

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY

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In this course you assume the role of the Director of the Archaeological Excavations of a site. Your site is of your choosing but done in consultation with me. You are responsible for developing the rationale for excavations on this site. Why are excavations important here? What methods will you employ? How will you work with the government and authorities to accomplish your goals? How will you be funded? What environmental or ethical issues are associated with the site? What about cultural heritage issues? What technologies will make your work less intrusive? Who is on your staff? Where will you get your funding? Will students be involved? What is your exit strategy? Where will you publish your findings?

These are examples of the questions you will have to answer with respect to your site. In the second half of the semester you will present your site, work, goals, and outcomes to the class. You may do this with another person or on your own. There are three quizzes in this course; a pottery quiz and in-class two-quizzes. There are two five page papers and your in-class presentation. Each category counts for about 1/3 of your grade. As always your presence and participation is crucial and impacts your grade.

1/25 Introduction to the course and to the discipline of archaeology; G: The Idea of the Past; R: The history of Archaeology

1/27 The Founders and early disciplinary and methodological advances; G: Excavation; A: 1 & 2

2/1 Dating: G: Dating the Past; R: When?; A: 7; Start to Study Pottery Selection.

2/3 More recent Methodologies and Technologies; G: Science and Archaeology; G: Discovery, Fieldwork and Recording

2/8 POTTERY QUIZ

2/10 Site Selection and Excavating the site; R: What is Left?; R: Where?; G: Discovery, Fieldwork and Recording; G: Excavation

2/15 Ethics in Archaeology: CRM – Cultural Resource Management; G: Making sense of the Past; R: Archaeology in Action; R: Whose Past? A: 8 & 9

First Paper Due: Five page paper on a Founder of Archaeology or a Methodology or Technology in the Field

2/17 Looting, Forgery, and Crime in Archaeology; UN Protocols; Antiquities law; the role of Museums?? A: 10; R: Whose Past? Archaeology in the News?

2/22 Quest Speaker on Museums Today

2/24 Lab work in Archaeology – roles, uses, collaboration between fieldwork and the sciences; R: What Was the Environment?; R: what Did They Eat?

3/1 An Excavation from Start to Finish I

3/3 An Excavation from Start to Finish II

3/8 IN-CLASS QUIZ Covering material through this point in the course.

3/10 Turn in Site and Excavations you are Directing to Professor Overman
Sign up for Presentations; Working with the State/Nation: A Reality in Archaeology

3/14-3/20 SPRING BREAK

3/22: IN-CLASS PRESENTATIONS BEGIN

Where are we at this Point in understanding Archaeology and the development of the discipline?

3/24 A Case Study in Cultural Property Rights

3/29 Legitimate Collectors?

3/31 Graduate Schools in Archaeology

4/5 Jobs in Archaeology

4/7 Macalester Grads in Archaeology and related fields

4/12 The Case of Mt. Vernon and the so-called slave Cemetery

4/14 How Valid is a forgery? **Second Five page paper is Due**

4/19 Herculaneum and the Possibility of Archaeology without Excavating?

4/21 Archaeology and the Liberal Arts

4/26 Diversity, Gender, and Access in Archaeology

4/28 Reviews and Concluding Remarks

5/3 IN-CLASS FINAL

