

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ANTH-240-Archaeological Method/Theory

CLASS SECTION: 001 A/B

TERM: 2025W

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face to face

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Nicole Kilburn

EMAIL: kilburn@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Young 212A

HOURS: Tuesday 1-2:30pm, Wednesday 3:30-4:30pm Thursday 1:30-2:30pm and 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

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

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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

Recognize the standard systematic procedures used by Americanist archaeologists to investigate the past including site survey and excavation, artifact analysis, faunal analysis, mapping.

Discuss the nature of the archaeological evidence.

Identify and discuss basic theoretical approaches in archaeology at low level, middle range and high level.

Identify and discuss reasons for conservation and protection of archaeological sites and artifacts.

Critically evaluate professional and non-professional ideas and writings about prehistory.

Carry out descriptive analyses of certain types of artifacts.

Discuss divergent ideas of the past.

Outline the attitudes and concerns of Indigenous communities in regard to archaeological excavation, human ancestral remains and interpretation of North American “prehistory”.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Renfrew, Colin, Paul Bahn and Elizabeth DeMarrais (2023) *Archaeology Essentials*, fifth 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. 6-12	Introduction to the course; What is archaeology, and why bother doing it?	Introduction to labs and the term project*	Chapter 1 Chapter 12 p.329-332 (“What Use is the Past?”)
Jan. 13-19	Humbling histories, ethics, and Indigenous archaeology	Garbology and Material Culture Studies	Chapter 11 Nicholas (2018) <i>Protecting Heritage is a Human Right</i>

Jan. 20-26	Theoretical Approaches in Archaeology	Thinking about Theory	Chapter 10 Ethnoarchaeology explained p. 163-164
Jan. 27-Feb. 2	Designing Research to Consider the Past	Brainstorming about term project research design*	The Archaeology of Beer: Experimental Archaeology p. 195 (and get a head start on next week's readings)
Feb. 3-9	The Material Record; How it's formed, located and evaluated	Intro to survey skills	Chapter 2 Chapter 3 p.63-72 (to start of Recent Digital Developments section) Chapter 3 p.81-86 (to start of Ground-based remote sensing) Chapter 3 88-104 (Start at Excavation section)
Feb. 10-16	Chronology Building; How Archaeologists get a Date	Chronology building	Chapter 4 p.106-132 (start of World Chronology section)
Feb. 17-23	Reading week, no class or labs		
Feb. 24-March 2	Midterm exam	Introduction to excavation skills (setting up evaluative units, recording spatial data)	(review content about excavation in Chapter 3 ahead of the lab)
March 3-9	Archaeology and Technology	More excavation skills	Chapter 3 p. 72-81 and 86-88
March 10-16	Pulling it all together: reconstructing social systems	Lab analysis I: stone technologies	Chapter 5 Chapter 7 p. 219-230 Text p.210-212 stone tool tech (for stone technology lab)
March 17-23	Reconstructing Ancient Environments and Diets	Experimental archaeology projects data collection day*	Chapter 6
March 24-30	Introduction to bioarchaeology	Faunal analysis	Chapter 8
March 31-April 6	Cognitive archaeology	Lab analysis II: bone and antler technologies	Chapter 9

April 7-13	Cultural Resource Management	Lab quiz	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 notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams). <https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<p>LABS</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, EXCEPT for the 3 indicated with * in the above schedule that do not have an associated mark, and the lab in week 3 that is worth 2% because of some associated extra prep on the part of students. 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.</p> <p>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 10, worth 10% 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>EXPERIMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY TERM PROJECT : The Great Camosun Archaeo Cook Off</p> <p>Proposal DUE by Sunday, February 16 at 11:59pm Project report DUE by Sunday, April 6 at 11:59pm</p> <p>Experimental archaeology is an example of Middle Range Theory. With guidance, and in teams of 2 (or solo) students will design an experiment, collect data, and evaluate a hypothesis tied to interpretations related to past culinary technologies. A variety of topics will be provided in the first lab class on January 9, and students will be placed in teams based on their top 3 ranked choices. Lab time on January 28 is</p>	30%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
dedicated to workshopping projects ahead of submitting the proposal (worth 5%) by February 16 . Data collection will take place on campus on Thursday, March 20 .	
<p>EXAMS</p> <p>MIDTERM EXAM (worth 25%): Tuesday, February 25.</p> <p>FINAL EXAM (worth 25%): 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 final exam is not cumulative, although students are expected to have learned and applied theory concepts throughout the term.</p>	50%
<p>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 policy for more information.</p> <p>https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf</p>	100%

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 may 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 10; we can figure out how to do this around your other classes.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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

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

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 camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre

Support Service	Website
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

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

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines: <https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/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 <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

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 (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

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 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 Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

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 <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies? The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here:

<https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

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.

