Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

ANT 205 Introduction to Archaeology
Effective Term: Spring/Summer 2024

Course Cover

College: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department: Social Sciences
Discipline: Anthropology
Course Number: 205
Org Number: 11710
Full Course Title: Introduction to Archaeology
Transcript Title: Introduction to Archaeology
Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No
Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page
Reason for Submission: Three Year Review / Assessment Report
Change Information:
    Consultation with all departments affected by this course is required.
    Course description
    Outcomes/Assessment
Rationale: Assessment results indicate that students can successfully identify specific information relevant to the course, but fall short on their understanding of method and theory.
Proposed Start Semester: Winter 2024
Course Description: In this course, students will explore the basic goals of archaeology, archaeological methods, and the theories utilized to understand past human behavior. Topics include (but are not limited to) core archaeological theories, field methods, human evolution, socio-cultural change, and the development of socially and politically complex human societies through time.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No
Credits: 3
Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45
Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0
Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45
Repeatable for Credit: NO
Grading Methods: Letter Grades
Audit
Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

No Level Required

Requisites

General Education
MACRAO
MACRAO Social Science
General Education Area 5 - Social and Behavioral Science
Assoc in Applied Sci - Area 5
Assoc in Science - Area 5
Assoc in Arts - Area 5
Michigan Transfer Agreement - MTA
MTA Social Science

Request Course Transfer
Proposed For:
Eastern Michigan University
Ferris State University
Grand Valley State University
Michigan State University
University of Michigan
Wayne State University
Western Michigan University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the nature of the archaeological record, describe how scientific methods are used to explain that record, and critique the theories and conclusions made by archaeologists.
   ### Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related assignment
   Assessment Date: Spring/Summer 2025
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All
   Number students to be assessed: All
   How the assessment will be scored: Answer key
   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score 75% or higher
   Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

2. Identify and describe the major long-term biological and socio-cultural changes associated with human evolution, domestication, and the rise of social and political complexity.
   ### Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related department exam questions
   Assessment Date: Spring/Summer 2025
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All
   Number students to be assessed: All
   How the assessment will be scored: Answer key
   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score an average of 75% or higher
   Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

3. Critique the explanations provided by the discipline of archaeology for the development of civilization in geographically distinctive areas of the world.
   ### Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related department exam questions
   Assessment Date: Spring/Summer 2025
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All

Number students to be assessed: All
How the assessment will be scored: Rubric
Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score an average of 75% or higher
Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

Course Objectives

1. Discriminate between the data of the archaeological record (artifacts, ecofacts, features, sites).
2. Describe how the basic steps of archeological research - field and source survey, excavation, and laboratory analysis - are used to construct chronologies.
3. Describe ancient life-ways and explain long-term socio-cultural change.
4. List site formation processes that create the archaeological record – identifying applications of ethnographic comparison, ethno-archaeology, and taphonomy.
5. Differentiate between the two basic categories of dating methods: relative dating and absolute dating.
6. Recognize archaeological sites as non-renewable cultural resources that contribute to our understanding of our human heritage.
7. List the forces of biological evolution (mutation, natural selection, genetic drift, and gene flow)and identify the basic steps of that human evolution from the Late Miocene through Late Pleistocene; discuss the impact of culture on that evolution; and sequence the basic attributes of Basal, Lower, Middle and Upper Paleolithic technologies, subsistence practices.
8. Summarize the processes at the end of the Pleistocene that led to domestication, discuss explanations for settled agriculture, and distinguish between Old and New World trends of plant and animal domestication.
9. Summarize (for geographic regions in the Old and New World) the ecological, technological, and sociocultural changes that led to politically complex societies.

New Resources for Course

Revealing Archaeology by Thinking Strings Courseware

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks

Olszewski, Deborah. *Archaeology and Humanity's Story*, 1st ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016, ISBN: 978019976456.

