

ANTHROPOLOGY 390
**THEORY AND METHOD IN ARCHÆOLOGY:
ARCHÆOLOGY/ARCHÆOGRAPHY**

AGENDA

This course examines the logics of archaeological interpretation and the principles of archaeological representation. Through an immersion in various genres of archaeological thought and writing, we will chart the historical development of the project of archaeology as it has been transformed from the discipline's inception to today. The course is organized into two parts. The first, subtitled *Archaeology*, provides an intensive overview of the dominant positions and problems in modern archaeological method and theory. In this section of the course, we will explore the major historical movements in archaeological thought since the formalization of the discipline in the 19th century through the contemporary constellation of thematic concerns. It is in these discussions that we will strive to bring forward the rich and subtle logics that underlie archaeological interpretation. The second section of the course, subtitled *Archaeography*, centers on an exploration of archaeological representation and overlapping issues raised in the sister field of historiography. In this section of the course we will discuss general issues in the philosophy of history as they bear upon the production of landmark archaeological monographs. By the end of the course, students should have a thorough understanding of the theoretical frameworks that underlie contemporary archaeological research and the unique problems that follow efforts to represent the archaeological record.

TEXTS

The required course texts are posted online at <http://chalk.uchicago.edu>. In addition, several texts have been ordered from the Seminary Co-Op which provide synthetic overviews that can be read in parallel with the class to provide historical context or useful background. These texts are:

Hodder, I.

2001 *Archaeological Theory Today*. Polity, Cambridge, UK.

Schnapp, A.

1997 *The Discovery of the Past*. Harry N. Abrams, New York.

Stanford, M.

1998 *An Introduction to the Philosophy of History*. Blackwell, Oxford.

Trigger, B.

1989 *A History of Archaeological Thought*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Wiley, G. and P. Philips

2001 [1958] *Method and Theory in American Archaeology*. University Alabama Press, Birmingham.

In addition, there are several texts on the syllabus that we will read at length. These have been ordered as well since they may be better owned as texts than downloaded as files. These include:

Hodder, I.

2004 [1986] *Reading the Past*. 3rd edition. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Lucas, G.

2001 *Critical Approaches to Fieldwork: Contemporary and Historical Archaeological Practice*. Routledge, London.

Taylor, W. W.

1983 [1948] *A Study of Archaeology*. Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale.

Wylie, A.

2002 *Thinking From Things: Essays in the Philosophy of Archaeology*. University of California Press, Berkeley.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are four general requirements for the course.

- I. **CLASS DISCUSSION:** Because all students in the class are engaged in advanced graduate-level study of archaeology or a related field, it is presumed that all students will have a great deal to contribute to every class discussion. All students should come to class with assigned readings complete and prepared for substantive discussion. Students will be called on regularly to offer commentaries and critiques. Class sessions will combine lecture, student presentations, and intensive discussions/debates. Contributions to class discussions will constitute 20 percent of your grade
- II. **IN-CLASS PRESENTATIONS:** Each student will be responsible for four in-class presentations, two on case studies from the *Archaeography* section and two on works from the *Archaeology* section. These presentations **MUST BE LESS THAN 10 minutes** in length and should consider the works at hand in relation to both the general issues they raise and the historical situation of their production. Students will be expected to prepare a **1 page synopsis** of their presentations for distribution to the class. Each presentation (including the synopsis and public presentation) is worth 5 percent of your grade for a total of 20 percent.
- III. **DEBATES:** Students will also take part in three formal debates in which they will be required to argue one side of a significant argument that transformed archaeological thought. The topics for the three debates are: 1) Typology and Interpretation (a.k.a. Ford vs. Spaulding), 2) Ethnoarchaeology and Analogy; 3) The Politics of Archaeological Research. As part of these debates, each student will turn in a **1-2 page brief** delineating the critical issues and their positions.

Each brief/debate performance is worth 5 percent for a total of 15 percent of the grade.

IV. TAKE-HOME EXAMS: Lastly, there will be two take home essay exams that will focus on bringing together *Archaeography* and *Archaeology* by asking students to reflect on the problems and possibilities that arise when interpretive tools of theory are brought into practice. The first exam is worth 20 percent of your grade; the second exam constitutes 25 percent.

FINAL NOTE

It is important to recognize that the amount of reading required for this course is quite substantial. If you begin to fall behind, please consult with the instructor or the TA quickly so that they can help you get caught up.

PART I. ARCHÆOLOGY

Tuesdays 1:30-4:30

September 29

IA. INTRODUCTION: OBJECTS AND ORDERS

Fotiadis, M.

