

ANTH 5340/6340
ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE DESERT WEST
FALL 2015

Lecture: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00-10:15 pm
Geology 302
Instructor: Judson Finley
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2:00-4:00, or by appointment

Course Description

This class focuses on the archaeology of two major North American culture areas, the Great Basin and American Southwest, largely considered the core of the “Desert West”. These are areas with a rich natural and cultural history that we will explore through a set of articles written by scholars for the lay community. We will supplement those readings with articles from the peer-reviewed literature. Topics we will include 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 Arizona desert and Colorado Plateau.

Learning Objectives

- Students will gain a factual knowledge of the archaeology of the Great Basin and American Southwest 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 five individual components: class participation (20%), a professional book review (20%), a class research paper (20%), one mid-term exam (20%), and one final exam (20%).

****FINAL EXAM— THURSDAY DECEMBER 17, 2015, 9:30-11:20, GEOLOGY 302**

Required Texts:

Fish, Suzanne K., and Paul R. Fish, editors (2007). *The Hohokam Millennium*. SAR Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Fowler, Catherine S., and Don D. Fowler, editors (2008). *The Great Basin: People and Place in Ancient Times*. SAR Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Noble, David Grant, editor (2004). *In Search of Chaco: New Approaches to an Archaeological Enigma*. SAR Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Noble, David Grant, editor (2006). *The Mesa Verde World: Explorations in Ancestral Pueblo Archaeology*. SAR Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 August 31- September 4, 2015	Course Introduction READING: Fowler and Fowler (pages 1-6, 27-34) FILM: Luther Cressman—Quest for the First People
Week 2 September 7-11, 2015	*LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2015—NO CLASS Great Basin Natural History READING: Fowler and Fowler (pages 7-26) BIGHORN CANYON DENDROCHRONOLOGY FIELD TRIP
Week 3 September 14-18, 2015	Early People of the Great Basin READING: Fowler and Fowler (pages 35-44), Rondeu (2015), Schmitt et al. (2007)
Week 4 September 21-25, 2015	Archaic Foragers READING: Fowler and Fowler (pages 45-54, 79-104), Zeanah and Simms (2001), Beck (2001) ROCKY MOUNTAIN ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2015
Week 5 September 28- October 2, 2015	Perishables and Rock Art READING: Fowler and Fowler (pages 61-78, 137-152), Whitley (1994), Francis and Loendorf (2002) FILM: The Rock Art Engravings of the Coso Range
Week 6 October 5-9, 2015	Early People of the American Southwest READING: Ballenger (2015), Holliday (2015), Huckell (1996)
Week 7 October 12-16, 2015	The Hohokam World: Part 1 READING: Fish and Fish (1-48, 83-90) NO CLASS THURSDAY OCTOBER 15, 2015 (FRIDAY SCHEDULE)

Week 8 October 19-23, 2015	The Hohokam World: Part 2 READING: Fish and Fish (49-82,117-146)
Week 9 October 26-30, 2015	The Ancestral Pueblo World: Basketmakers and Pueblo I READING: Charles and Cole (2007), Matson (2007), Wilshusen (1999), Noble (Mesa Verde pages 9-28)
Week 10 November 2-6, 2015	The Ancestral Pueblo World: Chaco Canyon READING: Noble (pages 116-122, 1-40) GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MEETINGS
Week 11 November 9-13, 2015	The Ancestral Pueblo World: Chaco—Great House Communities READING: Noble (pages 70-115)
Week 12 November 16-20, 2015	The Ancestral Pueblo World: Native Perspectives READING: Noble (Chaco pages 41-69), Noble (Mesa Verde pages 49-58) FILM:
Week 13 November 23-27, 2015	The Ancestral Pueblo World: Mesa Verde Beginnings THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO CLASS READING: Noble (pages 149-172, 1-8, 39-48, 59-66)
Week 14 November 30- December 4, 2015	The Ancestral Pueblo World: Mesa Verde—Sacred Landscapes and Times of Trouble READING: Noble (pages 39-48, 67-100, 127-138)
Week 15 December 9-11, 2015	The Ancestral Pueblo World: Abandoning Mesa Verde READING: Noble (pages 139-148) LAST DAY OF CLASS WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11, 2015
FINAL EXAM— THURSDAY DECEMBER 17, 2015, 9:30-11:20, GEOLOGY 302	

ADDITIONAL READINGS

Ballenger, Jesse A.M. (2015). The Densest Concentration on Earth? Quantifying Human-Mammoth Associations in the San Pedro Basin, Southeastern Arizona, USA. In *Clovis: On the Edge of a New Understanding*, edited by Ashley M. Smallwood and Thomas A. Jennings, pp. 183-204. Texas A&M Press, College Station, Texas.

Beck, Colleen M. (2001). Ethnography and Archaeology in the Great Basin. In *Models for the Millennium: Great Basin Anthropology Today*, edited by Charlotte Beck, pp. **-**. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Charles, Mona C., and Sally J. Cole (2007). Chronology and Cultural Variation in Basketmaker II. *Kiva* 75:167-216.

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.

Holliday, Vance T. (2015). Clovis Landscapes in the Greater Southwest of North America. In *Clovis: On the Edge of a New Understanding*, edited by Ashley M. Smallwood and Thomas A. Jennings, pp. 205-242. Texas A&M Press, College Station, Texas.

Huckell, Bruce J. (1996). The Archaic Prehistory of the North American Southwest. *Journal of World Prehistory* 10:305-373.

Matson, R.G. (2007). What is Basketmaker II? *Kiva* 72:149-165

Rondeu, Michael F. (2015). Fluted Point Studies in the Far West. In *Clovis: On the Edge of a New Understanding*, edited by Ashley M. Smallwood and Thomas A. Jennings, pp. 39-52. Texas A&M Press, College Station, Texas.

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.

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.

Zeanah, David, and Steven R. Simms (2001). Modeling the Gastric: Great Basin Subsistence Studies since 1982 and the Evolution of General Theory. In *Models for the Millennium: Great Basin Anthropology Today*, edited by Charlotte Beck, pp. **-**. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), qualified students with disabilities may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room

101 of the University Inn, 797-2444 voice, 797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA), it is the policy of the Department of Sociology, Social Work & Anthropology at Utah State University to maintain the confidentiality of students' records. When it is not feasible to distribute exams, papers, and other assignments to students individually (e.g., in large-enrollment classes), the instructor may obtain from students a signed waiver of confidentiality regarding class assignments so exams, papers, and other academic exercises may be placed out during class or during other group sessions for students to pick up. A general waiver may be sought from each student at the beginning of the academic term with the understanding that the waiver may be rescinded, in writing, during the academic term if the student chooses. If a student does not sign a waiver, then assignments must be returned to that student confidentially.