

Anthropology 332 - Origins of Old World Cities and States

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Fall 2009
T and R 2:00-3:15pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the cities and states level societies of the Old World including China, Africa, the Indus Valley, and the Eastern Mediterranean. This course will review the origins of agriculture, urban life and 'complex' societies. Origin theories and the archaeological evidence for changes in human economic and social organization will be discussed. Comparing these regional cultural responses to different environmental and geographic contexts focuses attention on the way in which the evolution of social complexity occurs. We will explore numerous archaeological discoveries as well as their interpretations and gleanings into the past.

TEXTS:

Scarce, Christopher and Brian Fagan (2nd edition)
2003 Ancient Civilizations

READING ASSIGNMENTS:

You are expected to have the book listed above for this class. There will also be various handouts throughout the term. You are responsible for all material in the reading assignments. After the first class, you will be expected to have completed each reading assignment before coming to class. This preparation is necessary if you are to participate in class discussion. You should be warned that reading assignments will cover material not presented in class lecture. **ALL** is fair game on the exams!

EXAMS:

There will be THREE exams in this course. Each will cover only the material since the last exam. There is NO cumulative final for this class. Format will include: long and short essay as well as short answer. Make-up exams will be given only under real and extenuating circumstances. **You MUST contact me within 24 hours of the scheduled exam. A documented excuse is required in addition to approval by the instructor. Do not assume you can just take a make-up.** All effort must be made on your part to contact me as soon as the situation develops and you are responsible for scheduling the make-up. **No cheating will be tolerated.**

SUMMARY and CRITIQUE:

Each student will be required to summarize and critique EITHER an article or a chapter from the text. If you choose the article it must be from a *peer-reviewed scholarly* journal. A complete reference (include title, date, page) of article must be included at the end of the summary and critique. This assignment will be approx. 1 ½ - 2 pages. An example of a good summary and critique, written by one of your peers, is provided on Blackboard.

PAPER:

There will be one major paper for the semester. You will have the opportunity to choose between two options: day-in-the-life narrative OR a traditional research paper. If you choose the research paper you may write it alone or with a partner (longer page length required). Look to Blackboard for further details.

VIDEOS:

There will be several videos shown throughout the semester. You are expected to take notes during the videos. You will see this material on the exams.

ATTENDANCE:

I consider attendance and class participation important. This also includes being punctual. Late arrival disrupts the class and takes away from your fellow students' learning. You are responsible for all lecture material. If you miss a lecture, it is up to you to borrow someone's notes.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES:

Students with disabilities will be happily accommodated, but all arrangements must be made through Disability Support Services office located in Student Success Center, room 1270, and the student must present to me his or her ID CARD. If the student must take an exam at DSS, a DSS Test Release Form must be given to me by the student during the class period prior to the exam.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM:

Cheating and plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Plagiarism includes either presenting someone else's words without quotation marks (even if you cite the source) or presenting someone else's ideas without citing that source. If you plagiarize, your instructor cannot evaluate your understanding of the topic. When paraphrasing from another source, at the very least the student should change the wording, sentence syntax, and order of ideas presented in the paper. Ideally, the student will integrate ideas from multiple sources while providing critical commentary on the topic in a way that clearly identifies whether words and ideas are those of the student or are from another source. University policy states that "Normally a student who plagiarizes shall receive a grade of F in the course in which the act occurs. The offense shall also be reported to the Provost." (<http://www.siue.edu/POLICIES/1i6.html>). The University policy discusses additional academic sanctions including suspension and expulsion from the University.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

Class time is very limited during any given semester and in order to get through all the necessary material everyone must work together. Considerate and respectful behavior toward **ALL OTHERS** in the class is mandatory! Absolutely no side conversations will be permitted once class has started. Common sense should tell you that it disturbs those around you and presents an air of disrespect. Failure to abide by this could result in your expulsion from that class hour. Unless a dire emergency, stay seated and focused on the class material. Getting up for breaks during class is completely disruptive. Deal with these needs either before or after class.

