**ANTHROPOLOGY 456**
**CRN 33119**

**HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY**
**SPRING 2010**
**TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 2:10 TO 3:30 PM, LA 302**
**MAX ENROLLMENT: 25**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**
**COURSE WEBSITE:**
http://www.cas.umt.edu/anthro/courses/anth456/default.htm

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kelly J. Dixon

- Office: Social Sciences Building, Room 232
- Telephone: 406.243.2450
- Email: kelly.dixon@mso.umt.edu
- Office hours: Tuesday 3:30-5:00 pm and by appointment

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**Historical Archaeology** is the study of post-prehistoric human cultures using physical remains, historical records, and a range of multidisciplinary techniques. Sometimes this discipline is referred to as “Historic Sites Archaeology.”

The purpose of this course is to demonstrate how historic archaeological remains, methods, and theories can be used to understand and interpret the recent past. In this course, students will learn how to conduct literature searches, compile annotated bibliographies, prepare essays based on their annotated bibliographies, and critically review methods and theories in manuscripts associated with historical archaeological scholarship. In addition, students will learn how to link event-centered local/regional projects with broad research agendas and topics, such as studies of colonization.

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**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

1. **Deetz, James A.**

2. **Hardesty, Donald L.**

3. **Orser, Charles Jr.**

**OPTIONAL TEXTBOOKS (REQUIRED FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS):**


**ADDITIONAL READINGS* (POSTED AS PDFS ON COURSE WEBSITE):**

Blanton, Dennis
2003  The weather is fine, wish you were here, because I’m the last one alive: “learning” the environment in the English New World colonies. In *Colonization of Unfamiliar Landscapes: The Archaeology of Adaptation*, edited by Marcy Rockman and James Steele, pp. 190-200. Routledge, London.

Deetz, James A.

Dixon, Kelly J., Shannon A. Novak, Gwen Robbins, Julie M. Schablitsky, G. R. Scott, and Guy Tasa

Grayson, Donald

Joyce, Rosemary A. and Jeanne Lopiparo

Leone, M.

Lightfoot, Kent G. and Antoinette Martinez

Little, Barbara J.

Mullins, Paul R.

Novak, Shannon A. and Lars Rodseth

Saitta, Dean


Spude, Catherine Holder

Voss, Barbara L. and Rebecca Allen

*Additional readings may be assigned and discussed throughout the semester; a course bibliography will be presented to students.*

**COURSE STRUCTURE:**
This course meets for 80 minutes, two days a week, throughout the semester. Class meetings will include lectures, in-class exercises, films, and visits to lab and archive facilities. Students may be asked to participate in class by sharing their ideas with the rest of the class in informal discussions and/or in brief written assignments. We will investigate at least one case study to give students a sense of designing, carrying out, and publishing the results of an interdisciplinary [historic-period] archaeological project. Throughout the semester, I may assign readings or handouts not listed in this syllabus; such items will provide you with the opportunity to examine more specific subjects than those outlined in the required readings.

**GRADING POLICY:**
Course grades will be based upon student performance on assignments, or examinations, and a series of in-class exercises. Graduate students will be responsible for all of the above and book reviews associated with the optional readings.

**POINTS PER ASSIGNMENT:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Mid-term Project*</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Mid-term Project*</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project*</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class exercises</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>300</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Book Reviews (Graduate Students Only)</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography (Graduate Students Only)</td>
<td>100</td>
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GRADUATE STUDENT TOTAL 600 points (includes undergraduate grading)

I will assign +/- grades for this course and final grades will be based upon the following average scores for the exams, in-class exercises, and graduate student book reviews: A (100-95), A- (94-90), B+ (89-88), B (87-83), B- (82-80), C+ (79-78), C (77-73), C- (72-70), D+ (69-68), D (67-63), D- (62-60), F (59 or less).

* Make-up exams will be given ONLY in cases of verified and unavoidable emergencies. You must notify me IN ADVANCE if you are unable to take the regularly scheduled exam.

