Introduction to Archaeology
ANT 251.001 (and Lab ANT251L) Spring 2019
Lecture: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. FG78
Lab: Tuesday 12:30-1:45 p.m. FG80
Thursday 12:30-1:45 p.m. FG80

Professor: Dr. Leslie Cecil
Department of Anthropology, Geography, and Sociology
Office: LAN 336
Phone: 468-3980
Email: cecillg@sfasu.edu
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 am, Tuesdays and
Thursdays 2-3 pm, Fridays 12-1 pm, or by appointment

Course Description
SFASU 2015-2016 Bulletin Description: Introduction to Americanist Archaeology, particularly origins, history, theory, and methodology. Archaeological fieldwork, description, analysis, and reporting; computer simulation.

Archaeology is the study of material culture to make inferences about past human behavior. Anthropological archaeologists apply these inferences to increase our understanding of all human societies—contemporary, historic, and prehistoric. This course presents the issues and questions that motivate archaeologists to examine material culture, as well as the techniques and methods used by archaeologists. You will gain an understanding of what archaeologists do, the methods that they use, and the challenges facing archaeology in the future.
Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:
1) understand the origins and development of the field of archaeology.
2) survey, map, and record archaeological sites and excavations.
3) understand different archaeological methodologies and their applications.
4) understand how theory and method correspond in American archaeology.
5) excavate sites and analyze artifacts during a field school.

Texts and Readings:
You have one required text and additional readings:

2) Additional readings are posted in the folder Additional Readings on the course D2L page.

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 and laboratory time. You are expected to attend those films (they are required) and they will appear on the exams or are useful for laboratory exercises. If you should miss a film, you must schedule a time with me to see it in the departmental office (no exceptions).

Course Requirements/Structure

Laboratory (Thursday afternoon):
In addition to Tuesday and Thursday class lecture periods (75 minutes), you also have been assigned a laboratory time on Tuesday OR Thursday afternoon (75 minutes). The physical work for the labs will be done during laboratory class time making attendance necessary for you to understand and complete the labs. **All laboratory exercises are due at the beginning of class the Tuesday or Thursday following the lab period (except for the final lab which is due at the end of the lab period). There are no make up laboratory exercises.** The laboratory syllabus is at the end of the lecture reading schedule.

Assignments/Exams:
There are two in-class exams (multiple choice and short answer), a 2-hour in class final exam, laboratory exercises, and a project that are required for this course. The final will allow you to use all of the information that you have acquired during this course to interpret a number of archaeological sites. You will receive preliminary instructions on the last day of class.

You are expected to do approximately 8 hours of preparatory work per week outside of the classroom.

If you miss an exam, you can take an essay make-up exam on **Friday May 3, 2019** from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in F G78. There are no exceptions to making up an exam—if you want to take it, you must take it on the May 3rd at 2:00 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.

Project:
You are required to complete a project for this course. It should take you approximately
4-8 hours of research before you write the paper. This project will enlighten you as to the
world of looting and the illegal (or in some cases legal) sale of artifacts via the internet
and some famous auction houses. The project will be typed, double-spaced, 12-point
font, and with one-inch margins. The full description of the project follows the
reading/class schedule. The project will be submitted to D2L via the appropriate
dropbox on April 16th. No late papers will be accepted.

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.

Exam 1 50 points
Exam 2 50 points
Project 100 points
Final Exam 100 points
Laboratory Exercises 200 points (8 labs @ 25 points/lab)
Undergraduate Research Conference 25 points
Professionalism 25 points

Grades are posted on D2L so that you can always figure out your grade in the course.
Letter grades are as follows:
A=550-495
B=494-440
C=439-385
D=384-330
F= below 329

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 11:00
a.m. (12:30 p.m. for the labs) and you are expected to be on time. I will take attendance
at 11:00 a.m. (12:30 p.m. for the labs) 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/](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](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](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/add_drop.asp)

**Withheld Grades:**
[http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/semester_grds.asp](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.

**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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLOs</th>
<th>Supported Course Objective</th>
<th>Skill Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLO # or NA (not applicable)</td>
<td>Basic, Intermediate, Advanced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO2</td>
<td>3 and 5</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO3</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO4</td>
<td>1, 2, and 3</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO7</td>
<td>2 and 3</td>
<td>B</td>
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This course addresses the following of these objectives:
Reading/Class Schedule:

Tuesday January 22
Course Introduction

Thursday January 24 and Tuesday January 29
What is archaeology?
Read: Chapters 1, 2, and 10

Thursday January 31 and Tuesday February 5
Preparations before you dig—Research Design and Sampling
Read: Chapter 5

Thursday February 7
How is the archaeological record formed?
Read: Chapter 4

Tuesday February 12 and Thursday February 14
Artifacts
Read: Chapter 6

Tuesday February 19, Thursday February 21, and Tuesday February 26
So, you want to dig? Survey, Mapping, and Excavation
Read: Chapter 5

Thursday February 28 and Tuesday March 5
How old are the artifacts and the site? Dating Techniques
Read: Chapter 7

Thursday March 7
Exam 1

Tuesday March 12 and Thursday March 21
Super Spring Break No class

Tuesday March 26, Thursday March 28, and Tuesday April 2
Is it legal? Ethics and Legislation
Read: Chapter 3 and National Historic Preservation Act, NAGPRA, Cultural Properties Laws, UNESCO, Ethics Statement of the SAA and AAA, Egyptian looting article (National Geographic)
Tuesday April 4  
Archaeological Theory and Use of Analogy  
Read: Chapters 3 and 10

Tuesday April 9 and Thursday April 11  
What does it mean? Antiquarianism and Culture History  
Read: Ashmore and Sharer Chapters 3 and 9

Tuesday April 16  
1) Internet Project Due 11 am to d2l  
2) Undergraduate Research Conference Attendance Required (4:30-7:00 p.m.)

