

Fall 2018
Survey of Archaeology
New College of Florida

Professor Uzi Baram

Class Meets on Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 to 11:50 a.m.

Classroom: ACE 102

Professor's Office: College Hall 205

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:15-2:15 pm & drop-ins

Teaching Assistant: Kara diComo, New College Public Archaeology Lab

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Syllabus is available at: <http://sites.ncf.edu/baram/courses>

Course is on Canvas

Catalogue Description:

The course offers an introduction to the subject of archaeology. It is divided into three parts: 1) the history of archaeology, 2) basic archaeological approaches to the human past, material culture, and social change over time, and 3) a brief survey of human history from the earliest ancestors of *Homo sapiens* to the modern period. The latter section will focus on selected topics of major methodological and theoretical concern in Anthropology.

Course Prospectus:

The course is an introduction to archaeology as part of anthropology. The three major concerns in archaeology are the study of the human past, the study of material culture, and investigations of social change over time. Techniques and methods, theories and ethical concerns will guide exploration of case studies and the overview of human history from the ancestors of *Homo sapiens* to the modern period. We will focus on transformations and stasis during the long history of humankind. To achieve this objective we will explore the fundamental methods and theories of archaeology including the role of scientific techniques in understanding the past, the formation of the archaeological record, the reconstruction of past social organizations, and the understanding of ideology through materiality. Topics for discussion will include the analysis of great transformations of the past, interpretations of significant finds, and controversies in the present about the past; contemporary archaeological understandings of material culture and of explanations of change will frame the examination of sites, events, and social processes.

Course Objectives:

1. An overview of archaeological methods, theories, ethics, and practices
2. Presentations on human history based on archaeological investigations, including how archaeologists reconstruct past cultures, including their history, religious ideology, political organizations, and social structures
3. Evaluation of the significance of archaeology for contemporary society and for Anthropology
4. Working with others on a project
5. Preparation for further study in the Anthropology Area of Concentration

Course Expectations:

Introductory survey courses present interesting challenges for students and for the professor, particularly on a topic as expansive in scope as archaeology within Anthropology (the study of human biological and cultural variation across time). The two textbooks provide the foundation for the endeavor with a tremendous richness of details on the human past and the achievements of the archaeological professional. The information in the textbooks is encyclopedic; they are used so that the professor does not have to lecture on the important empirical and technical details and instead focus on themes and issues. The articles and class presentations offer complimentary and occasionally contrarian arguments and perspectives to the information in the textbook; they introduce significant scholars, illustrate significant archaeological concerns, and point toward key journals in the profession but, most importantly, they are meant to raise questions about the past and how archaeologists know what they know. So while the course is lecture with discussions, the key for positive participation is to come with questions and concerns that come from the assigned readings. Those questions and concerns can be addressed during class but with the expectation that students will be discussing the concerns outside of class as well. As with any survey course, please treat the class as the launching pad for further investigations and research, not an end to itself.

This syllabus contains details on readings, topics, assignments, and expectations; look over the syllabus throughout the semester to keep track of assignments and topics as well as course goals.

- * You are required to use this syllabus
- * You should bring pen & paper or an electronic device for note-taking during class sessions
- * You need to read the assigned chapters and articles before class meets and bring either the readings or your notes on the readings to class
- * You are expected to respond to emails from the professor and to check the course's Canvas page regularly
- * You are required to attend each and every class during the semester. If you need to miss a class meeting, let the professor know ahead of time via email, voice mail, or a note in the divisional mailbox (in the Social Science Building); all standard reasons for missing class will be accepted; skipping class is a basis for an unsatisfactory evaluation for the course.

Course Requirements:

New College has a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory designation system for courses. You need to complete, by deadline, all four of the below elements for a satisfactory evaluation:

1. Attendance and participation in class discussions/activities
2. Midterm Exam (accommodation need to be requested by September 18th)
3. Final Exam on the archaeological history from the Paleolithic to the Ancient Civilizations
4. Hands-on project – choice is due on December 13th and in-class presentation depends on the project

All New College Policies will be followed

- A student needing special accommodations because of a disability must work with the Counseling and Wellness Center, which will establish the need for specific accommodations and communicate them to the instructor.
- Any suspected instance of plagiarism will be handled in accordance with the College's policy on academic dishonesty.
- No student shall be compelled to attend class or sit for an examination at a day or time when they would normally be engaged in a religious observance. Students are expected to notify their instructors if they intend to be absent for a class or announced examination prior to the scheduled meeting.

