CAMOSUN COLLEGE	*School of Arts & Science* *SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT* **ANTH 240-001A/B** **Archaeological Method & Theory** **W2009**

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ _____

Ω *Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.*
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Nicole Kilburn, MA
(b)	Office Hours:	TBA
(c)	Location:	Young 207
(d)	Phone:	370-3368
(e)	Email:	kilburn@camosun.bc.ca

Website: www.kilburn.disted.camosun.bc.ca

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the 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 First Nations communities in regard to archaeological excavation, human skeletal remains and interpretation of North American prehistory.

3. Required Materials

Text:
Sharer, Robert and Wendy Ashmore
2003 *Archaeology; Discovering our Past*, Third Edition. Boston: McGraw Hill.

Reserved readings (to be photocopied in the library):

Rathje, William and Cullen Murphy
1992 Yes, Wonderful Things. From: *Rubbish! The Archaeology of Garbage*, pp. 3-29 Harper Collins: New York.

Watkins, Joe
2000 Towards an Indigenous Archaeology. IN: Indigenous Archaeology; American Indian Values and Scientific Practice, by Joe Watkins, pp. 169-181. Alta Mira Press, Walnut Creek.

4. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) Labs: 30%

Labs meet every Friday. It is VERY important that you attend each lab to complete and submit assignments. This is the only way to learn the material that you will be responsible for in the lab exams. Labs are each worth 1% of the final mark, and students are provided oral and/or written feedback in preparation for the lab exams. Labs can only be made-up in the case of extreme illness with a medical certificate. There will be two lab exams throughout the semester, each worth 10% of your final grade. The lab section of this course MUST be passed to get a passing grade in ANTH 240.

(b) Exams : 55%

There will be two exams comprised of multiple choice questions, matching, open-ended short answer questions and long answers. The exams are not cumulative, although some theory concepts will be discussed throughout the term.

MIDTERM EXAM: Wednesday, February 27
FINAL EXAM: During the College exam period

Exams must be written at the scheduled times. The only exception is extreme illness, in which case a medical certificate must be presented to the instructor, and the instructor must be notified by phone or email BEFORE the day of the exam. There will be no exceptions without a medical certificate. REPEAT- NO EXCEPTIONS. This includes lab exams. Unavailability of texts or pressure of other work will not be accepted as excuses for missing exams or other assigned work.

(c) Term lab project: 15%

Experimental archaeology is an example of Middle Range Theory in that it creates a bridge between the fairly static material record and the dynamic behaviours that archaeologists are most interested in identifying in past cultural systems. For this assignment, students will build an experiment to address more humanistic elements of the past. This may include replicating an artifact using only materials and tools that would have been available to the original tool makers/users to ask questions like: How long does it take? What other tools are required, and what evidence of these manufacturing marks are left on the finished tools? It may include using a tool to assess use wear or replicating a technology like boiling water with hot rocks. The experiment must control for as many variables as possible to produce useful results. Each student will submit a formal lab write-up detailing the experiments (ie. hypothesis, back ground information, methodology, results, discussion) and, if applicable, the replicated artifact. The research hypothesis is due **Wednesday, February 6** so that I can provide feedback before students execute the experiment. The final project is due **Wednesday, March 19.**

Please come and talk to me if you need ideas about acquiring required materials.

Please note: extra assignments **are not** available to students in order to up-grade poor marks from exams or lab work.

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	*Incomplete*: A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	*In progress*: A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. *(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)*
CW	*Compulsory Withdrawal:* A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**.
It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

ANTH 240-001 Course schedule: Class meets for lectures on Wednesdays 10:30-12:20, labs run on Fridays

WEEK	LECTURE TOPIC	READINGS	LABS
1 Jan 7-11	Introduction to the course; What is archaeology, and why bother doing it?	Chapter 1	No labs
2 Jan 14-18	A Brief History of Archaeology	Chapter 2; Rathje and Murphy 1992	Garbology
3 Jan. 21-25	Theoretical Approaches in Archaeology	Chapter 3	Fieldtrip
4 Jan. 28-Feb. 1	The Nature of the Archaeological Record, and How to Collect and Consider it Part I	Chapters 4 and 5	Basic Survey Skills
5 Feb. 4-8	The Nature of the Archaeological Record, and How to Collect and Consider it Part II	Chapters 6 and 7	Plan View Mapping
6 Feb. 11-15	Chronology Building; How Archaeologists get a Date	Chapter 9	**Reading break**
7 Feb. 18-22	Ethnoarchaeology and Experimental Archaeology	Chapter 13	Harris Matrices and Historic dating
8 Feb. 25-29	**MIDTERM EXAM**		**LAB EXAM 1**
9 March 3-7	Reconstructing Technology and the Environment	Chapter 14; Chapter 10 (for lab reference only)	Artifact analysis: Stone Technologies
10 March 10-14	Reconstructing Social Systems; Anasazi Community Economics as a case study	Chapter 15	Artifact Analysis: Bone and Antler Technologies
11 March 17-21	Faunal Remains and Human Osteology ***Replication Assignment due in class***	Chapter 11	Artifact Cataloguing
12 March 24-March 28	Yin Lam guest lecture on Stable Isotope Analysis	--	Faunal Analysis lab
13 March 31-4	Contract Archaeology in North America	Web resources linked off website; chapter 18	Excavation skills lab
14 April 7-11	Towards an Indigenous Archaeology	Joe Watkins 2000	**LAB EXAM 2**