BLACKBOARD:

This is a course web site that will be used as a closed interactive environment for the students and instructor of this class. Many useful items will be available throughout the semester on this site including: grades (broken down by item), copy of syllabus, class calendar and project criteria. You will find it a useful tool for the duration of the semester, especially for monitoring your course progress. The web address for this is: <http://blackboard.siue.edu>. You then click "Login". A window will come up asking for your ID and Password. Example: students SIUE email address is atorrel@siue.edu. That would make her ID=atorrel. The Password is the same as for your SIUE email account, then click "Origins of Old World Cities/States". If you are having any trouble, check out <http://www.library.siue.edu/ftc/blackboard/support/student.htm> for assistance.

GETTING A HOLD OF ME

Email and office hours are always good. Office hours are for YOU to help you through this class. If the above office times do not work for you, just let me know and we can easily schedule another time to meet. You can also put a message in my mailbox in the Anthropology Dept. office. FYI - I am unable to call off campus. So...if you leave me a voicemail, I will not be returning your call. Please email me if you need a reply.

Also, in the **very rare** instance you might email me an assignment, I have a set procedure for this. I will send you a short, but sweet, reply message that it was received and printed. IF YOU DO NOT GET A REPLY MESSAGE, I DIDN'T GET IT AND IT IS IN THE ETHER. It is then up to you to get it to me hardcopy.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS
(Tentative – may need adjusting as the semester progresses)

Week	Dates	Topics	Assignment
1.	25-27 Aug	Archaeology: Science or Bias?	Handouts
2.	1-3 Sept	Study of 'Civilization'	Chapter 1 (skip Greece & Rome, Greece & Crete, Americas)
3.	8-10 Sept	Theories of States	Chapter 2; Handouts
4.	15-17 Sept	Early Mesopotamia	Chapter 3 (start pg 59)
5.	22-24 Sept	Later Mesopotamia	Chapters 7 & 8
6.	29 Sept- 1 Oct	Egypt	Chapter 4
7.	6-8 Oct	Egypt; Meetings with Instructor	Chapter 4
8.	13-15 Oct	Egypt; Africa	Chapter 12 (start pg 335)
9.	20-22 Oct	Africa	Handouts
10.	27-29 Oct	Indus Valley	Chapter 5
11.	3-5 Nov	Indus Valley	Chapter 5
12.	10-12 Nov	Meetings with Instructor	
13.	17-19 Nov	China	Chapter 6
		THANKSGIVING BREAK	ENJOY !!
14.	1-3 Dec	China	Chapter 14
15.	8-10 Dec	China	

GRADING:

Summary & Critique	15 points
Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Exam 3	100 points
Project	85 points

TOTAL	400 points

GRADE SCALE:

A = 90-100%	(360 - 400 points)
B = 80-89%	(320 - 359 points)
C = 70-79%	(280 - 319 points)
D = 60-69%	(240 - 279 points)
F = 59 and below	(0 - 239 points)

Summary and Critique Due: 24 Sept

Exam Schedule: Exam 1 – 1 Oct Exam 2 – 29 Oct Exam 3 – Mon, 14 Dec, noon

All Papers Due: 10 Dec, 4pm, handed into me at my office

STUDENT DATA SHEET

Name: _____ Email: _____

Year in school (freshman, sophomore, etc): _____

Major/s: _____ Minor/s: _____

Hobbies/other interests: _____
_____Have you ever had an anthropology class before? If so, what? _____
_____Why are you taking this course? (Be honest; it's OK). _____

Any particular area/s of interest in Old World Arch? _____

Anything else you want me to know? _____

Attach a photo of yourself to this data sheet and you will receive **2 points extra credit** in your final grade. The purpose of the photo is to help me learn your name. You can have the photo back at the end of the semester. Please sign and return this sheet by the end of the 2nd week of classes to indicate that you have received and read the syllabus. If you do not return the sheet, I will assume you have dropped the course.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Attach photo here please.