Required Readings:

Laurie Wilkie 2016 *Strung out on Archaeology: An Introduction to Archaeological Research*. Routledge
Eric Cline 2017 *Three Stones Make a Wall: The Story of Archaeology*. Princeton University Press
James C. Scott 2017 *Against the Grain: A Deep History of the Earliest States*. Yale University Press
Journal articles and book chapters listed on the schedule of readings are available on Canvas

Beyond the Classroom: Videos, Visits, and Opportunities

The class meets for only a few hours a week but archaeology extends beyond the campus. The professor is available to encourage visits to archaeological sites and museums as well as point toward volunteer opportunities. Class members are expected to share examples in the classroom and elsewhere with the professor and their classmates.

Accessing the Professor:

I will strive to arrive early to the classroom for each class meeting: that is a wonderful time to raise any questions about the course or anthropology in general. My office hours are organized as open door: there is no need to sign up for a time slot, just come by my office and I promise to be there. If there is a crowd of students, I will address your specific questions. If you are the only student to arrive, you have the time to discuss nearly anything related to the course, anthropology, or the college. Beyond office hours, if the door to my College Hall office is open, we can chat. You can also find me in NCPAL. In addition, I will reply to emails but please be polite in your requests and acknowledge my response to your questions/concerns.

Cross-listing:

Survey of Archaeology is a required introductory course for the Anthropology AOC. It also fulfills the college's diversity LAC requirement and the social science requirement, and the course is Gender Studies (GS) Eligible. If you are interested in having this course count toward the GS AOC, the professor will provide guidance to all students to ensure your coursework includes gender explicitly.

Schedule of Topics

8/24 Mini-Class

People, Things, and Meanings

I. What is Archaeology: Definitions and Theories

8/28 Archaeology in the Popular Imagination/Definition and Range of Archaeologies

Readings:

- Cline Preface
- Wilkie Chapter 1 The Parade, 2009
- Wilkie Chapter 2 Understanding Archaeology and the Throwing Game

8/30 Current Issues in Archaeology: Exciting Finds and 21st Century Ethics

Readings:

- Cline Prologue
- Jon Mooallem 2017 Neanderthals were People Too. *New York Times Magazine* <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/11/magazine/neanderthals-were-people-too.html>
- Elif Batuman 2011 The Sanctuary: The World's Oldest Temple and the Dawn of Civilization. *The New Yorker* http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2011/12/19/111219fa_fact_batuman
- Douglas Preston 2013 The El Dorado Machine: A New Scanner's Rain-Forest Discoveries. *The New Yorker* http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2013/05/06/130506fa_fact_preston
- Paul Cooper 2018 Saddam's "Disney for a Despot": How Dictators Exploit Ruins. <http://www.bbc.com/culture/story/20180419-saddam-disney-for-a-despot-how-dictators-exploit-ruins>
- Jeff Bond 2010 The Anthropology of Garbage: Lecturer Jason De Leon explores modern migration. *University of Washington Alumnae Magazine* <http://www.washington.edu/alumni/columns/march10/garbage.html>
- Heather Pringle 2014 The Ancient Roots of the 1%. *Science* 344(6186): 822-825 <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/344/6186/822>

9/4 A Brief History of Archaeological Theories

Readings:

- Wilkie Chapter 3 A Culture Historian's Approach to Carnival: Classifying Mardi Gras Beads
- Wilkie Chapter 4 Putting the Science in Archaeology's Social Science
- Wilkie Chapter 5 Mardi Gras as Lived, Social, and Experiential
- Cline Chapter 1 Ashes to Ashes in Ancient Italy
- Cline Chapter 2 Digging Up Troy
- Adrienne Zihlman 2012 The Real Females of Human Evolution. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 21:270-276

II. Methods for Doing Archaeology: Research Designs, Fieldwork, and Chronology

9/6 The Archaeological Process: Material Culture focused on Technology and Exchange

Class will meet at the New College Public Archaeology Lab

Readings:

- Wilkie Chapter 6 Technology and Social Change
- Wilkie Chapter 7 Mardi Gras GIS and Bead Exchange
- Myrna Pokiak (Inuvialuit) 2010 Being an Inuvialuit Archaeologist and Educator from Tuktyoaktut. *Being and Becoming an Indigenous Archaeologist*, pages 252-257.

