

**SYLLABUS**  
**INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY (01-070-105)**  
Rutgers University  
Fall 2019

**Lecture days/times:** Monday/ Thursday, 10.55am -12.15pm  
**Location:** Loree Building, Douglass Campus, Room 020

**Instructor:** Professor Carmel Schrire  
[cschrire@anthropology.rutgers.edu](mailto:cschrire@anthropology.rutgers.edu)  
Office: Ruth Adams Building, Room 201  
Office Hours: M. Th. 9.30am –10.30pm; by appointment

**Teaching Assistant:** Kyra Johnson  
Office: Biological Sciences Building, Douglass Campus, Room TBA  
**Office Hours: TBA**  
**Email: To be posted**

**Laboratory Sections:** See lab syllabus on Sakai

**SAKAI website:** <https://sakai.rutgers.edu>;

All students registered for the class are subscribed to the course SAKAI site.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Archaeology studies the nature and context of human biological and material in order to reconstruct, interpret, and even understand, the human past. The object of the course is to teach you how data from many fields are brought together to produce *the most plausible interpretation* of human origins, evolution, behavior, cultural signature, identity and social existence.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The course covers world prehistory from 5 million years ago until the present. It deals with the earliest recognized human ancestors, the evolution of people like ourselves, the development of farming and complex societies, and the recognition of how this past has shaped our present existence. The course will give you a broad understanding of the human past that will provide a strong foundation for further study in the wide variety of courses offered at Rutgers at elsewhere.

The objectives of this course are to teach you:

- what archaeologists do
- how archaeologists think
- how the past is constructed
- why the past matters

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

### **1. Course structure**

The course consists of biweekly lectures, weekly laboratory sections, as well as regular tests and writing assignments. It aims to teach students how the human past is constructed by a combination of *field evidence* including site location, excavation and contextual analysis, *laboratory analysis* of biological and cultural remains, and *overall ethnographic and biological principles* to create a human record over time.

### **2. Course readings**

#### **Textbook**

**Fagan, B. M. *People of the Earth: An Introduction to World Prehistory*. 14<sup>th</sup> ed.**

This should be available for purchase online, via Amazon and other sources.

Other readings will be posted on *Sakai* as required.

### **3. Course rules on Attendance, Absence Reporting, Laptops, Recording:**

*Attendance at class lectures is mandatory.* A sign-up list will be available from the TA as you enter. If you persistently miss classes without a valid excuse, it will affect your grade. This is because lectures do not simply duplicate the textbook and will not be posted on Sakai. If you cannot attend, you will need to get notes from another student which might not provide a satisfactory account of what was taught.

*Attendance at laboratory sessions is mandatory* and will also be monitored. These sessions elaborate the basic scientific procedures on which the lectures are based. If you persistently miss classes with a valid, official excuse, it will affect your grade.

*Attendance at movies is strongly advised* because their contents will be discussed at that time. They are listed as “MOVIES” on Sakai. Some may be accessed through the Rutgers University Library System on Streaming Video via Books and Media, and some are available on Netflix and You Tube.

*Absence reporting* must be noted. 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.

*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. Course Grades**

Your final grade will be based on a combination of three tests (75%) and a series of assignments in the Lab sessions (25%).

#### **5. Accommodations on Tests and Exams:**

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](mailto: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/>

#### **6. Course schedule**

The schedule listed below is provisional and follows the format of the textbook very closely. We reserve the right to alter the schedule in the event that certain topics run over-time or that new finds appear in the literature.

#### **7. Ethics and Rules**

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.