Archaeological Mysteries
ANT 384.001 (Spring 2018)
F G78, TR 9:30-10:45 am

Professor: Dr. Leslie Cecil
Department of Anthropology, Geography, and Sociology
Office: LAN 336 (Department office)
Phone: 468-3980
Email: cecillg@sfasu.edu
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9-10 am, Tuesday and Thursday 2-3 pm, Friday 11-12, or by appointment

Course Description/Objectives:
Throughout history, and even today, there are many mysteries (and frauds) about human history and prehistory. Many of these mysteries and frauds are “substantiated” with archaeological data. However, a scientific examination of those archaeological data often debunks the frauds and makes the mysterious not so mysterious. This course will take a closer examination of past frauds/mysteries such as Atlantis and who peopled the Americas as well as current mysteries such as the Egyptian pyramids in Giza and the Maya calendar and 2012.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:
1. understand the role of science in understanding the archaeological record.
2. critically examine claims made by different kinds of media sources.
3. differentiate between pseudoscientific/nonscientific and scientific claims.
4. judge how we know what we know about prehistory.

Required Texts and Materials:
1) Feder, Kenneth L.

You are expected to have read all of the material assigned for the class period before you come to class. If you do not do the readings, class discussion will suffer as will your understanding of the material. Half (12 points) of your professionalism grade depends on your effort in class discussion. Some films will be shown during class. You are expected to attend those films (they are required) and they will appear on the exams and on the written assignments. If you should miss a film, you must schedule a time with me to see it in the departmental office (no exceptions).

Course Structure:
We meet in class on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-11 am. Come early, come often!
Assignments/Exams:
This course meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the semester. There are two exams (the second one will be given during the final exam period) and a series of critical thinking assignments throughout the course. All exams and assignments are due on the date and time indicated on the course reading schedule.
I do not accept late work.

If you miss an exam, you can take an essay make-up exam on Friday May 3, 2018 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the departmental office (LAN335). There are no exceptions to making up an exam—if you want to take it, you must take it on the May 3rd at 3:00 p.m. You only will have one hour to complete the exam(s). If you are missing an exam grade after the make-up date and time, you will receive a 0 for that exam.

Grading:
By completing assignments, you are EARNING points. The total number of points that you earn will be your grade. There are no free points to be given out at will by the professor. There will be no rounding up of grades. The number of points that you earn is the grade that you will have in this class. THERE WILL BE NO BEGGING OR BARTERING FOR POINTS THAT YOU DID NOT EARN.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (final)</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment Questions</td>
<td>140 points (20 points per paper)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Grades are posted on d2l so that you can always figure out your grade in the course. Letter grades are as follows: A (100-90%); B (89-80%); C (79-70%); D (69-60%); and F (59% and below).

Attendance and Excused absences
http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class_attendance_excused_abs.asp
Attendance is expected at all class meetings. Please do not confuse attendance with participation which counts for half of your professionalism grade. Class begins at 9:30 a.m. and you are expected to be on time. I will take attendance at 9:30 a.m. and if you are not in your seat, you will be counted as absent. Leaving class early without prior permission will result in you being counted as absent. If you fall asleep during class or do work from other courses in my class, you will be counted absent. You are allowed two absences for whatever reason. I do not need to see an excuse. After two absences, each time you are counted absent, two points will be deducted from your final point total.

Professionalism:
You are expected to act professionally at all times and to treat each other and me (the professor) with respect. Behaving unprofessionally will adversely affect your grade. You are expected to come to class having read the assigned materials and be prepared to discuss the content. Class participation counts for 12 of the professionalism points.
When you come to class and lab, please turn off and put away your cell phones and other electronics including computers. There will be no text messaging or use of computers during class time. If you use your cell phone or computer during class time, you will lose all of your professionalism points. If you need to use a laptop computer, record the lectures, or need assistance with any disability, please see Disabilities Services for the required paperwork and I will be happy to accommodate your needs. Remember, if you are doing something other than paying attention in class you interfere with your classmate’s abilities to learn. Please be courteous to everyone in class.

Acceptable Student Behavior:
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/ inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

Students with Disabilities
http://www2.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1):
http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp
Cheating and plagiarism on exams and projects will not be tolerated. Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.
Add/Drop Policy:  http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/add_drop.asp

Withheld Grades:  
http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/semester_grds.asp  
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.
Course Reading Schedule
All readings refer to the Feder textbook

January 16
  Introduction to the Course
  “Ancient Aliens”

January 18-23
  Science vs Pseudoscience
  What Makes a Good Hoax
  Reading: Chapters 1-3
  Movie: Alien Autopsy
  Science vs Pseudoscience Written Assignment due by Friday Jan 26 by 11:59 pm CST

January 25-Feb 6
  Migrations to the New World
  Reading: Chapters 5 and 7
  Movie: Time Team America Topper/Myth of the Moundbuilders
  Origins Written Assignment due by Friday February 9 by 11:59 pm CST

February 8-15
  The Lost City of Atlantis/Minoan Civilization
  Reading: Chapter 8
  Movie: Sinking Atlantis
  Atlantis Written Assignment due by Friday February 16 by 11:59 pm CST

February 20
Exam 1

February 22-March 8
  Construction of the Pyramids of Giza (Egypt)
  Reading: Chapter 10
  Movie: This Old Pyramid
  Pyramid Written Assignment by Friday March 9 by 11:59 pm CST

March 20-March 27
The Mayan Calendar and 2012
  Reading: Chapter 13
  Movie: Lost Civilizations of the Maya
  2012 Chaos Written Assignment due by Friday March 30 by 11:59 pm CST
April 3-19
Aliens!!!!!!! Nazca, Olmecs, Easter Island
Read: Chapter 9
Movie: Secrets of Easter Island
   Ancient Aliens Episode
Von Daniken Written Assignment due by Friday April 20 by 11:59 pm CST

April 24-May 3
The Realm of Religion—Shroud of Turin, James Ossuary
   Read Chapter 12
   Movie: Shroud of Turin, 60 Minutes James Ossuary
   Written Assignment due by Friday May 4 by 11:59 pm CST

May 10, 2018 8-10 am
Final Exam
No make up exams will be given—this is not a hoax!
Program Learning Outcomes

The sociology program states the following items as Program Learning Objectives (PLOs) for sociology majors.

PLO1 The students will be able to identify, compare, and contrast sociological classical and contemporary theories.
PLO2 The student will be able to identify the principles of good social scientific research design. Such principles include validity, reliability, precision in measurement, and sampling methodology.
PLO3 The student will possess sociological knowledge as evidenced by the identification of the major concepts involved with social stratification, demography, race and ethnic relations, deviance, and globalization.
PLO4 The student will be able to apply sociological knowledge and skills to a variety of settings.
PLO5 The student will recognize the implicit assumptions behind claims of knowledge about the social world, will be able to evaluate and distinguish between strong and weak arguments, and will be able to draw conclusions from a set of premises.
PLO6 The student will be able to read theoretical arguments and to identify their major strengths and weaknesses.
PLO7 The student will be able to analyze a data set using statistical techniques and draw conclusions from the results.

This course addresses the following of these objectives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLOs</th>
<th>Supported Course Objective</th>
<th>Skill Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLO1</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO2</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLO3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLO4</td>
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<td>PLO5</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLO6</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO7</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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