- 2006 Factual Claims in Late Nineteenth Century European Prehistory and the Descent of a Modern Discipline's Ideology. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 6(1):5-27.

Hodder, I.

- 1999 *The Archaeological Process: An Introduction*. Blackwell, Oxford. Ch. 1.

Johnson, M. *et al.*

- 2006 On the Nature of Theoretical Archaeology and Archaeological Theory. *Archaeological Dialogues* 13(2):117-182. Read article and discussion.

PART II. ARCHÆOGRAPHY

Thursdays 1:30-4:30

October 1

IB. THE ROOTS OF ARCHAEOGRAPHY

Barkan, L.

- 1999 *Unearthing the Past: Archaeology and Aesthetics in the Making of Renaissance Culture*. Yale University Press, New Haven. Ch. 1.

Gibbon, E.

- 2003 [1776] *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. The Modern Library, New York. Introduction and Vol. 1, Ch. 1.

Hegel, G. W. F.

- 1988 *Introduction to the Philosophy of History*. Translated by L. Rauch. Hackett Pub. Co., Indianapolis. Pp. 3-82.

Schnapp, A.

- 1997 *The Discovery of the Past*. Harry N. Abrams, New York. Ch. 2.

CASE STUDY: ARCHAEOLOGY AND RACE

Squier, E. G. and E. H. Davis

- 1848 *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley: Comprising the results of extensive original surveys and explorations*. Smithsonian Institution, Washington. Introduction, Ch. 1, 2, 19.

ARCHAEOLOGY

October 6

IIA. HISTORICISTS AND EVOLUTIONISTS: VARIATIONS ON A THEME

Díaz-Andreu García, M.

- 2007 *A World History of Nineteenth-Century Archaeology: Nationalism, Colonialism, and the Past*. Oxford University Press, Oxford. Ch. 11-13.

Kehoe, A. B.

- 1998 *The Land of Prehistory*. Routledge, New York. Ch. 2-3.

Marchand, S. L.

- 1996 *Down from Olympus: Archaeology and Philhellenism in Germany, 1750-1970*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. Ch. 1, 3, 5 (pp. 3-35, 75-115, 152-187)

CASE STUDY: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCE AND HUMANISM

Lubbock, J.

- 1865 *Pre-historic Times, as illustrated by ancient remains, and the manners and customs of modern savages*. Williams and Norgate, London. Pp. 583-602

Wilson, D.

- 1862 *Prehistoric Man: Researches in the origin of civilization in the Old and the New world*. Macmillan, Cambridge. Pp. 1-13, 119-147, 325-340, 591-605

ARCHAEOGRAPHY

October 8

IIB. THE PROBLEM OF THE HISTORICAL SUBJECT

Ankersmit, F. R.

- 2001 *Historical Representation*. Stanford University Press, Stanford. Ch. 4.

Lucas, G.

- 2001 *Critical Approaches to Fieldwork: Contemporary and Historical Archaeological Practice*. Routledge, London. Ch. 1-2.

Michelet, J.

- 1973 [1846] *The People*. University of Illinois Press, Urbana. Pp. 25-52, 143-148

CASE STUDY: FROM ANTIQUITY TO ARTIFACT

Schliemann, H., P. Smith and L. D. Schmitz

- 1875 *Troy and its remains; a narrative of researches and discoveries made on the site of Ilium, and in the Trojan plain*. J. Murray, London. Pp. 10-55 but also look over pp. 143-183, 321-357.

Morgan, L. H.

- 1877 *Ancient Society*. Henry Holt, New York. Pp. 1-45.

ARCHAEOLOGY

October 13

IIIA. CULTURE HISTORY: TYPOLOGY AND EPISTEMOLOGY

Rouse, I.

- 1960 The Strategy of Culture History. In *Anthropology Today*, edited by A. L. Kroeber, pp. 57-76. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Willey, G. R. et. al

- 1956 An Archaeological Classification of Culture Contact Situations. In *Seminars in Archaeology: 1955*, edited by R. Wauchope. Memoirs of the Society for American Archaeology, Menasha WI.

Willey, G. and P. Philips

- 1958 *Method and Theory in American Archaeology*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago. Pp. 1-57.

CASE STUDY: STRATIGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Childe, V. G.

- 1929 *The Danube in Prehistory*. Clarendon Press, Oxford. Pp. iii-x, 188-202, 414-419

Kidder, A. V.

- 1924 *An Introduction to the Study of Southwestern Archaeology with a preliminary account of the excavations at Pecos*. Phillips Academy, Andover, MA. Introduction, pp. 88-139, 158-251, 323-351.

ARCHAEOGRAPHY

October 15

IIIB. THE STRATIGRAPHIC VIEW OF THE PAST AND ITS COMPLEXITY

Collingwood, R. G.

