

**Introduction to Archaeology**  
Anthropology 002  
Santa Clara University  
Winter 2005

**Instructor:** Dr. Russell K. Skowronek **Office:** 323 O'Connor  
**Office Phone:** (408)554-4328 **Dept. Phone:** 554-2794  
**Office Hours:** M W 10:25 - 11:30, M 12:50-1:20 or by appointment  
**Classroom:** 206 O'Connor, MWF 9:15-10:20

**Required Texts:**

Computer-based program titled, **Revealing Archaeology.** Thinking Strings.

This CANNOT be shared. Everyone needs their own copy. Do NOT purchase used copies.

**Articles on Reserve at the Orradre Library\*:**

Anonymous

1983 Styleguide. **American Antiquity** 48(2):429-442.

Bass, George F.

1979 The Men Who Stole the Stars. **Sea History** 12 (Fall):30.

Deetz, James F. and Edwin S. Dethlefsen

1980 Death's Head, Cherub, Urn and Willow. **Historical Archaeology**, Robert Schuyler, editor, Baywood Publishing Co., New York.

Otto, John Solomon

1978 Race and Class on Antebellum Plantations. **Historical Archaeology** 3-13.

Skowronek, Russell K.

1985 Sport Divers and Archaeology: The Case of the Legare Anchorage Ship Site. **Archaeology Magazine** 38(3):22-27.

Throckmorton, Peter

1990 The World's Worst Investment: The Economics of Treasure Hunting with Real Life Comparisons. **Underwater Archaeology Proceedings from the Society for Historical Archaeology.** Toni L. Carrel, editor, Pps. 6-10 . Society for Historical Archaeology, Tucson, AZ.

Wheat, Joe Ben

1967 A Paleo-Indian Bison Kill. **Scientific American** 216:44-62.

Note: Articles are NOT on-line, plan to visit the library.

**Course Objectives:** In this class we will explore how anthropologists use techniques from the natural sciences to determine the lifeways of past cultures. In it we will learn how sites are formed, found and dated. We will see, through the work of ethnobotanists, physical anthropologists, palynologists and zooarchaeologists, how the daily lives of past peoples can be reconstructed. Finally, we will explore how archaeologists are able to explain "**Why**" cultures change through time. Examples will be drawn from historical, underwater, and prehistoric sites in the Old and New Worlds.

Objective 1. To understand the origins of American archaeology in history and the natural and social sciences and its place in the contemporary world.

Objective 2. To understand how archaeologists construct culture chronologies, reconstruct past life ways, and search for culture process.

Objective 3. To gain hands-on experience in the field, in the lab, in the library, with original documents, and with data sets in order to recognize patterns and to explore archaeological methods.

**Grading:** Your grade in this class is based on two exams, two short reviews, field experience, an ethnohistorical transcription and research exercise, and class participation.

**Exams:** The Midterm (Wednesday Feb. 2) will be worth 25% and the Final (Monday March 14–9:10-12:10 pm) will be worth 25% of your grade. Questions are drawn from lectures, readings and films. If you are ill and cannot make an exam call me or the department before the exam and leave a phone number where you can be reached.

**Reviews:** The best way to learn about a field is to become acquainted with its journals. In this course you will examine the popular journal entitled Archaeology and one professional journal (e.g., American Antiquity, Antiquity, Journal of Field Archaeology, Historical Archaeology) of your choice following consultation with the instructor. The reviews will describe the normal contents of the journal and then will discuss one of the articles published therein. A complete review will include a proper written citation for the reviewed article using American Antiquity guidelines (on reserve and listed above). Each review will be worth 10% (a total of 20% for both) and are due on Wed. Jan. 26 and Wed. Feb. 23. The reviews are to be typed, double-spaced and no more than 3 pages in length. We will talk more about these exercises at a later date. **Please Note\*\*\*Late papers will be penalized 3 points/day.**

**Computer Homework:** (10%) Our computer-based “text” **Revealing Archaeology** provides a process of discovery. Students using the program are directed through the logical processes of archaeology: asking questions, discovering sites, deciding where to dig, examining the materials that were recovered in an excavation, and trying to understand what the materials, their context, and their distribution tell us about life in the past. The exercises for each of the modules are due before we start the next section of the class. Attached to this syllabus is a copy of Thinking Strings “Hints” for navigating the program. Please refer any all all problems with the program to Thinking Strings at either their email address [support@thingstrings.com](mailto:support@thingstrings.com). Should you need to call them you will need to give them your name, and the serial number for your disk..I STRONGLY recommend that you print out the users guide that is on the CD under the heading RA USERS GUIDE.pdf and RA Hints.pdf and that you use the backup feature. The pass key for the class is **helen**.

