

ANCIENT PEOPLES & PLACES

<http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~ndavid/205page.htm>

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Lectures: MWF 1000-1050 in ST135
Office hours: MWF 1100-1200, and by appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course is designed to assist you in understanding where, when, how and why humans evolved biologically and developed culturally through all stages of development from the *Australopithecines* and their relatives to the earliest civilizations in both hemispheres. Specifically, you will learn to:

1. Label on outline maps of the world archaeological sites, cultural distributions, geographical features and areas discussed in the lectures.
2. Recognize sites and artifacts from illustrations and attribute them to their cultural entities, and

write essays, short answers or answer multiple choice questions on

3. the significance of sites, artifacts, fossils, animal and botanical species, cultures, institutions, concepts and methods.
4. aspects of physical evolution and cultural development from *Australopithecus* to *Homo sapiens*.
5. the definition, with examples from both Old and New Worlds, of stages in cultural development.
6. the achievement of similar stages of cultural development in at least one Old World and one New World area.
7. the development of major traditions, cultures and civilizations.
8. cultural subsystems such as religion, technology, and political organization, and their roles in the development of culture and society.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

30% First mid-term exam (45 mins)	Wednesday, 10 October
30% Second mid-term exam (45 mins)	Wednesday, 31 October
30% Third mid-term exam (45 mins)	Friday, 26 November
10% Final week quiz	Friday, 7 December

GRADING SCHEME

A+	100-95	C+	69-65
A	94-90	C	64-60
A-	89-85	C-	59-55
B+	84-80	D+	54-50
B	79-75	D	49-45
B-	74-70	F	<45

COMMUNICATIONS TO, FROM, AND WITHIN THE CLASS

WEB PAGE I maintain a web page <http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~ndavid/205page.htm> which contains the course syllabus and other relevant materials. This is updated as the course progresses.

EMAIL AND EMAILING LIST Students with administrative problems, e.g., inability to take an exam due to sickness, should either write or phone me or send me an email message. While I welcome questions on course content in class and during office hours, I cannot undertake to correspond with students individually over such matters. Instead, early in the semester I will organize a mailing list to which we can all post information, questions, and answers relevant to the course. The mailing list serves as a forum of discussion.

TEXTS

Required:

R.J. Wenke 1999 (4th ed.[3rd edition also acceptable]) *Patterns in Prehistory*. Oxford, N.Y., Toronto: Oxford University Press.
and any WORLD ATLAS.

Recommended:

B.M. Fagan 1995. *People of the Earth* (8th ed. [5th and later editions also acceptable]). New York: Harper Collins.
Trigger, B. 1993. *Early civilizations: Ancient Egypt in context*. Cairo: American U. in Cairo Press.

You are encouraged to browse in the MAIN LIBRARY and the ARCHAEOLOGY DEPARTMENT READING ROOM (ES 812). There are lots of other accessible texts on different areas, periods and topics.

OUTLINE OF LECTURE TOPICS AND READINGS:

Lecture topics may take up more than one lecture period. Keep up with the readings listed below (or their equivalents in earlier editions of the texts). Chapter and page numbers are supplied as guides only; you are responsible for finding and reading the relevant materials.

Required and recommended reading are indicated as follows:- Wenke – **W**; Fagan – **F**.

- 1 Introduction: Archaeology, the most fundamental of disciplines. Why and how we study prehistory. Course organization, texts and assessment. The concept of culture. The history of prehistory. Can we make true statements about the past?
W: chap. 1 (scan) and 2; F: 1-35.
- 2 World environments from 2.5 million years ago; their influence on biological evolution. The Pliocene and Pleistocene *Epochs* and the Old Stone (Palaeolithic) *Age*.
W: chap. 3; F: 37-42, 77-80.
- 3 Recognizing ancestors and cousins. Humans among the primates. *Hominoids* and *hominids*. Ancestry revealed by comparative anatomy and biochemistry.
F: 42-50.
- 4 The fossil record. *Australopithecus* to *Homo habilis*. Physical evolution. Food sharing and the origins of culture. What is a human? Lithic technology.
F: 50-75.
- 5 *Homo erectus*. Fossil evidence and industrial traditions. The Acheulian. Control of fire. Scavenging and/or big-game hunting?
W: chap. 4; F: 80-98.