- 1994 *The Idea of History*. Oxford University Press, Oxford. Pp. 205-249 (Pt. V.1-2).

Eggan, F.

- 1975 Culture History Derived from the Study of Living People. In *Essays in Social Anthropology and Ethnology*, pp. 129-142. Dept. of Anthropology University of Chicago, Chicago.

DEBATE 1: ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE TYPOLOGICAL IMAGINATION

Ford, J. A.

- 1954 On the Concept of Types. *American Anthropologist* 56:42-54.
1962 *A Quantitative Method for Deriving Cultural Chronology*. Pan American Union General Secretariat Organization of American States, Washington,.

Spaulding, A. C.

- 1953 Review of James A. Ford's *Measurements of Some Prehistoric Design Developments in the Southeastern States*. *American Anthropologist* 55:588-591.
1960 The Dimensions of Archaeology. In *Essays in the Science of Culture*, edited by G. E. Dole and R. L. Carneiro. Crowell, New York.

Also responses in *American Anthropologist* 56: 109-114.

ARCHAEOLOGY

October 20

IVA. NEW FUNCTIONALISMS

Childe, V. G.

- 1946 *What Happened in History*. Penguin Books, New York. Ch. 1.

Clark, G.

- 1954 The Economic Approach to Prehistory. *Proceedings of the British Academy* 39:215-238.

Radcliffe-Brown, A. R.

- 1965 On the Concept of Function in Social Science. In *Structure and Function in Primitive Society*, pp. 178-187. The Free Press, New York.

CASE STUDY: THE PARADIGMATIC FIRST SHOT

Taylor, W. W.

- 1948 *A Study of Archaeology*. Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale. Pp. 25-44, 95-112, 152-180.

ARCHÆOGRAPHY

October 22

IVB. THE TELOS OF HISTORY: MEANING/FUNCTION/EVOLUTION

Lucas, G.

- 2001 *Critical Approaches to Fieldwork: Contemporary and Historical Archaeological Practice*. Routledge, London. Ch. 3.

Sahlins, M. D. and E. R. Service

- 1960 *Evolution and Culture*. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor. Pp. 12-68.

Steward, J.

- 1972 *Theory of Culture Change*. University of Illinois Press, Urbana. Pp. 11-29, 30-42, 78-97.

CASE STUDY: PREHISTORY AND A NEW MATERIALISM

Adams, R. M.

- 1966 *The Evolution of Urban Society*. Aldine Pub. Co., New York. Ch. 1 & 2.

Clark, G.

- 1954 *Excavations at Starr Carr: An Early Mesolithic Site at Seamer near Scarborough, Yorkshire*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Pp. 1-24, 165-178.

ARCHAEOLOGY

October 27

VA. POSITIVISM AND PROCESS: THE NEW ARCHAEOLOGY TO 1968

Binford, L.

- 1962 Archaeology as Anthropology. *American Antiquity* 28(2):217-225.
- 1964 A Consideration of Research Design. *American Antiquity* 29(4):425-441.
- 1965 Archaeological Systematics and the Study of Cultural Process. *American Antiquity* 31:203-210.

Flannery, K. V.

- 1967 Culture History v. Culture Process: a Debate in American Archaeology. *Scientific American* 217:119-122.

CASE STUDY: CERAMIC SOCIOLOGY

Deetz, J.

- 1965 *The Dynamics of Stylistic Change in Arikara Ceramics*. Illinois studies in anthropology. no. 4. University of Illinois Press, Urbana. Pp. 1-4, 24-54, 82-102.

Longacre, W. A.

- 1970 *Archaeology as Anthropology: A Case Study*. University of Arizona Press, Tucson. Pp. 27-40, 46-52.

ARCHAEOGRAPHY

October 29

VB. EXPLANATION, HISTORY, AND SCIENCE

Flannery, K. V.

- 1968 Archaeological Systems Theory and Early Mesoamerica. In *Anthropological Archaeology in the Americas*, edited by B. Meggers, pp. 67-87. Anthropological Society of Washington, Washington D.C.
- 1971 Archaeology With a Capital "S". In *Research and Theory in Current Archaeology*, edited by C. Redman, pp. 47-58. John Wiley and Sons, New York.

Hempel, C. G.

- 1962 Explanation in Science and History. In *Frontiers of Science and Philosophy*, edited by R. Colodny. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh.

CASE STUDY: THE BORDES-BINFORD DEBATE

Binford, L.

- 1973 Interassemblage Variability--The Mousterian and the 'Functional' Argument. In *The Explanation of Culture Change: Models in Prehistory*, edited by C. Renfrew, pp. 227-254. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh.