**Ethnohistorical Transcription:** When available, one of the most important tools for the archaeologist are, documents. Each of you will receive two pages from documents pertaining to HMS Fowey an English man-of-war lost off the coast of Florida in 1748 and excavated by your professor in 1983. You will transcribe your pages following the provided template and submit it, and the original photocopies to me on your specified date. I will examine your transcription for accuracy and return it for revision. A final corrected version (will be saved on an error- and virus-free disk) will be due within seven days of their return. Please see me if you are having trouble reading the page (10 %). Damage or loss of the original document will result in a reduction of your grade. I will pass out the documents in class when they are available.

It is imperative that you follow these style directions EXACTLY. Failure to comply with these instruction may negatively affect your grade.

**Class Participation:** An excellent way to learn about archaeology is to get "hands-on" experience excavating, handling, and processing artifacts. As an introduction to this experience you must spend 4 hours (in two two hour blocks) working with the Archaeology Research Lab doing field and work (10%). We will be conducting test excavations in part of Mission Santa Clara. Sign-up sheets will be passed around during the first several class periods in order to determine student availability. Weekly sign-up slots will be available Monday-Thursday throughout the quarter, at this time NO field times will be available on weekends or during finals week. **Please Note: Scheduling field and lab time is difficult. If you commit to a time you must attend or cancel with Assistant Campus Archaeologist Linda Hylkema (in the Archaeology Research Lab Collections Room 554-4513) 24 hours before your scheduled time. Failure to do so will result in a zero with NO opportunity for make-ups.** You have been warned. You will be working in the field and will get dirty. You need to arrive on-schedule, and wear heavy shoes or sneakers. A hat, sun screen, and gloves would also be useful.

Please note: I have a "No hats" policy. Please remove them before class begins. Also, class begins at 9:15 late arrivals disrupt class. **Be on time.**

**Academic Integrity:** "The University is committed to academic excellence and integrity. Students are expected to do their own work and to cite any sources they use. Engaging in any form of academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism, cheating or other acts generally understood to be dishonest by faculty or students in an academic context will subject students to disciplinary action. A student guilty of dishonest acts may receive a grade of F for the course. They will be reported to the Office of Student Life, and may be immediately dismissed from the University" (SCU Undergraduate Bulletin and Community Handbook).

**Disability Accommodation Policy:** "To request academic accommodations for a disability, students must contact Disability Resources located in The Drahmman Center in Benson, Room 214, (408) 554-4111; TTY (408) 554-5445. Students must provide documentation of a disability to Disability Resources prior to receiving accommodations."

**Week/Lecture Topic**

**Reading**

1/3 Introduction  
History of Archaeology

Syllabus  
**Humanity's Imprint**

1/10 Culture, Nature and the Formation of  
the Archaeological Record

**Leaving a Trail,**

**Thursday Jan. 13, SCCAS, Sonya Atalay 7:30 pm 206 Daly Science**

**Monday Jan. 17 No Class- M. L. King Holiday**

1/19 Archaeological Research, Finding Sites  
and Excavation

**Following the Trail**

1/26 Dating Archaeological Sites Deetz article, **Tracking Down Time and Charting Time**

**\*\*\*\*\* Wednesday Jan. 26, First Review Due\*\*\*\*\***

1/31 Determining Environment

**\*\*\*\*\*Wednesday, Feb. 2 Midterm Exam \*\*\*\*\***

2/4 Subsistence and Diet Wheat article and **Provisioning Society**  
Skeletal Evidence

**Thursday Feb. 10, SCCAS Anna Naruat Lecture, 7:30 pm 207 Daly Science**

2/11 Tools and Technology  
Trade and Exchange

**Detecting Technology**

2/16 Social Organization, Globalization, and Multi-culturalism  
Otto article, Skowronek article

**No School Monday Feb. 21**

2/23 Art and Religion

**\*\*\*\*\* Wednesday Feb 23, Second Review Due \*\*\*\*\***

2/25 Ethics in Archaeology **Preserving the Trail**, Bass, Throckmorton and another article tba

**\*\*\*\*\* Monday Feb. 28, George Bass Lecture, 7:30 pm 206 Daly Science**

3/2 The Search for Culture Process

3/9 Careers

**Thursday March 10, SCCAS Sven Ouzman, 7:30 pm 206 Daly Science**

**\*\*\*\*\* Monday March 14, 9:10-12:10 Final Exam \*\*\*\*\***

**\*\*Extra Credit** may be earned by attending and writing a brief typed 1-2 page review of lectures sponsored by the SCU Anthropology Program on 1/13, 2/10, 2/28, 3/10. Details to follow, the reviews are due within a week of the lecture.