ATTENDANCE:
Attendance will be taken during each class and will help make decisions about a student’s final grade in borderline cases. Also, the in-class exercises require attendance to get full points.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
The Department of Anthropology is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with documented physical disabilities or documented learning disabilities. University policy states that it is the responsibility of students with documented disabilities to contact instructors DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF THE SEMESTER to discuss appropriate accommodations to ensure equity in grading, classroom experiences, and outside assignments. The instructor will meet with the student and the staff of the Disability Services for Students (DSS) to formulate a plan for accommodations. Please contact Jim Marks in DSS (243.2373, Lommasson Center 154) for more information.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

**Week 1: January 26, 28: Intro to Historical Archaeology?**
- **Assigned Readings**
  - Intro to Historical Archaeology: Orser (Chapters 1-3)
  - What is Historical Archaeology?; Types of Historical Archaeological Sites (Underwater, Industrial, etc.)
  - Case Studies (Intro to our “pet” case study of the semester)

**Week 2: February 2, 4 What is Historical Archaeology?**
- **Assigned Readings**
  - People Without History; “Ethnicity and Race”: Deetz (pp. 187-211), Orser (pp. 251-261)
  - African American Archaeology: Deetz (pp. 212-252)
  - Documentary Study: Slave Island

**Week 3: February 9, 11 Research Methods in Historical Archaeology**
- **Assigned Readings**
  - Artifacts and Material Culture: Gravestone Art: Deetz (pp. 89-124)
  - Using Artifacts to Interpret the Past: Orser (Chapter 4)
  - Deetz (pp. 165-186)

**Week 4: February 16, 18 Research Methods in Historical Archaeology**
- **Assigned Readings**
  - How to Get a Date: Orser (Chapter 5)
  - Pre-fieldwork: Historical Research: Orser (Chapter 7, pp. 171-184)
  - Case Study: Mountain Meadows: Novak, House of Mourning (optional for undergraduates)
Documentary Study: *What Happened at Mountain Meadows?*

**GRAD STUDENTS: 1st BOOK REVIEW DUE February 18 (Novak’s *House of Mourning*)**

**Week 5: February 23, 25 Interdisciplinary Research: Building Bridges**

Library Visit: Feb 23 Historical Research (Archives)
Library Visit: Feb 25 Literature Search (Scholarly Databases) and Government Documents

**Week 6: March 2, 4 Research Methods in Historical Archaeology**

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<th>Assigned Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Field and Laboratory Work</td>
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<td>Artifact Curation &amp; Artifact Databases</td>
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<td>Architecture as Artifact</td>
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**Week 7: March 9, 10 Explanation in Historical Archaeology**

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<th>Assigned Readings</th>
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<td>Theoretical Paradigms</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of Theoretical Explanation in Historical Archaeology</td>
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<td>How is Theory Reflected in Historical Archaeological Research?</td>
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<td>Feminist Theory and Engendered Archaeologies</td>
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**Week 8: March 16, 18 Colonization, Cultures in Contact, and Events**

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<th>Assigned Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>An Event-Centered Approach to Archaeology</td>
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<td>Class, Capitalism, and Culture Change</td>
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<td>Globalization and the Archaeology of Frontiers</td>
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<td>Colonization of Unfamiliar Landscapes</td>
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**Mid-term Project 1: Annotated bibliography (due March 23)**

**Week 9: March 23, 25 Interdisciplinary Case Study**

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<th>Assigned Readings</th>
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<td>Case Study: Donner Party</td>
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**Week 10: March 30, April 1**

NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

**Week 11: April 6, 8 Historical Archaeology in the American West**

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**Mid-term Assignment**

**Week 12: April 13, 15 The American West: Special Topics**

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<td>Case Study: Donner Party</td>
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**Mid-term Project 2: Review of Manuscript (method and theory critique) (due April 20)**
Review of readings, discussions of final projects

**Week 13: April 20, 22**  
**Historical Archaeology and the American West**  
Archaeologies of the American West: A Regional Approach  
Review of readings, discussions of final projects

**Week 14: April 27, 29**  
**Historical Archaeology: Applying the West to the World**  
Assigned Readings: to be announced  
The wild outback? Lawrence, *Dolly’s Creek* (optional for undergraduates)  
**GRAD STUDENTS: 2nd BOOK REVIEW DUE**  
An Archaeology of Early America  
Deetz, *In Small Things Forgotten*  
Deetz, *Flowerdew Hundred* (excerpt)  
Discussions of final projects/essays

**Week 15: May 4, 6**  
**Academic and Applied? The Role of Historical Archaeology**  
Assigned Readings: Orser (Chapter 12)  
Assessing Site Significance  
Presentation of final projects

**Week 16: FINALS WEEK**  
Final Exam Time Slot: Thursday, May 13, 1:10-3:10