Paskey, A; Beasley, A.. *Digging into Archaeology: A Brief OER Introduction to Archaeology with Activities*, ed. Sacramento: Open Educational Resources Initiative, 2020

Manuals
Periodicals
Software

Equipment/Facilities

Level III classroom
Data projector/computer

Reviewer	Action	Date
Faculty Preparer:		
Christopher Barrett	*Faculty Preparer*	*Sep 26, 2023*
Department Chair/Area Director:		
Christopher Barrett	*Recommend Approval*	*Sep 26, 2023*
Dean:		
Victor Vega	*Recommend Approval*	*Oct 06, 2023*
Curriculum Committee Chair:		
Randy Van Wagnen	*Recommend Approval*	*Jan 24, 2024*

Assessment Committee Chair:

Jessica Hale   *Recommend Approval*   *Jan 25, 2024*

Vice President for Instruction:

Brandon Tucker   *Approve*   *Jan 27, 2024*

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Effective Term: Fall 2019

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Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department: Social Sciences
Discipline: Anthropology
Course Number: 205
Org Number: 11710
Full Course Title: Introduction to Archaeology
Transcript Title: Introduction to Archaeology
Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No
Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page
Reason for Submission:
Change Information:
   Consultation with all departments affected by this course is required.
Rationale: Three year review of Master Syllabus.
Proposed Start Semester: Winter 2010
Course Description: This course provides a survey of anthropological archaeology. Students will explore the basic goals of archaeology, archaeological methods and techniques used to research the material record of past human behavior, core anthropological theories used to explain human evolution and socio-cultural change, and a survey of the development of socially and politically complex human societies through time.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No
Credits: 3
Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45
Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0
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Request Course Transfer

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Ferris State University
Grand Valley State University
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University of Michigan
Wayne State University
Western Michigan University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the nature of the archaeological record, describe how scientific methods are used to explain that record, and critique the theories and conclusions made by archaeologists.
    Assessment 1
    Assessment Tool: Department exam
    Assessment Date: Winter 2021
    Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
    Course section(s)/other population: All
    Number students to be assessed: All
    How the assessment will be scored: Answer key
    Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score an average of 75% or higher
    Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

2. Identify and describe the major long-term biological and socio-cultural changes associated with human evolution, domestication, and the rise of social and political complexity.
    Assessment 1
    Assessment Tool: Department exam
    Assessment Date: Winter 2021
    Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
    Course section(s)/other population: All
    Number students to be assessed: All
    How the assessment will be scored: Answer key
    Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score an average of 75% or higher
    Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

3. Critique the explanations provided by the discipline of archaeology for the development of civilization in geographically distinctive areas of the world.
    Assessment 1
    Assessment Tool: Department exam
    Assessment Date: Winter 2021
    Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
    Course section(s)/other population: All
    Number students to be assessed: All

How the assessment will be scored: Answer key and rubric
Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 75% of students will score an average of 75% or higher
Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

Course Objectives

1. Discriminate between the data of the archaeological record (artifacts, ecofacts, features, sites).
2. Describe how the basic steps of archeological research - field and source survey, excavation, and laboratory analysis - are used to construct chronologies.
3. Describe ancient life-ways and explain long-term socio-cultural change.
4. List site formation processes that create the archaeological record – identifying applications of ethnographic comparison, ethno-archaeology, and taphonomy.
5. Differentiate between the two basic categories of dating methods: relative dating and absolute dating.
6. Recognize archaeological sites as non-renewable cultural resources that contribute to our understanding of our human heritage.
7. List the forces of biological evolution (mutation, natural selection, genetic drift, and gene flow) and identify the basic steps of that human evolution from the Late Miocene through Late Pleistocene; discuss the impact of culture on that evolution; and sequence the basic attributes of Basal, Lower, Middle and Upper Paleolithic technologies, subsistence practices.
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Gregg Heidebrink	*Recommend Approval*	*Mar 27, 2019*
Dean:		
Brandon Tucker	*Recommend Approval*	*Apr 01, 2019*
Curriculum Committee Chair:		
Lisa Veasey	*Recommend Approval*	*May 04, 2019*
Assessment Committee Chair:		
Shawn Deron	*Recommend Approval*	*May 17, 2019*
Vice President for Instruction:		

Kimberly Hurns   *Approve*   *May 19, 2019*