9/11 Finding Archaeological Sites: The Detective Work of Surveying and Excavating

Readings:

- Cline Digging Deeper 1: How Do You Know Where to Dig?
- Cline Digging Deeper 2: How Do You Know How to Dig?
- Loubser 2003 Chapter 3 Peeling Back the Layers from *Archaeology: the Comic*, pages 44-69.
- Adrian Myers 2010 Camp Delta, Google Earth, and the Ethics of Remote Sensing in Archaeology. *World Archaeology* 42(3):455-467

9/13 Dating in Archaeology: Techniques and Chronologies

Readings:

- Cline Digging Deeper 3 How Old Is This and Why Is It Preserved?
- David Graeber and David Wengrow 2018 How to Change the Course of Human History (at least, the part that's already happened). *Eurozine* <https://www.eurozine.com/change-course-human-history/>

9/18 What Things and Places Mean: Locating Identities and Power in the Material Record

Readings:

- Wilkie Chapter 8 Social Identity
- Wilkie Chapter 9 Gender and Sexuality in the Throwing Game
- Wilkie Chapter 10 Establishing Power and Prestige through Beads
- Wilkie Chapter 11 Rebuilding, Reinventing, Revitalization, and Bead Bleed
- Jonathon Keats 2018 The Vanishing City. *Discover Magazine* September <http://discovermagazine.com/2018/sep/the-vanishing-city>

9/20 Case Study for Change and Stasis in Deep Antiquity: Recovering Past Lifeways at Little Salt Spring

Readings:

- Wilkie Chapter 12 Did You Catch the Method and Theory?
- Wilkie Post-Script: Never Can Say Goodbye...to Archaeological Research
- Carl J. Claussen 1979 Little Salt Springs, Florida: A Unique Underwater Site. *Science* 203(4381):609-614.
- George Wismer 2008 Diving into PaleoFlorida. *Mammoth Trumpet* 23(1):8-11.

9/25 Case Study for Identity in Documentary-Era Archaeology: Biblical Israel from Tel Dan

Readings:

- Cline Chapter 13 Excavating Armageddon
- Cline Chapter 14 Unearthing the Bible
- Cline Chapter 15 Mystery at Masada
- Cline Chapter 16 Cities of the Desert
- Avraham Biran 1994 selections from *Biblical Dan*, pages 21-25 and 125-146.
- Israel Finkelstein and Neil Silberman 2001 Memories of a Golden Age. *The Bible Unearthed*, pages 123-145.

9/27 Mid-term Exam

III. A Brief Survey of World Prehistory

10/2 The Origins of *Homo sapiens*

Readings:

- Kevin Loria 2018 A Handful of Recent Discoveries has Transformed our Entire Understanding of Human History. *Business Insider* <https://www.businessinsider.com/discoveries-change-our-understanding-of-human-origins-2018-7>
- Daniel Smith, Philip Schaepfer, Katie Major, Mark Dyble, Abigail E. Page, James Thompson, Nikhil Chaudhary, Gul Deniz Saladi, Ruth Mace, Leonora Astete, Marily Ngales, Lucio Vinicius, and Andrea Bamberg Migliano 2017 Cooperation and the Evolution of Hunter-gatherer Storytelling. *Nature Communications* 8(1853):1-9.