April 18  
Easter Break No Class

Thursday April 23 and Tuesday April 25  
What does it mean? Processual Theory  
Read: Ashmore and Sharer Chapters 3 and 9

Tuesday April 30  
What does it mean? Post-Processual Theory  
Read: Ashmore and Sharer Chapters 3 and 9

Thursday May 2  
**Exam 2**

Tuesday May 7  
Interpol Video

Thursday May 4  
Make up lab during class time

**Final Exam**  
May 14, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

No make-up exams will be given.
Internet Auction Site Project

Due time is April 16th at 11:00 am to d2l, no late papers will be accepted!

Use SAA Style for in text references and references cited sections.
5-6 pages, double spaced, 1” margins

Part 1:
Find and Describe Two Artifacts for Sale

Find two artifacts: Go to two different internet action sites and locate two items for sale (one from each site) that are advertised as authentic prehistoric artifacts (artifacts are defined as ceramic, metal, organic, or lithic, as per your textbook and not dinosaur bones). One artifact must be from a North American prehistoric culture sold by eBay and the other one from a non-American prehistoric culture sold by Christies.com or Bohnams.com. The artifacts from Christies and Bohnams are artifacts that were previously sold and the links to the catalogues are on the d2l module page. At least one of these artifacts should be relatively expensive (at least 10x the price of the less expensive artifact).

Briefly describe each artifact: Based on the scant information that is provided, research the culture from which the artifact is from and describe the culture, time period, and artifact. You are going to have to do some research here. That means academic sources—not Wikipedia, everyculture and the like.

What to describe for each artifact: What is it? What is it made of? What culture is represented? Does this piece seem to represent the culture? Why or why not? If little information about context is provided by the sellers, does this suggest anything to you about whether the seller is concerned with learning about the past?

Part 2:
Where does the Society for American Archaeology stand on the issue of the sale of artifacts?

Read the letter from Keith Kintigh, president of the Society for American Archaeology in 2000, to Amazon.com. Summarize Kintigh’s main points (all of them) against the sale of antiquities on internet auction sites.

Letter is at this website:

Part 3:
National Laws – Your North American Artifact

Was your artifact found on privately owned land? Keep in mind that most sellers will know that it is illegal to possess or sell artifacts collected from public (government) lands, so they will probably demonstrate somehow that their artifacts come from private land. If there is no evidence of this on the website, contact them through email and see what they say. Do they offer you any kind of proof that their artifacts do, in fact, come from private land? Do you believe them? Do the sellers offer any proof that the artifacts that they are advertising are authentic or that they are as old as the claim? Do you believe them?

Let us assume for a minute that your artifact comes from government-held lands, what laws govern the sale of artifacts similar to that which is being sold? Why do these laws apply?
Search around eBay and determine their official policy on the sale of antiquities. It is there, but you have to dig for it (pun intended). Summarize their policies, state whether you think these policies are adequate, and explain your responses.

Part 4:
International Laws – Your Non-North American Artifact

Is your artifact covered by international law? How do you know whether it is or is not? Assume that the seller is telling the truth in how and when it was obtained. Given that date of possession, was the origination country part of the UNESCO law during that year? What might this mean for the legality of the seller selling the artifact and you purchasing the artifact? In your response make sure to include the date that the country of origin/ownership became part of the UNESCO law.
Search around the Christie’s.com or Bohnams.com website and determine their official policy on the sale of antiquities. It is there, but you have to dig for it (pun intended). Summarize their policies, state whether you think these policies are adequate, and explain your responses.

Part 5:
How would you “fix” the system and stop trafficking of artifacts?

Describe what you learned about the practice of selling antiquities over the internet? What do you think the impact of this market is on our ability to learn about the past? Imagine that you are working for the US Customs Office. It is your job to come up with new laws and punishments to help stop the trafficking of artifacts within the US and internationally. What ideas/steps do you have that could be taken to discourage the illegal sale of artifacts or to encourage preservation of the archaeological record? You need to describe specific future laws and punishments that you think would stop the illegal sale of artifacts.

National (U.S.) Artifacts:
Antiquities Act of 1906
Archaeological Resources Protection Act (a little tougher than 1906)
http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/FHPL_ArchRsrcsProt.pdf
NAGPRA
http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/FHPL_NAGPRA.pdf

International Artifacts:
UNESCO International Laws for Cultural Property
Year of Ratification for Countries into UNESCO
http://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/


Introduction to Archaeology Laboratory

All laboratory exercises are worth 25 points.

January 29/31
Lab Safety
What does this bag of artifacts mean?

February 5/7
Sampling Exercise

February 12/14
Sinking Atlantis Movie

February 19/21
Artifact Identification and Classification

February 26/28
Topographic Mapping and Pacing

March 26/28
Mapping a 1x1 Unit

April 2/4
Radiometric Dating and Dendrochronology

April 9/11
Oak Grove Cemetery Seriation

April 16/18
Secrets of the Sky Tombs (movie)
Watch on your own

April 23/25
Flintknapping Movie

April 30/May 2
Flintknapping for real (Bring your Hammerstone and Protective Eye Gear)