

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ANTH-240: Archaeological Method/Theory  
CLASS SECTION: 001 A/B  
TERM: W2024  
COURSE CREDITS: 3  
DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face to Face

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here. Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

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For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

*Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.*

## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Nicole Kilburn

EMAIL: [kilburn@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:kilburn@camosun.bc.ca)

OFFICE: Young 212A

HOURS:

or by appointment

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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An introduction to archaeological method and theory, this course examines the nature of archaeological evidence and its recovery and analysis for the purposes of cultural reconstruction and explanation of human behaviour.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C in ENGL 151
- C in ENGL 161
- C in ENGL 163
- C in ENGL 164

And one of:

- C in any first-year ANTH

### CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

### EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Recognize the standard systematic procedures used by Americanist archaeologists to investigate the past including site survey and excavation, artifact analysis, faunal analysis, mapping.
2. Discuss the nature of the archaeological evidence.
3. Identify and discuss basic theoretical approaches in archaeology at low level, middle range and high level.
4. Identify and discuss reasons for conservation and protection of archaeological sites and artifacts.
5. Critically evaluate professional and non-professional ideas and writings about prehistory.
6. Carry out descriptive analyses of certain types of artifacts.
7. Discuss divergent ideas of the past.
8. Outline the attitudes and concerns of aboriginal communities in regard to archaeological excavation, human skeletal remains and interpretation of North American prehistory.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Renfrew, Colin and Paul Bahn (2018) *Archaeology Essentials*, fourth edition. Thames and Hudson, London.

There is weekly content posted for most weeks on D2L. This includes a webpage with some extra content to compliment the textbook, and information for the weekly lab. Please be sure to **read through lab materials prior to lab** so that you can make the best use of our class time.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	Labs	readings
Jan. 8-14	Introduction to the course; What is archaeology, and why bother doing it?	Introduction to labs and the term project*	Chapter 1-p.11-26 (to the start of Ecological Approach section) Chapter 12 p.330-336
Jan. 15-21	Humbling histories, ethics, and Indigenous archaeology	Garbology and Modern Material Culture Studies	Chapter 11 Nicholas (2018) Protecting Heritage is a Human Right
Jan. 22-28	Theoretical Approaches in Archaeology	Thinking about Theory*	Chapter 1 p. 26-37 Chapter 10 Ethnoarchaeology explained p. 164-167
Jan. 29-Feb. 4	Designing Research to Consider the Past	Brainstorming about term project research design*	
Feb. 5-11	The Making of the Material Record (taphonomy, transformation processes)	Intro to survey skills	Chapter 2 Chapter 3 p.63-87 (to start of Ground based Remote Sensing section) chapter 3 p.91-106
Feb. 12-18	Chronology Building; How Archaeologists get a Date	Chronology building	Chapter 4 p.108-134 (start of World Chronology section)
Feb. 19-25	<b>Reading week, no class or labs</b>		
Feb. 26-March 3	<b>Midterm exam</b>	Introduction to excavation skills (setting up evaluative units, recording spatial data)	(review content about excavation in Chapter 3 ahead of the lab)
March 4-10	Archaeology and Technology	More excavation skills	Chapter 3 p. 70-82 and 87-90
March 11-17	Pulling it all together: reconstructing social systems	TBA	Chapter 5 Chapter 7 p. 217-231
March 18-24	Reconstructing Ancient Environments with Floral and Faunal remains	Faunal analysis	Chapter 6 p.175-188
March 25-31	Introduction to bioarchaeology	Lab analysis I: stone technologies	Chapter 6 p. 189-207 Chapter 8 Text p.209-213 stone tool tech (for lab)
April 1-7	Cognitive archaeology	Lab analysis II: bone and antler technologies	Chapter 9
April 8-14	Cultural Resource Management	<b>Lab quiz</b>	Chapter 12
Important: the final exam will be written during the college’s final exam period, which will be posted in late February. Students must write the exam at the scheduled time, and accommodations can’t be made for travel or work schedules.			