Bordes, F. and D. de Sonneville-Bordes

- 1970 The Significance of Variability in Paleolithic Assemblages. *World Archaeology* 2(1):61-73.

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| <p>MID-TERM EXAM HANDED OUT IN CLASS DUE NOVEMBER 2 BY 5PM</p> |
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ARCHAEOLOGY

November 3

VIA. SYSTEMATICS: THE NEW ARCHAEOLOGY AFTER 1968

Lyman, R. L. and M. J. O'Brien

- 1998 The Goals of Evolutionary Archaeology: History and Explanation. *Current Anthropology* 39(5):615-652.

Plog, F.

- 1975 Systems Theory. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 4:207-224.

Raab, M. L. and A. C. Goodyear

- 1984 Middle Range Theory in Archaeology: A Critical Review of Origins and Applications. *American Antiquity* 49:255-268.

CASE STUDY: BEHAVIORAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Schiffer, M. B.

- 1972 Archaeological Context and Systemic Context. *American Antiquity* 37:156-165.

Schiffer, M. B., J. J. Reid and W. L. Rathje

- 1995 The Four Strategies of Behavioral Archaeology. In *Behavioral Archaeology: First Principles*, edited by M. B. Schiffer, pp. 67-73. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

ARCHAEOGRAPHY

November 5

VIB. A STRUCTURAL TURN? MOVEMENT AND RESISTANCE

Braudel, F.

- 1970 History and the Social Sciences. The Long Term. *Social Science Information* 9(1):145-174.

Deetz, J.

- 1977 *In Small Things Forgotten*. Doubleday, Garden City. Ch. 2 & 4.

DEBATE 2: THE ARGUMENT OVER ANALOGY

Gould, R. J. and P. J. Watson

- 1982 A Dialogue on the Meaning and Use of Analogy in Ethnoarchaeological Reasoning. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 1:355-381.

David, N. and C. Kramer

- 2001 *Ethnoarchaeology in Action*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Pp. 33-62.

Wobst, M.

- 1978 The Archaeo-Ethnology of Hunter-Gatherers or the Tyranny of the Ethnographic Record in Archaeology. *American Antiquity* 43:303-309.

Wylie, A.

- 1982 An Analogy By Any Other Name Is Just As Analogical: A Commentary on the Gould-Watson Dialogue. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 1:382-401.

ARCHAEOLOGY

November 10

VIIA. MEANING AND HISTORY: EARLY POST-PROCESSUALISM

Leone, M. P.

- 1982 Some Opinions About Recovering Mind. *American Antiquity* 47(4):742-760.

Trigger, B.

- 1980 Archaeology and the Image of the American Indian. *American Antiquity* 45(4):662-676.

Watson, P. J. and M. Fotiadis

- 1990 The Razor's Edge: Symbolic-Structuralist Archaeology and the Expansion of Archaeological Inference. *American Anthropologist* 92:613-621.

CASE STUDY: CRITIQUE AND "CONTEXT"

Hodder, I.

- 1986 *Reading the Past*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Ch. 1, 5, 7, 8, 9.

Shanks, M. and C. Tilley

- 1987 *Social Theory and Archaeology*. Polity Press, Cambridge. Pp. 1-28, 61-78.

ARCHAEOGRAPHY

November 12

VIIb. KNOWLEDGE AND (UN)CERTAINTY

Binford, L. R.

- 1989 Science to Seance, or Processual to "Post-Processual" Archaeology. In *Debating Archaeology*, pp. 27-40. Academic Press, San Diego.

Hodder, I.

- 1991 Interpretive Archaeology and its Role. *American Antiquity* 56(1):7-18.

Wylie, A.

- 1985 Putting Shakertown Back Together: Critical Theory in Archaeology. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 4:133-147.

CASE STUDY: FORGING A NEW AGENDA?

Barrett, J. C.

- 1994 *Fragments from Antiquity: An Archaeology of Social Life in Britain, 2900-1200 BC*. B. Blackwell, Oxford. Ch. 1, 3, 7.

ARCHAEOLOGY

November 17

VIIIA. BEYOND ANGLO-AMERICAN TRADITIONS

Coudart, A.

- 1999 Is Post-Processualism Bound to Happen Everywhere? *Antiquity* 73(279):161-167.

Patterson, T. C.

- 1994 Social Archaeology in Latin America: An Appreciation. *American Antiquity* 59(3):531-537.

CASE STUDY: INDIGENEITY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL REASONING

Atalay, S.

