About the Course:

This course will introduce you to the study of archaeology. Class work will consist of lectures, discussion sessions, laboratories, films and field trips. Your attendance and active participation in class work will be important to your success in the course. Plan to complete assigned readings before the next scheduled class, and be prepared to discuss them. Your grade will be based mainly upon two exams and a computer simulation.

Course materials:


Reserve Reading (2 hr):


Resources on the web:

For the latest news about archaeology around the world go to [http://www.tamu.edu/anthropology/news.html](http://www.tamu.edu/anthropology/news.html)

Class and Reading Schedule:

Before the first class, get a preview of what archaeology is about by going to http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/signsoflife_300kW.html.


11 **Origins of archaeology. Paleoindians.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 3 pp. 64-86. Watch these at the Archaeology Channel:
   - http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/Gila300k_W.html
   - http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/lostcanyon_700kW.html
   - http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/Besh300k_W.html

16 **Contemporary approaches. Southwest chiefdoms. Film:** The Mystery of Chaco Canyou. Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 3, pp. 86-96. Watch http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/poverty_300kW.html at the Archaeology Channel.

18 **Contemporary approaches. Southeast chiefdoms.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 4, pp. 120-147.

23 **What are archaeological data?** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 5, pp. 151-160.


2 Oct.  **Field lab: Reconnaissance and survey.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 7, pp. 246-308.

7  **Field trip to Maine State Museum.**  Read Sharer & Ashmore chapter 8, pp. 269-308.

9  **Lab: Excavation, Field Processing and Classification.**


**Fall Recess: 15-19 October**


28  **Analysis of artifacts.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 11, pp. 391-409. Watch “Ancient Fires at Cliff Palace Pond” on the Archaeology Channel. To learn about faunal analysis (also called zooarchaeology) go to [http://www.museum.state.il.us/research/faunmap/](http://www.museum.state.il.us/research/faunmap/).

30  **Analysis of ecofacts. Begin Fugawiland.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 12, pp. 412-429. To learn about features at an important early colonial site in Maine go to [http://www.archaeologychannel.org/popham.html](http://www.archaeologychannel.org/popham.html). To learn about an experimental approach to archaeology in the American Southwest go to [http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/HopiFires_700kW.html](http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/HopiFires_700kW.html).

4 Nov.  **Analysis of features. Pottery making!** To see some prehistoric pots go to [http://www.civilization.ca/archoe/ceramiq/cerart1e.html](http://www.civilization.ca/archoe/ceramiq/cerart1e.html). Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 13, pp. 431-455.

6  **Analogy and interpretation. Maritime adaptations.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 14, pp. 457-478. For a look at prehistoric symbolic landscapes go to [http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/shiloh_300kW.html](http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/shiloh_300kW.html).

11  **Exchange, settlement archaeology, population reconstruction.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 15, pp. 483-519.
13  **Ideological and symbolic systems.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 16, pp. 526-551.

18  **Frameworks for the past. Hand in Fugawiland.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 17, pp. 556-592. To see a video about the world’s earliest complex society go to [http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/catalhoyuk_700kW.html](http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/catalhoyuk_700kW.html).

20  **Early states.** Read Sharer and Ashmore chapter 18, pp. 594-619, Read Jackson et al. 2001.

    **Thanksgiving Recess:** 22-30 Nov.

2  Dec.  **Archaeology and the new ecology.**

4  **Review for exam.**