

1. **Course Information**

College: Liberal Arts  
Department: Sociology/Anthropology  
Course Title: Introduction to Archaeology  
Course Designation and Number: ATH 242  
GE Area(s): (List all area(s) that apply.)

VI. College Component

Writing Intensive:  Yes  No

For WI Courses:  All sections  Selected sections are WI

Method(s) of Instruction:  Lecture  
 Discussion  
 Web-enhanced  
 Web-only  
 Other (explain below)

Includes Lab:  Yes  No  
(For lab courses specify how the weekly meeting times are structured.)

Prerequisites: (Specify or state 'None.') None

2. **Objectives**

GE Program Objectives: (Refer to GE program document.)

Sharpen critical thinking  
Increase knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live...  
Learn about the ... cultural dimensions of human experience

GE Area Objectives: (Refer to GE program document.)

Communicate with individuals who are in the student's major, in allied fields, and non-specialists

Understand important relationships and interdependencies between the student's major and other academic disciplines

Course Objectives and GE Learning Outcomes:

Introduction to Archaeology involves students in a dialogue concerning how past cultures are delineated based upon the material traces they leave behind. The recovery and interpretation of this evidence is the subject matter of scientific archaeology. Students learn that how we interpret past events and cultures is dependent not only upon the remnants of a

past culture that can be recovered, but also how we think about human beings, their artifacts and their cultures.

Area Six learning outcomes assessed:

Communication with individuals who are in the student's major, in allied fields, and non-specialists

Describes and analyzes historical-social elements of nonwestern culture

Cross-cultural analysis of complex individual behavior

For WI Courses: WAC Objectives (Specify which WAC objectives are met and how WAC is integrated into course (refer to WAC program document).

Encourages students to use writing as a learning tool to explore and structure ideas, to articulate thoughts and questions, and to discover what they do and do not know, thereby empowering students to use writing as a tool of discovery, self-discipline, and thought.

Ten percent of the course grade is based on the submission of a draft and final version of a report on an archaeological topic of the student's choice. It addresses a current issue in archaeology, culled from the popular media or a popular archaeological journal. The student critiques the article, stating what additional information is needed to understand the topic better, or why the writer was deficient in his/her reporting.

3. **Suggested Course Materials**

Text: Discovering our Past, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition by Wendy Ashmore and Robert Sharer; Reading packet, a set of readings from Scientific American and Archaeology has been duplicated and available from the bookstore.

4. **Suggested Methods of Evaluation**

Two one hour exams and a final exam weighted at 30% each and a report (with preliminary and final drafts submitted) worth 10% of the final grade. Students may elect to count the final exam for the equivalent of both hour exams: the hourly exams would then be worth 45% of the grade and the final 45% of the grade. Students selecting this option must so inform the instructor in writing before the week of final exams (a form will be available).

5. **Grading Policy**

(This section is to be reproduced on all master syllabi exactly as it appears here.)

All GE courses are graded A-F.

WI component is graded Pass/Unsatisfactory. (Include only for WI courses.)

6. **Suggested Weekly Course Outline Including Typical Assignments**

Week 1	Archaeological concepts	Ch. 1, Ch. 4 pp. 55-70
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Week 2	A history of archaeology's development	Ch. 2
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Week 3	Archaeological surveys and excavation	Ch. 4, pp. 70-78; Ch. 5 (omit pp. 107-111)
	First Hour Exam	
Week 4	Stone tools	pp. 114-119
	Pottery	pp. 119-124
Week 5-6	Dating techniques	Ch. 7
Week 6	Human skeletal analysis	pp. 109-110, 133-135 Larson - "Telltale Bones"
	Second Hour Exam	
Week 7	The earliest Americans	"Clovis Counterrevolution"
	Hopewell and Hilltop enclosures in the Eastern United States	Lepper
Week 8	Communities in the Desert: Southwest U.S.	Lekson; Wicklein
Week 8-9	High cultures in Mesoamerica: cycles of rise and fall	Carlson; Sheets
Week 10	Historical archaeology: plantations & slavery in the Caribbean	Harrington; Ch. 10
	Final Exam	

7. **Other** (This section is to be reproduced on all master syllabi exactly as it appears here.) Syllabus distributed to students should employ the format approved by UCAP and must include:
- Instructor name, office hours, and contact information
  - Office of Disability Services information
  - Information on how grades will be determined
  - Attendance policy