AR 270: ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE AGE OF EXPLORATION

Class meets TR 9:30–11, Room CAS B-18B

Prof. Mary Beaudry <beaudry@bu.edu>  Semester II, 2007—2008

Objectives of the Course

The chief aim of this course is to offer an overview of archaeological discoveries at the earliest sites in what for Europeans were “New Worlds.” We will also explore the global impact of colonial expansion throughout the early modern and modern eras by considering historical archaeology in South Africa, Australia, Central and South America, Hawaii, Alaska, and Africa. In examining the “materiality of colonialism,” we will focus on exploration and first settlement by Europeans of the circum-Caribbean region and North America, contrasting Spanish, English, Dutch, French, and Russian strategies of colonialism. We begin by examining claims for European settlement before Columbus and by taking a brief look at the archaeology of indigenous peoples of northeastern North America.

The course is based largely on lectures, supplemented by reserve and required readings, but questions and discussion are encouraged. Readings indicated on the syllabus with an asterisk (*) will be placed on the course Web site (see below).

Course Requirements, Attendance Policy, Plagiarism Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes and to make every effort to meet assignment deadlines, as extensions will be granted only in exceptional instances. Course grades will be based on 4 elements: a midterm examination (25%), a final examination (25%), a term paper of 8-10 pages (40%), and overall attendance and class participation (10%). Please note that I will take attendance into account in calculating your grade. Any classes missed will count against you; an accumulation of more than 4 absences will negatively affect your final grade.

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the University’s policy about what constitutes plagiarism; see http://www.bu.edu/bulletins/und/item12c.html#anchor16. Please note that plagiarism or cheating will most decidedly have a negative effect on your grade and perhaps even your collegiate career.

You should also be aware of CAS policy regarding adding, dropping, and withdrawing from classes; see http://www.bu.edu/bulletins/und/item10.html#anchor3.

Texts (ordered for purchase at the Barnes & Noble/Boston University Bookstore)


Course Web Site

All class participants have access to the course materials through the course web site; here you will find course documents such as the syllabus, announcements about the course, copies of or access to course readings, links to WWW sites you will visit as part of your course assignments, and a communications center from which you can
communicate with other members of the class. Here is where you will find copies of any reading assignments that are not in your textbooks for the course. I'll also be posting course announcements to the Web site. Please plan to visit the site regularly.

You can access the AR270 web site simply by clicking on the class number/name as posted in your schedule on the Student Link portion of the Boston University web pages, or you can point your browser to http://courseinfo.bu.edu, then click on the link to the College of Arts and Sciences, then on the link to the class. You will be prompted to login; to do so, enter your BU login name (the portion of your email address that comes before the @). When prompted to enter a password, type in your regular password. Once you are "in" you can change your password and other details of your account, arrange to have your course email forwarded to another address, and so on. (If you've used the system before, it will have stored any changes you made to your personal details.) Follow the on-line instructions.

Meeting Topics and Reading Assignments

1. **Introduction to the Course (Jan. 17)**
   - course mechanics (readings, assignments, etc.)

2. **Archaeology & the "Shared History of Colonial Entanglement" (Jan. 22)**

3. **Prehistoric Mystery: The Maritime Archaic (Jan. 24)**
   Video: *Mystery of The Lost Red Paint People*

4. **Before Columbus? Backdrop for the Columbian Exchange (Jan. 29)**
   Chapters 1 & 13 in Milanich and Milbraith, *First Encounters*

5. **Peoples of Eastern North America on the Eve of European Contact (Jan. 31)**

6. **Vikings! (Feb. 5)**
   *Viking Ship Home Page, useful links (University of Pittsburgh): http://www.pitt.edu/~dash/ships.html*
   *Basic Info on Viking Ships (i.e., for elementary schools but useful, nonetheless): http://www.stemnet.nf.ca/CITE/vikingships.htm*

7. **Evidence of Vikings in Greenland, Newfoundland, & Labrador (Feb. 7)**
   Video: *Vikings in America*
8. The Northern Latitudes: Exploration & Exploitation (Feb. 12)
   *Pope, The English at Newfoundland after Cabot, in The English in America (Avalon Chronicles 8: 5–26)

9. The Northern Latitudes: The Frobisher Expedition (Feb. 14)
   Video: A Quest for Gold
   The Nunavut Voyages of Martin Frobisher: http://www.civilization.ca/hist/frobisher/Print01e.html