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

## EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<p><b>LABS</b></p> <p>Weekly labs are opportunities to apply concepts discussed in lectures. It is very important that you attend each lab as this is the only way to learn the material that you will be responsible for in the lab quizzes. Students earn 1% for each lab (there are 9 labs with participation marks, and 3 indicated with * in the above schedule that do not have an associated mark). Whenever possible labs are related to lecture content from the week to provide a hands on or more in-depth opportunity to think about both method and theory. Please note that only excused absences discussed ahead of time will have the associated participation mark added to the weight of the lab quiz.</p> <p>There will be a lab quiz on Thursday, April 11, worth 11% of your final grade that will evaluate lab content from the semester, with a focus on skills-based material that is not tested in lecture exams.</p>	20%
<p><b>EXPERIMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY TERM PROJECT</b></p> <p>Proposal DUE by Sunday, February 18 at 11:59pm Project report DUE by Sunday, April 9 at 11:59pm</p> <p>Experimental archaeology is an example of Middle Range Theory. With guidance, students will design an experiment, collect data, and evaluate a hypothesis tied to interpretations related to past human behaviours that may not be clearly represented in the material record. Multiple examples will be provided in the first lab class on January 11, and lab time on February 1 is dedicated to workshopping individual research designs ahead of submitting the proposal (worth 5%) by February 18.</p>	25%
<p><b>Exams</b></p> <p>MIDTERM EXAM (worth 25%): Tuesday, February 27. FINAL EXAM (worth 30%): during the college's final exam period in April (please check the exam schedule posted on MyCamosun in late February.)</p> <p>These two exams could include multiple choice questions, matching, open-ended short answer questions and long answer questions. The exams are not cumulative, although some theory concepts will be discussed throughout the term.</p>	55%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information. <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

### Exams:

Exam will consist of some multiple choice and several sections of short answer and longer answer questions based on readings, D2L resources, and content covered in class. The exam will be written in a computer lab and must be written in person and during the scheduled times unless the instructor has agreed to an alternative date in advance. This includes the lab quiz. Unavailability of the text or pressure of other work will not be accepted as excuses for missing exams or other assigned work.

### Assignments:

Please make sure that assignments are submitted properly via D2L instead of emailed to me. Things get misplaced very easily in my inbox, and it is harder for me to provide feedback and tie grades into the gradebook if files are not submitted through D2L. Please submit as a Word document or PDF, other formats often will not open for me.

It is important that assignments be submitted on time. **Five percent** of the total mark will be deducted for every day an assignment is late (yes, even weekends); while this may not seem like many marks, remember that 5% is the difference of a letter grade, and this adds up quickly. This can be avoided by not procrastinating

and staying organized in terms of time management. I do not want to have to decide whose excuses are more justified than others, so unless it is an extreme circumstance, no exceptions will be made. For clarity, having to take an extra shift at work, or getting a cold the day before something is due that you have had many weeks to work on it are not considered extreme circumstances!

### **AI and Academic Integrity:**

Artificial intelligence presents new challenges for our understanding of academic integrity. Currently, Camosun does not have a policy governing AI-use. How it may or may not be used in courses is up to the discretion of the instructor. We can discuss the pros and cons of using AI as a tool but my position, for now, is that students may use AI tools such as Grammarly to assist them with writing mechanics but are prohibited from using AI tools such as Chat-GPT to create content for assignments. Whoever does the work does the learning; you are here to learn, and I am here to help you with that. Providing feedback for an AI generated assignment is a waste of my time, and not useful for your continued personal and academic development. Please remember why you are here (it's about more than just a grade), and let me know how I can help!

Misrepresentation and plagiarism are serious forms of academic misconduct, which is difficult to avoid when using many AI tools. All infractions have to be reported to the dean of the school, with consequences for students. Please review Camosun's Academic Integrity Policy if you are unfamiliar with the rules about plagiarism and/or academic misconduct. Please be familiar with the APA citation style for the term project; there are great resources on the library's website to help with citing any imaginable resource being considered.

### **CAL Accommodations**

Students requiring academic accommodations must provide a Letter of Academic Accommodation through the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) at the beginning of the semester. Requests for extensions must be made well in advance of the deadline as part of a conversation to support student success. Exams written at CAL must be arranged two weeks in advance.

CAL accommodations for the lab quiz will be taken care of by the instructor since applied components of the quiz cannot be managed by the CAL team. Arrangements will be made so that CAL students can still complete the lab quiz on April 11; we can figure out how to do this around your other classes.

## SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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For information about the Department of Social Science, including course descriptions, awards and scholarships, and instructors and chair contact information please visit:

<https://legacy.camosun.ca/learn/subjects/social-sciences/index.html>

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/its">http://camosun.ca/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="http://camosun.ca/writing-centre">http://camosun.ca/writing-centre</a>

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

### Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/sexual-violence](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

### Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

**Changes to this syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that

course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.