- 6 Archaic *Homo sapiens*. African Eve? Neandertals - a European sideline? Technological advances. Prepared core techniques and blade tools. How human were they? Origins of language, ritual and religion.
F: 99-116.
- 7 The last glaciation and *Homo sapiens sapiens*. Loss of robusticity and self-awareness; are they correlated? Technological advances.
F: 119-146.
- 8 A case study. The peoples of SW France in the Last Glaciation. The use of ethnographic analogy. Reconstruction of technology and economy, society and art. Why cultures changed.
- 9 The spread of modern humans through the Old World.
F: 146-149, 204-223.
- 10 Economic intensification. Why work harder? Cultural development as failure to adapt. Social reproduction and increasing cultural complexity. Food production: prerequisites, processes and techniques. Some consequences.
W: chap. 6; F: 151-168, 226-245.
- 11 Development of food production in SW Asia. Natufians. New forms of social organization. Colonization of Mesopotamia. Origins and significance of pottery and metallurgy. Jericho. Çatal Hüyük. Obsidian and long distance trade.
F: 169-173, 247-60.
- 12 Civilization: definitions and characteristics, theories of its development.
W: chap. 7; F: 342-59.
- 13 Urbanization in Mesopotamia. Ubaid and Uruk phases. A new role for religion. Socio-political organization. The temple corporation. Trade and writing.
F: 361-75.
- 14 The Early Dynastic period in Mesopotamia. Secularization and militarization. The first empire. Barbarians, disease and the cyclic rise and fall of states. Trade, conquest and the spread of state systems. Our Mesopotamian heritage.
W: chap. 8; F: 375-379.
- 15 Early food production in N Africa. Independent developments and diffusion. Pastoralism and art in the Sahara. The Nile valley.
W: chap. 9; F: 281-290.
- 16 Predynastic and Old Kingdom Egypt. The divine Pharaoh. The ultimate redistribution system. Comparisons with SW Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.
F: 381-406.
- 17 Europe and the Mediterranean in the Neolithic and Bronze Ages. The spread of food production to the west. Danubians. The sub-Neolithic. Regional developments and technological advances. The "secondary products revolution." Stonehenge.
W: chap. 12; F: 262-279, 461-468.
- 18 Minoans and Myceneans. Trade and sea power as the basis of civilization. Why Western Europe remained an exploited backwater.
F: 441-456.
- 19 Origins and development of the Indus civilization. The problem of its socio-political organization. Class and/or caste?
W: chap. 10; F: 408-420.
- 20 Development of agriculture and complex societies in the Far East.
W: chap. 11; F: 291-303.

- 21 China: Shang dynasty to Han Empire. Monopoly control of the supernatural. The barbarian challenge.
F: 430-439.
- 22 PalaeoIndians in the New World. PalaeoIndian migrations. The pre-Clovis question. Extinctions.
W: chap. 5; F: 174-202.
- 23 The development of agriculture in Mesoamerica.
W: chap. 13; F: 312-318.
- 24 The first complex societies in Mesoamerica: the Olmecs, the Zapotecs, Teotihuacan and the Classic Maya.
F: 477-503.
- 25 Later developments in Mesoamerica: the collapse of Teotihuacan and the Classic Maya; the Toltecs and the Aztecs.
F: 503-513.
- 26 Origins of agriculture and complex societies in S America. Connections with Mesoamerica?
W: chap. 14; F: 318-322, 514-520.
- 27 Development to Empire in the Andean Zone. Chavin, Moche, Tiwanaku, Wari.
F: 520-532.
- 28 The Chimú, the Inca Empire and the impact of European expansionism.
F: 532-539.
- 29 Themes in comparative cultural development.
W: chap.