Course description
Welcome to ANTH 303. This course is intended to provide a detailed examination of some of the key sites and debates in the archaeological study of the African Diaspora. This will involve understanding landscapes such as plantations, areas of towns and trading settlements; individual buildings, particularly the homes of enslaved and free African-Americans; burials and specific artifacts, particularly locally produced ceramics, artifacts associated with religious practices and foodways. We will begin by examining archaeological evidence from West Africa, and then largely focus on material from North America and the Caribbean, where the majority of archaeological work in this field has taken place. We will begin by focussing on the interpretation of particular types of sites, artifacts and practices and conclude the course by looking at some more general issues that cross-cut the entire field.

The focus of the course is on the way in which different archaeological evidence has been interpreted to understand identities of those in the African Diaspora. At times you may find that some of the readings cover archaeological remains to a fine level of detail. While we will engage with this in class discussion, you do not need to worry about aspects of methodology or contextual details in the readings – this is not the focus of the course. General questions to think about with regards to the readings will be provided each week in class and posted on Blackboard. These should also help you focus on which aspects of the archaeological evidence discussed by various authors you feel are important.

Course Texts

We will also use a variety of articles and chapters from other books. All of these will be available via Blackboard as PDF documents.
Course Requirements
Attendance in class is required; all students are also expected to participate in class discussions and can contribute to discussion on the topic each week via Blackboard.

Work will be assessed through two short papers (3-4 pages, each 10%), a class presentation of (15 minutes, 30%) and research paper (10-12 pages, 50%). Deadlines for these are indicated on the syllabus.

Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday January 28</th>
<th>1) Introduction</th>
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<tr>
<td>No reading</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday February 4</th>
<th>2) West African contexts: forts &amp; trading posts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- DeCorse, C.R. 2001. An Archaeology of Elmina: Africans and Europeans on the Gold Coast, 1400 – 1900, Chapters 1 [&quot;skim for background only&quot;], 3, 4 &amp; 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Kelly, K.G. 2001. 'Change and continuity in coastal Bénin,' in DeCorse (Ed.), West Africa During the Atlantic Slave Trade</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday February 11</th>
<th>3) West African contexts: away from European contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Case studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>- McIntosh, S.K. 2001. 'Tools for understanding transformation and continuity in Senegambian society: 1500 – 1900,' in DeCorse (Ed.), West Africa During the Atlantic Slave Trade</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Stahl, A.B. 2001. 'Historical process and the impact of the Atlantic trade on Banda, Ghana, c. 1800 – 1920,' in DeCorse (Ed.), West Africa During the Atlantic Slave Trade</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- MacEachern, S. 2001. 'State formation and enslavement in the southern Lake Chad basin,' in DeCorse (Ed.), West Africa During the Atlantic Slave Trade</td>
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Two papers that give a more general background to thinking about West African archaeology as part of the African Diaspora

| - Posnansky, M. 1999. 'West Africanist reflections on African-American archaeology,' chapter 2 in Singleton (Ed.), "I, Too, Am America" |
| - DeCorse, C.R. 2001. 'Introduction,' in DeCorse (Ed.), West Africa During the Atlantic Slave Trade |
Monday February 18

4) Plantation archaeology in the Americas


**First paper assigned**

Monday February 25

5) Domestic space & race on plantations

Racism and plantation archaeology


Domestic Space


- Battle-Baptiste, W. 2007. “'In this here place': interpreting enslaved homeplaces,' in Ogundiran & Falola (Eds.), Archaeology of Atlantic Africa and the African Diaspora


**First paper due**
Monday March 3

6) Foodways & colonoware
- Deetz, J. 1999. 'Archaeology at Flowerdew Hundred,' chapter 3 in Singleton (Ed.), “I, Too, Am America”
- Otto, J.S. 1980. ‘Race and class on antebellum plantations,’ in Schuyler (Ed.), Archaeological Perspectives on Ethnicity in America
- For information on a parallel debate regarding clay pipes see 4 & 5 chapters in “I, Too, Am America” – not required reading

SPRING BREAK

Monday March 24

7) Religion, ritual & spirituality

**second paper assigned**
### Monday March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8) Maroon communities</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agorash, E.K. 2007. ‘Scars of brutality: archaeology of maroons in the Caribbean,’ in Ogundiran &amp; Falola (Eds.), <em>Archaeology of Atlantic Africa and the African Diaspora</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funari, P.P. 2007. ‘The archaeological study of the African Diaspora in Brazil,’ in Ogundiran &amp; Falola (Eds.), <em>Archaeology of Atlantic Africa and the African Diaspora</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weik, T. 2007. ‘Allies, adversaries, and kin in the African Seminole communities of Florida: archaeology at Pilaklikaha,’ in Ogundiran &amp; Falola (Eds.), <em>Archaeology of Atlantic Africa and the African Diaspora</em></td>
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**second paper due**

### Monday April 7

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<tr>
<th>9) Free African American communities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Davidson, J.M. 2004. “Living symbols of their lifelong struggles”: in search of the home and household in the heart of Freedman’s Town, Dallas, Texas,’ in Barile &amp; Brandon (Eds.), <em>Household Chores and Household Choices</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mullins, P.R. 2001. ‘Racializing the parlor: race and Victorian bric-a-brac consumption,’ chapter 5 in Orser (Ed.), <em>Race and the Archaeology of Identity</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See chapters 13 &amp; 14 in Singleton (Ed.), “I, Too, Am America,” for further case studies – not required reading</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 10) Gendered identities
- Edwards-Ingram, Y. 2001. ‘African American medicine and the social relations of slavery,’ chapter 3 in Orser (Ed.), *Race and the Archaeology of Identity*
- Thomas, B.W. & L. Thomas. 2004. ‘Gender and the presentation of the self: an example from the Hermitage,’ in Galle & Young (Eds.), *Engendering African American Archaeology*

### 11) Heritage, representation and public archaeology
- Franklin, M. 1997. “‘Power to the people’: sociopolitics and the archaeology of Black Americans,’ *Historical Archaeology* 31(3), pp 36 – 50
- Osei-Tutu, B. 2007. ‘Ghana’s “slave castles,” tourism, and the social memory of the Atlantic Slave Trade,’ in Ogundiran & Falola (Eds.), *Archaeology of Atlantic Africa and the African Diaspora*

### 12) Reflections: what constitutes the field?
- Lilley, I. 2004. ‘Diaspora and identity in archaeology: moving beyond the Black Atlantic,’ in Meskell & Preucell (Eds.), *A Companion to Social Archaeology*

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### Presentations
- Class presentations, no set reading

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### ***FINAL RESEARCH PAPERS DUE, 11AM MONDAY MAY 12***