGIVING BREAK
Week 14 November 27- December 1, 2017	Nomads of the Desert West READING: Upham (1994); Sutton and Rhode (1994); Ives (2014) GRADUATE READING: TBD
Week 15 December 4-8, 2017	Reconciling Numic History READING: Shaul (2014); Simms (1994); Finley et al. (2015) GRADUATE READING: Clemmer (1999) LAST DAY OF CLASS FRIDAY DECEMBER 8, 2017
FINAL EXAM—TUESDAY DECEMBER 12, 2017, 3:30-5:20, ANTHROPOLOGY 243	

COURSE READINGS

Adams, Kenneth D., Ted Goebel, Kelly E. Graf, Geoffrey M. Smith, Anna J. Camp, Richard W. Briggs, and David Rhode (2008). Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene Lake-Level Fluctuations in the Lahontan Basin, Nevada: Implications for the Distribution of Archaeological Sites. *Geoarchaeology* 23:608-643.

Barker, Pat (2009). Woven Sandals as Boundary Markers between the Great Basin and Southwest Culture Areas. In *Past, Present, and Future Issues in Great Basin Archaeology: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by B. Hockett, pp. 138-161. BLM Cultural Resource Series No. 20, Reno, Nevada.

Barlow, K. Renee (2002). Predicting Maize Agriculture among the Fremont: An Economic Comparison of Farming and Foraging in the American Southwest. *American Antiquity* 67:65-88.

Beck, Colleen M. (1999). Ethnography and Archaeology in the Great Basin. In *Models for the Millennium: Great Basin Anthropology Today*, edited by Charlotte Beck, pp. 13-28. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Bettinger, Robert L. (1991). Aboriginal Occupation at High Altitude: Alpine Villages in the White Mountains of Eastern California. *American Anthropologist* 93:656-679.

Broughton, Jack M., and Frank E. Bayham (2003). Showing Off, Foraging Models, and the Ascendance of Large-Game Hunting in the California Middle Archaic. *American Antiquity* 68:783-789.

Clemmer, Richard O. (1999). Steward's Gap: Why Steward Did Not Use His Theory of Culture Change to Explain Shoshone Culture Change. In *Julian Steward and the the Great Basin: the Making of an Anthropologist*, edited by Richard O. Clemmer, L. Daniel Myers, and Mary Elizabeth Rudden, pp. 144-163. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Coltrain, Joan Brenner, and Steven W. Leavitt (2002). Climate and Diet in Fremont Prehistory: Economic Variability and Abandonment of Maize Agriculture in the Great Salt Lake Basin. *American Antiquity* 67:453-485.

Connolly, Thomas J., Judson Byrd Finley, Geoffrey M. Smith, Dennis L. Jenkins, Pamela E. Endzweig, Brian L. O'Neill, and Paul W. Baxter (2017). Return to Fort Rock: Assessing the Site's Potential to Contribute to Ongoing Debates about How and When Humans Colonized the Great Basin. *American Antiquity* 82:558-583.

Duke, Daron G., and Jerome King (2014). A GIS Model for Predicting Wetland Habitat in the Great Basin at the Pleistocene-Holocene Transition and Implications for Paleoindian Archaeology. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 49:276-291.

Finley, Judson Byrd, Maureen P. Boyle, and David C. Harvey (2015). Obsidian Conveyance in the Mountain World of the Numa. *Plains Anthropologist Memoir* 43 60:87-103.

Francis, Julie, and Lawrence L. Loendorf (2002). *Ancient Visions: Petroglyphs and Pictographs of the Wind River and Bighorn Country, Wyoming and Montana*. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Freeman, Jacob (2012). Alternative Adaptive Regimes for Integrating Foraging and Farming Activities. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 39:3008-3017.

Goebel, Ted, Brian Hockett, Ken D. Adams, David Rhode, and Kelly Graf (2011). Climate, Environment, and Humans in North America's Great Basin during the Younger Dryas, 12,900-11,600 Calendar Years Ago. *Quaternary International* 242:479-501.

Goebel, Ted, and Joshua Keene (2014). Are Great Basin Stemmed Points as Old as Clovis in the Intermountain West? A Review of the Geochronological Evidence. In *Archaeology in the Great Basin and Southwest: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by Nancy J. Parezo and Joel C. Janetski, pp. 35-60. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Hattori, Eugene M., and Catherine S. Fowler (2009). Recent Advances in Great Basin Textile Research. In *Past, Present, and Future Issues in Great Basin Archaeology: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by B. Hockett, pp. 117-138. BLM Cultural Resource Series No. 20, Reno, Nevada.

Hildebrandt, William R., and Kelly R. McGuire (2002). The Ascendance of Hunting during the California Middle Archaic: An Evolutionary Perspective. *American Antiquity* 67:231-256.

Hildebrandt, William R., and Kelly R. McGuire (2003). Large-Game Hunting, Gender-Differentiated Work Organization, and the Role of Evolutionary Ecology and Great Basin Prehistory: A Reply to Broughton and Bayham. *American Antiquity* 68:790-792.

Holliday, Vance T., and D. Shane Miller (2014). The Clovis Landscape. In *Paleoamerican Odyssey*, edited by Kelly E. Grad, Caroline V. Ketron, and Michael R. Waters, pp. 221-245. Texas A&M Press, College Station, Texas.

Ives, John W. (2014). Resolving the Promontory Culture Enigma. In *Archaeology in the Great Basin and Southwest: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by Nancy J. Parezo and Joel C. Janetski, pp. 149-162. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Janetski, Joel C. (2002). Trade in Fremont Society: Contexts and Contrasts. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 21:344-370.