- 2008 Multivocality and Indigenous Archaeologies. In *Evaluating Multiple Narratives: Beyond Nationalist, Colonialist, Imperialist Archaeologies*, edited by J. Habu, C. Fawcett and J. M. Matsunaga, pp. 29-44. Springer, New York.

Colwell-Chanthaphohn et. al.

- 2008 Untangling the Strawman: Inclusion, Rights, Ethics, and the Promise of Indigenous Archaeology. Unpublished manuscript.

McGhee, R.

- 2008 Aboriginalism and the Problems of Indigenous Archaeology. Ms. submitted to *American Antiquity*. 73(4):579-597.

ARCHAEOGRAPHY

November 19

VIII B. ARCHAEOGRAPHY IN A POSTMODERN WORLD

Flannery, K. V.

- 1982 The Golden Marshalltown. *American Anthropologist* 84(2): 265-278.

Preucel, R. W.

- 1995 The Postprocessual Condition. *Journal of Archaeological Research* 3(2):147-175.

Wylie, A.

- 1992 On 'Heavily Decomposing Red Herrings': Scientific Method in Archaeology and the Ladening of Evidence with Theory. In *Meta-archaeology*, edited by L. Embree, pp. 269-288. Kluwer, Dordrecht.

CASE STUDY: POSTPROCESSUALISM IN THE FIELD

Hodder, I. (editor)

- 2005 *Çatalhöyük Perspectives: Reports from the 1995-99 Seasons*. McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Cambridge. Ch. 2-3.

Buchli, V.

- 1999 *An Archaeology of Socialism*. Berg, Oxford. Chs. 1 & 2.

ARCHAEOLOGY

November 24

IXA. THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUBJECT

Barrett, J. C.

- 2000 A Thesis on Agency. In *Agency in Archaeology*, edited by M.-A. Dobres and J. E. Robb, pp. 21-33. Routledge, New York.

Joyce, R. A.

- 2005 Archaeology of the Body. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 34:139-158.

Tarlow, S.

- 2000 Emotion in Archaeology. *Current Anthropology* 41(5):713-746.

CASE STUDY: IDENTITY AND INTERPRETATION

Gilchrist, R.

- 1999 *Gender and Archaeology: Contesting the Past*. Routledge, London ; New York. Pp. 17-108.

Meskel, L.

- 1999 *Archaeologies of Social Life: Age, Sex, Class et cetera in Ancient Egypt*. Blackwell, Oxford. Ch. 1.

ARCHAEOGRAPHY

November 26

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY. NO CLASS

ARCHAEOLOGY

December 1

XA. TEMPORALITIES

Lucas, G.

- 2005 *The Archaeology of Time*. Routledge, London. Ch. 1 & 2.

Sewell, W. H.

- 2005 *Logics of History: Social Theory and Social Transformation*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago. Ch. 1 & 3.

DEBATE 3: ARCHAEOLOGY AND POLITICAL ACTION

Kohl, P. L. and C. Fawcett

- 1995 Archaeology in the Service of the State: Theoretical Considerations. In *Nationalism, Politics, and the Practice of Archaeology*, edited by P. L. Kohl and C. Fawcett, pp. 3-18. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Leone, M. P.

- 2005 *The Archaeology of Liberty in an American Capital: Excavations in Annapolis*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Ch. 7.

Meskill, L.

- 2002 The Intersection of Identity and Politics in Archaeology. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 31:279-301.

Smith, A. T.

- 2004 The End of the Essential Archaeological Subject. *Archaeological Dialogues* 11(1):1-20.

Wilkie, L. A. and K. M. Bartoy

- 2000 A Critical Archaeology Revisited. *Current Anthropology* 41(5):747-777.

ARCHAEOGRAPHY

December 3

XB. SPATIALITIES AND MATERIALITIES

Garrow, D. and E. Shove

- 2007 Artefacts Between Disciplines. The Toothbrush and the Axe. *Archaeological Dialogues* 14(2):117-131.

Ingold, T.

- 2007 Materials Against Materiality. *Archaeological Dialogues* 14(1):1-16.

Smith, A. T.

- 2003 *The Political Landscape: Constellations of Authority in Early Complex Polities*. University of California Press, Berkeley. Introduction and Ch. 1.

CASE STUDY: LANDSCAPE AND MEMORY

Bradley, R.

- 1998 *The Significance of Monuments: On the Shaping of Human Experience in Neolithic and Bronze Age Europe*. Routledge, London ; New York. Ch. 1, 2, 5, 6.

Tilley, C.

- 1994 *A Phenomenology of Landscape*. Berg, Oxford. Ch. 5

**FINAL EXAM HANDED OUT IN CLASS
DUE DECEMBER 10 BY 5PM**