10/4 The Lower Paleolithic

Readings:

- Cline Chapter 6 Discovering Our Earliest Ancestors
- Israel Hershkovitz, Gerhard W. Weber, Rolf Quam, Mathieu Duval, Rainer Grün, Leslie Kinsley, Avner Ayalon, Miryam Bar-Matthews, Helene Valladas, Norbert Mercier, Juan Luis Arsuaga, María Martínón-Torres, José María Bermúdez de Castro, Cinzia Fornai, Laura Martín-Francés, Rachel Sarig, Hila May, Viktoria A. Krenn, Viviane Slon, Laura Rodríguez, Rebeca García, Carlos Lorenzo, Jose Miguel Carretero, Amos Frumkin, Ruth Shahack-Gross, Daniella E. Bar-Yosef Mayer, Yaming Cui, Xinzhi Wu, Natan Peled, Iris Groman-Yaroslavski, Lior Weissbrod, Reuven Yeshurun, Alexander Tsatskin, Yossi Zaidner, Mina Weinstein-Evron 2018 The Earliest Modern Humans Outside Africa. *Science* 359(6374):456-459.
- Steven Mithen and Lawrence Parsons 2008 The Brain as a Cultural Artifact. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 18(3):415-422.

10/9 Middle Paleolithic: Neanderthals and Modern Humans

Presentation on Lithics

Readings:

- Richard Klein 2003 Whither the Neanderthals? *Science* 299(5612): 1525-1527
- Ralph Solecki 1957 Shanidar Cave. *Old World Archaeology*, pages 66-72.

10/11 Upper Paleolithic and the Holocene: Cave Art, Female Figurines, and Central Places

Readings:

- Catherine Hodge McCoid and LeRoy D. McDermott 1996 Toward Decolonizing Gender: Female Vision in the Upper Paleolithic. *American Anthropologist* 98(2):319-326.
- Derek Hodgson and Paul Pettitt 2018 A Radical New Theory About the Origins of Art. *Sapiens* <https://www.sapiens.org/archaeology/paleolithic-cave-art-animals/>

FALL BREAK

10/23 From Complex Gather-Hunters to Farming: the Neolithic

Readings:

- Cline Chapter 7 First Farmers in the Fertile Crescent
- Scott Preface
- Scott Introduction: A Narrative in Tatters: What I Didn't Know
- Scott chapter 1 The Domestication of Fire, Plants, Animals, and . . . Us
- Robert J. Braidwood, Jonathan D. Sauer, Hans Helbaek, Paul C. Mangelsdorf, Hugh C. Cutler, Carleton S. Coon, Ralph Linton, Julian Steward, A. Leo Oppenheim 1953 Did Man Once Live by Beer Alone? *American Anthropologist* 55(4):515-526
- Andrew Curry 2013 The Milk Revolution. *Nature* 500(7460):20-22.

10/25 Focus on Çatalhöyük: Economic and Ideological Origins for Settled Life

Presentation on Ceramics

Readings:

- Scott chapter 2 Landscaping the World: The Domus Complex
- Scott chapter 3 Zoonoses: A Perfect Epidemiological Storm
- James Mellaart 1964 A Neolithic City in Turkey. *Old World Archaeology*, pages 120-129.
- Ian Hodder 1995 The Domestication of Europe. *Theory and Practice in Archaeology*, pages 241-253.
- Michael Balter 2005 The Seeds of Civilization. *Smithsonian Magazine*
http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history-archaeology/seeds_civilization.html
- Karina Croucher 2005 Queerying Near Eastern Archaeology. *World Archaeology* 37(4):610-620.

10/30 Mesopotamia: the Heartland of Cities

Readings:

- Scott chapter 4 Agro-ecology of the Early State
- Cline Chapter 4 Mysteries in Mesopotamia
- Samuel Kramer 1957 The Sumerians *Old World Archaeology*, pages 145-156.
- Denise Schmandt-Besserat 1999 Tokens: The Cognitive Significance. *Documenta Praehistorica* 36:21-28.
- Michael Smith 2009 V. Gordon Childe and the Urban Revolution: A Historical Perspective on a Revolution in Urban Studies. *Town Planning Review* 80(1):3-29.

11/1 Monumentality in Africa: the Complex Societies of the Nile and of the Sub-Sahara

Readings:

- Scott chapter 5 Population Control: Bondage and War
- Cline Chapter 3 From Egypt to Eternity
- Jonathan Shaw 2003 Who Built the Pyramids? *Harvard Magazine* July/August:43-49, 99.