Lekson, Stephen H. (2014). Thinking about Fremont: The Later Prehistory of the Great Basin and the Southwest. In *Archaeology in the Great Basin and Southwest: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by Nancy J. Parezo and Joel C. Janetski, pp. 109-117. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Louderback, Lisbeth A., Donald K. Grayson, and Marcos Llobera (2010). Middle Holocene Climates and Human Population Densities in the Great Basin, Western USA. *The Holocene* 21:366-373.

- Madsen, David B., and Steven R. Simms (1998). The Fremont Complex: A Behavioral Perspective. *Journal of World Prehistory* 12:255-336
- Madsen, David B. (2014). Eight Decades Eating Dust: A Short History of Archaeological Research at Danger Cave. In *Archaeology in the Great Basin and Southwest: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by Nancy J. Parezo and Joel C. Janetski, pp. 191-209. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.
- Miller, D. Shane, Vance T. Holliday, and Jordon Bright (2014). Clovis across the Continent. In *Paleoamerican Odyssey*, edited by Kelly E. Grad, Caroline V. Ketron, and Michael R. Waters, pp. 207-220. Texas A&M Press, College Station.
- Ollivier, Aaron P., Geoffrey M. Smith, and Pat Barker (2017). A Collection of Fiber Sandals from Last Supper Cave, and Its Implication for Cave and Rockshelter Abandonment during the Middle Holocene. *American Antiquity* 82:325-340.
- Oviatt, Charles G., David M. Miller, John P. McGeehin, Cecil Zachary, and Shannon Mahan (2005). The Younger Dryas Phase of Great Salt Lake, Utah, USA. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, and Palaeoecology* 219:263-284.
- Rhode, David (1999). The Role of Paleoecology in the Development of Great Basin Archaeology, and Vice-Versa. In *Models for the Millennium*, edited by C. Beck, pp. 29-49. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.
- Rhode, David (2003). Coprolites from Hidden Cave, Revisited: Evidence of Site Occupation History, Diet, and Sex of Occupants. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 30:909-922.
- Scheiber, Laura L., and Judson Byrd Finley (2010). Mountain Shoshone Technological Transitions across the Great Divide. In *Across the Great Divide: Culture Contact and Culture Change in North America at AD 1500*, edited by L.L. Scheiber and M. Mitchell, pp. 128-148. University of Arizona Press, Tucson.
- Schmitt, David N., David B. Madsen, and Karen D. Lupo (2002). The Worst of Times, the Best of Times: Jackrabbit Hunting by Middle Holocene Human Foragers in the Bonneville Basin of Western North America. In *Colonisation, Migration, and Marginal Areas*, edited by M. Mondini, S. Muñoz, and S. Wickler, pp. 86-95. Oxbow Press, Oxford, UK.
- Schmitt, Dave, David B. Madsen, and Charles Oviatt (2007). Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Geomorphology and Human Occupation of the Old River Bed Delta, Western Utah. In *Paleoindian or Paleoarchaic? Great Basin Human Ecology at the Pleistocene-*

Holocene Transition, edited by Kelly E. Graf and Dave N. Schmitt, pp. **-**. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Shaul, David Leedom (2014). "Numic Spread Sure Goes Good with Whitey Bread." *A Prehistory of Western North America: The Impact of Uto-Aztecan Languages*. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque.

Simms, Steven R. (1994). Unpacking the Numic Spread. In *Across the West: Human Population Movement and the Expansion of the Numa*, edited by David B. Madsen and David Rhode, pp. 76-83. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Simms, Steven R., James F. O'Connell, and Kevin T. Jones (2014). Some Thoughts on Evolution, Ecology, and Archaeology in the Great Basin. In *Archaeology in the Great Basin and Southwest: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by Nancy J. Parezo and Joel C. Janetski, pp. 177-190. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Smith, Geoffrey M., and Pat Barker (2017). The Terminal Pleistocene/Early Holocene Record in the Northwestern Great Basin: What We Know, What We don't Know, and How We May Be Wrong. *PaleoAmerica* 3:13-47.

Spangler, Jerry (2000). Radiocarbon Dates, Acquired Wisdom, and the Search for Temporal Order in the Uintah Basin. In *Intermountain Archaeology*, edited by David B. Madsen and Michael D. Metcalf, pp. 48-68. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Sutton, Mark Q., and David Rhode (1994). Background to the Numic Problem. In *Across the West: Human Population Movement and the Expansion of the Numa*, edited by David B. Madsen and David Rhode, pp. 6-15. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Thomas, David Hurst (2014). Alta Toquima: Why Did Foraging Families Spend Summers at 11,000 Feet? In *Archaeology in the Great Basin and Southwest: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by Nancy J. Parezo and Joel C. Janetski, pp. 130-148. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Upham, Steadham (1994). Nomads of the Desert West: A Shifting Continuum in Prehistory. *Journal of World Prehistory* 8:113-167.

Whitley, David S. (1994). By the Hunter, for the Gatherer: Art, Social Relations, and Subsistence Change in the Prehistoric Great Basin. *World Archaeology* 25:356-373.

Woody, Alanah, and Angus Quinlan (2009). The Avoided Past: Great Basin Rock Art in Archaeological Thought and Its Potential in the Study of Past Identity. In *Past, Present, and Future Issues in Great Basin Archaeology: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by B. Hockett, pp. 57-77. BLM Cultural Resource Series No. 20, Reno, Nevada.

Wriston, Teresa A. (2009). The Middle Holocene Period and Great Basin Archaeology: Past Ideas, Current Trends, and Future Research. In *Past, Present, and Future Issues in Great Basin Archaeology: Papers in Honor of Don D. Fowler*, edited by B. Hockett, pp. 218-241. BLM Cultural Resource Series No. 20, Reno, Nevada.

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