10. The North Atlantic in the 16th Century: Basque Whalers (Feb. 21)
    Video: Basque Whalers of Labrador
    Red Bay Web site: http://www.heritage.nf.ca/exploration/basque.html

11. The Southern Latitudes: The Lost Colony of Roanoke (Feb. 26)
    *Noël Hume, The Riddle of Roanoke, in The English in America (Avalon Chronicles 8:39–56)
    *Noël Hume, I., Roanoke Island: America’s First Science Center, in In Search of This & That: Tales from an Archaeologist’s Quest, by Ivor Noël Hume, pp. 96-109. Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, VA.
    Colony at Roanoke: http://www.nationalcenter.org/ColonyofRoanoke.html

12. The North Atlantic in the 17th Century: Fishermen & Early Settlement of New England & Newfoundland's "English Shore" (Feb. 28)
    Video: The Colony of Avalon
    *Gaulton and Tuck, Archaeology of Ferryland, in The English in America (Avalon Chronicles 8: 155–186)
    Colony of Avalon web site: http://www.heritage.nf.ca/avalon

13. Jamestown's Short-Lived Sister: The Popham Colony in Maine (Mar. 4)
    *Brain, Popham. in The English in America (Avalon Chronicles 8: 87–116)
    Popham web site: http://www.pophamcolony.org/

14. Jamestown Rediscovery (Mar. 6)
    Kelso and Straube, Jamestown Rediscovery 1994–2004
    Rediscovery web site: http://www.apva.org/jr.html

15. New England's Begins: Fishermen, Planters, and Traders (Mar. 18)
    *Beaudry, Goldstein, and Chartier, Plymouth Colony, in The English in America (Avalon Chronicles 8: 155–186)
    Plymouth Colony Archive Project: http://www.histarch.uiuc.edu/plymouth/

16. Dutch Colonial Archaeology in North America (Mar. 20)
17. Midterm Examination (Mar. 25) (1.5 hrs.)

18. The French in North America: Acadia & Nouvelle France (Mar. 27)
   The Phips Wreck: archaeology comes to the rescue of a 17th-century shipwreck: [http://www.mcc.gouv.qc.ca/pamu/champs/archeo/epaphips/wreck01.htm#journal](http://www.mcc.gouv.qc.ca/pamu/champs/archeo/epaphips/wreck01.htm#journal)

19. La Louisiane: The French Regime in the Midwest & Southeast (Apr. 1)
   Waselkov, *Old Mobile Archaeology*
   Old Mobile web site: [http://www.southalabama.edu/archaeology/old_mobile.htm](http://www.southalabama.edu/archaeology/old_mobile.htm)

20. Spain's New World Empire Part 1 (Apr. 3)
   Chapters 2, 4, 6, and 7 in Milanich and Milbraith, *First Encounters*
   U of Florida archaeology: [http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/histarch/](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/histarch/) (not available during hurricanes!)

21. Spain's New World Empire Part 2 (Apr. 8)
   Chapters 5, 8, 10, 11, and 12 in Milanich and Milbraith, *First Encounters*

22. English Men and Women in the Chesapeake (Apr. 15)
   Hurry, "... once the Metropolis"
   *King and Chaney, Lord Baltimore's Neighborhood, in The English in America (Avalon Chronicles 8: 261–283)*
   Early sites in the Chesapeake: [http://www.chesapeakearchaeology.org/](http://www.chesapeakearchaeology.org/)

23. Plantations: Europeans and Africans in the Caribbean (Apr. 17)
   Nevis, WI: [http://www.tc.umn.edu/~terre011/Synagogue.html](http://www.tc.umn.edu/~terre011/Synagogue.html)

24. Captain Cook in the South Pacific & Australia's "Fatal Shore" (Apr 22)
25. Russian Colonies in North America (Apr. 24)


Fort Ross: http://www.mcn.org/1/rrparks/fortross/archaeol.htm

26. Archaeological Insights on "That Pestilence of History" (Apr. 29)

Video: Unearthing the Slave Trade
Deagan and McMahon, Fort Mose


27. Further Archaeological Insights on "That Pestilence of History"/Review (May 1)

Heath, Hidden Lives

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Papers due in class on May 1, 2008.

Final Examination:
Thursday, May 8, 9–11 a.m.
Room CAS B18B