

Spokane Falls Community College
COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND OUTLINE

Prefix and Course Number: ANTH&204

Course Title: Archaeology

Version Date: 3/11/19

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Describe how archaeologists study the past.
2. Identify different approaches to archaeological evidence and its interpretation and how those approaches have changed over time.
3. Explain the origins of agriculture, animal domestication, and complex societies in different regions.
4. Apply archaeological concepts and analytical strategies to case studies.

Course Outline:

- I. Overview and Introduction to Archaeology & Anthropology
- II. History of Archaeology, Including Archaeology as Anthropology
 - a. Development of Archaeology – Earliest Ideas of the Human Past to the Basics of Modern Archaeological Theory
 - b. Scientific Method and Archaeology
- III. Archaeological Methods
 - a. Instructors are encouraged to highlight archaeological sites from a wide geographical and time spectrum to demonstrate the utilization of methods in testing hypotheses
 - i. Site Reconnaissance, Surveys, and Excavations
 - ii. Dating and Chronologies
 - iii. Reconstructing the Past – Experimental Archaeology and Ethnoarchaeology
 - b. Advancements in archaeological field methods based on scientific and technological advancements
- IV. Analysis of Archaeological Data
 - a. Instructors are encouraged to highlight analysis procedures that cover the spectrum of current archaeological research
 - i. Laboratory Methods
 - ii. Explanation and Interpretation in Archaeology
- V. Survey of World Prehistory – Global Perspective
 - a. Primary Areas of Focus:
 - i. Instructors are encouraged to touch on each of these major categories, keeping a global perspective in mind while highlighting specific archaeological research
 1. Hunting and Gathering Societies
 2. Rise of agricultural societies and settled village life
 3. Emergence of ‘civilizations’
 - b. Suggested Secondary Areas of Focus:
 - i. Evidence of Earliest Technology

- ii. Warfare in the Archaeological Record
 - iii. Historical archaeology
 - iv. Social archaeology
 - v. Bioarchaeology
 - vi. Environmental Archaeology
 - vii. Newer technologies such as LiDAR, Parcak and space archaeology with crowdsourcing
- VI. Current Issues in Archaeology—Case Study Opportunities
 - a. Suggested Areas:
 - i. Is the Past Important Enough to Protect?
 - ii. Who Owns the Past?
 - iii. Global Politics and Archaeology
 - b. Future of Archaeology