

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY: 070-313

FALL 2019

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Professor Carmel Schrire
Class Location: Biosciences Bldg, DC, Room 206
Class Hours: T, Th. 3.55-5.15 pm
Office: RAB 201
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Office Hours: T, Th 3-4pm and by appt

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Historical Archaeology is the study of excavated materials remains and written archives dating from around 950 AD to 1850 AD. It is called “Post Medieval Archaeology” in the Old World where it simply follows the earlier medieval period, but beyond that, in the New World, in Africa, Australia, and Asia, it is called “Historical Archaeology” because it dates from the period of European contact. Its methods and theories contrast with those of earlier periods due to its strong use of written records.

The course covers the process of globalization during the Age of Mercantile Capitalism that produced the material and social world in which we live today. The archaeological evidence for the systems of colonization and production in that time includes studying the remains of early colonial settlements, of transatlantic slavery and plantations, shipwrecks, and material goods. The course shows how archaeology can reveal the consequences of European colonialism as seen in the decimation of indigenous societies, the slave trade, and the disappearance of medieval lifeways with the rise of cities and slums.

Key issues covered here include the historical archaeology of exploration, empire, oppression, war, and death. Prof. Schrire’s widespread experience in the field enlivens the course with detailed field studies in US (Virginia), Africa (Cape Town), East India (Mauritius) and Australia. This is augmented by the use of a variety of media props, including detailed PowerPoint presentations, current internet urls, documentary films, and hands-on analysis of our colonial lab collections.

RELATED COURSES:

Colonial Archaeology (070 333) is the closest related and the logical pairing to this course. It is a practical laboratory course that teaches students to identify material culture of the 17th-19th century.

Topics in Historical Preservation: Cultural Resource Management (442) is cross-listed through the program in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies (CHAPS).

Courses in Evolutionary Anthropology that have significant overlaps with topics taught in Historical Archaeology include Australian Archaeology (070 330), South African Archaeology (070 426) and North American Archaeology (070 332).

Courses in Cultural Anthropology including 070 225, 230, 304, 305, 374, 376 and 380 deal with issues of globalization and colonialism.

Courses in History including History of Colonial America (512:300), Plantation to White House (512:268) and Health and Environment in America (01:512:121) also deal with related topics.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/ GOALS: EA 1-5

Historical Archaeology expands the archaeology of prehistoric and preliterate times by teaching how a combination of archaeological and documentary evidence can be used to interpret the past. It deals with major socio-economic changes attendant on the rise of the modern world, showing how major shifts in trade and human relocation combined to create the world in which we live today.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The schedule listed below is a provisional one that we reserve the right to change in the event of new finds, publications and events.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ GRADING:

The grading for this course is based on three class tests (80%) and a class presentation (20%).

COURSE RESOURCES:

The recommended texts are probably most cheaply available on-line. Readings are available either on Reserve in the Douglass Library, on-line at the Rutgers library website, or on Sakai.

The course will make extensive use of our fine in-house collections of 17th-19th century historical artifacts. This experience is amplified in its sister course, Colonial Archaeology 070 333, that is best taken after this one.

COURSE POLICIES:

1. Classes: There will be two lectures a week that will include films and artefact presentations.

2. Attendance: Students need to attend all the classes and read the texts. We reserve the right to institute attendance sheets if persistent absenteeism is noted.
3. Laptops are permitted for use during lectures but students found accessing other sites will be asked to take notes by hand. Recording of lectures by any device is prohibited
4. Absences: Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> <<https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/>> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.
5. Academic Integrity: This course follows the ethics and rules stated in the Rutgers University protocols. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be adjudicated by the proper authorities with the utmost seriousness. Cheating lowers the value of a Rutgers degree and the learning experience for all students. No form of cheating, including plagiarism, will be tolerated. One commits plagiarism when one represents the text or ideas of others as one's own creation. Please visit the website of the Rutgers Office of Academic Integrity (<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>) for a fuller explanation of plagiarism and of the penalties for it. Convicted plagiarists will receive a disciplinary F in the course and possibly face expulsion from the University.

EXAMINATION POLICIES:

If you require additional time or alternative accommodations on exams or other assignments, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 732-932-2848 or dsoffice@rci.rutgers.edu to determine your Coordinator for Students with Disabilities. If your requests for accommodations are APPROVED, the CSSD generates a Letter of Accommodation (LOA); the LOA must be presented to me at the beginning of the term; if you are approved for accommodations in the middle of the semester, you are strongly encouraged to present the LOA to me as soon as possible. For further information, please reference: <http://studentaffairs.rutgers.edu/disability/>

ETHICS & RULES

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