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*, 3rd 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
   Week 2  A history of archaeology's development  Ch. 2
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