11/6 Civilization in the Indus Valley and Northern China

Presentation on Perishable Material Culture

Readings:

- Scott chapter 6 Fragility of the Early State: Collapse as Disassembly
- Scott chapter 7 The Golden Age of the Barbarians
- Andrew Lawler 2004 The Indus Script – Write or Wrong? *Science* 306(5704):2026 – 2029.
- Steve Farmer, Richard Sproat, and Michael Witzel 2004 The Collapse of the Indus-Script Thesis: The Myth of a Literate Harappan Civilization. *Electronic Journal of Vedic Studies* 11(2):19-57.

11/8 The Peopling of the Americas

Readings:

- Roger Echo-Hawk 2000 Ancient History in the New World: Integrating Oral Traditions and the Archaeological Record in Deep Time. *American Antiquity* 65(2):267-290.
- Tom D. Dillehay, C. Ramírez, M. Pino, M. B. Collins, J. Rossen, and J. D. Pino-Navarro 2008 Monte Verde: Seaweed, Food, Medicine, and the Peopling of South America. *Science* 320 (5877):784-786.
- Beau Duke Carroll 2013 Indigenous Archaeological Practice in the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Horizon and Tradition. *American Archaeology* October:16-19.

11/13 Complex Societies across North America

Readings:

- Timothy Pauketat 2005 The Forgotten History of the Mississippians. In *North American Archaeology*, pages 187-211.
- Brian Fagan 2017 The Calusa: Shallows and Sea Grass. In *Fishing: How the Sea Fed Civilization*, pp. 114-124.
- Cline Chapter 19 Submarines and Settlers: Gold Coins and Lead Bullets

11/15 Development of Complex Society in MesoAmerica and South America

Readings:

- Cline Chapter 5 Exploring the Jungles of Central America
- Cline Chapter 18 Giant Heads, Feathered Serpents, and Golden Eagles
- Cline Chapter 17 Lines in the Sand, Cities in the Sky
- Manuel Medrano and Gary Urton 2018 The Khipu Code: The Knotty Mystery of the Inkas' 3D Records. Aeon <https://aeon.co/ideas/the-khipu-code-the-knotty-mystery-of-the-inkas-3d-records>

11/20 Classical Archaeology

Readings:

- Cline Chapter 8 Revealing the First Greeks
- Cline Chapter 9 Finding Atlantis?
- Cline Chapter 10 Enchantment Under the Sea
- Cline Chapter 11 From Discus-Throwing to Democracy
- Cline Chapter 12 What Have the Romans Ever Done for Us?

11/22 Thanksgiving - Class does not meet

IV. Archaeology of and in the Modern World

11/27 Another Revolution in Human History: the Archaeology of Modernity and the Anthropocene

Presentation on Rising Sea Levels Archaeology

Readings:

- James Whittenburg 2002 On the Power of Historical Archaeology to Change Historians' Minds about the Past. *Public Benefits of Archaeology*, pages 74-84.
- Jonathan Prangnell 2013 Colonialism and the Peel Island Lazaret: Changing the World One Story at a Time. *Historical Archaeology* 47(1):66-79.
- Andrew M. Bauer and Erle C. Ellis 2018 The Anthropocene Divide: Obscuring Understanding of Social-Environmental Change. *Current Anthropology* 59(2):209-227

11/29 Ethics Bowl

Readings:

- Cline Digging Deeper 4: Do You Get to Keep What You Find?
- Cline Epilogue
- Code of Ethics for World Archaeological Congress
http://www.worldarchaeologicalcongress.org/site/about_ethi.php
- Society for American Archaeology Principles of Archeological Ethics
<http://www.saa.org/AbouttheSociety/PrinciplesofArchaeologicalEthics/tabid/203/Default.aspx>

12/4 What Can Archaeology Contribute to Peace, Social Justice, and Saving the Earth?

Final Exam provided

Readings:

- David Schaepe, Bill Angelbeck, David Snook, and John Welch 2018 Archaeology as Therapy: Connecting Belongings, Knowledge, Time, Place, and Well-Being. *Current Anthropology* 58(4):502-533.
- Barbara Little 2013 Reversing the Narrative from Violence to Peace: Some Thoughts from an Archaeologist. *Historical Archaeology* 47(3):124-129.