

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE			
TERM:	FALL 2015	COURSE NO:	ANTHROPOLOGY 323
INSTRUCTOR:		COURSE NAME: LEARNING FROM THE PAST: THE RISE AND FALL OF ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS	
OFFICE:	LOCAL:	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3
E-MAIL:			
OFFICE HOURS:			

COURSE FORMAT:

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15 week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

45 credits of 100-level or higher coursework including ANTH 123.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

From global interaction, to environmental degradation and warfare, to technological advances that forever change the way we live – many of the themes that characterize our modern society and times can also be seen in the archaeological record of past societies. This course examines key features associated with the rise and fall of some of the major civilizations of the ancient world. We will begin by looking at some of the most significant developments that occurred during the early course of human existence, including the origins of agriculture and the emergence of formal leadership, that formed the foundation of later complex civilizations and empires. We will then compare a number of ancient states and empires and identify key differences and similarities in their development and organization, and investigate the possible causes for their demise. Specific topics and themes include the establishment of class systems and social inequality, the processes involved in state expansion and conquest, issues deriving from early versions of “global politics” and “global economies” in the ancient world, and specific problem situations faced by ancient civilizations (environmental, economic, and political) and the varied attempts (both successful and unsuccessful) that were made to resolve them. Competing theoretical models regarding specific developments (e.g., the origins of agriculture and the rise of the state) will be evaluated and compared to existing data from a variety of sources.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Identify major developments (both successes and failures) associated with past societies and how these developments have been researched by archaeologists (including the kinds of data, analyses, and theoretical models that have been used).
- Synthesize information from a variety of sources, develop and articulate their own point of view regarding the subject matter, and demonstrate sound argumentation for their position through the use and critique of data, theoretical models and other material presented in class and readings.

Course learning outcomes - continued

- Achieve an anthropological understanding of their own society's place in the span of human existence – including both its unique attributes as well as the presence of repeated or ongoing patterns in the modern human condition.
- Evaluation will be based on performance on the written assignment, exam questions and class discussions.

COURSE WEBSITE:

There is a Moodle site for this course. The address for the login page is: <https://moodle.capilanou.ca/login/>. The access key will be given in class.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Ancient Civilizations (3rd edition) by Christopher Scarre and Brian M. Fagan.
Pearson/Prentice Hall.

Additional required and supplementary readings will be posted on the course Moodle site.

COURSE CONTENT:

Dates	Topics
	Introduction to the Course: Archaeology and the Human Past <u>Readings:</u> None
	The Development of Agriculture and Settled Village Life: Definitions and Theories for the Origins of Agriculture <u>Readings</u> (posted on the course Moodle site): “Agriculture and Animal Domestication” by Brian M. Fagan; “The Origins of Agriculture” by Kent V. Flannery.
	What is a “civilization”? Types of Social Organization: Definitions and Theories for the Rise of the State <u>Readings:</u> Scarre & Fagan: Chapters 1 and 2
	Horizons/Interaction Spheres and the Emergence of Formal Leadership: Examples from Different World Regions <u>Readings:</u> Scarre & Fagan: Chapter 3: 59-84; Chapter 6: 168-177; Chapter 15: 398-408; Chapter 17: 460-477.
	Reading Break: No Classes
	Midterm Exam
	Types of Ancient Civilizations: City-States Definition and Examples from Different World Regions <u>Readings:</u> Scarre & Fagan: Chapter 3: 85-93; Chapter 9; Chapter 13: 356-364; Chapter 15: 408-434.

Course content – continued

Dates	Topics
	Types of Ancient Civilizations: Territorial States Definition and Examples from Different World Regions <u>Readings:</u> Scarre & Fagan: Chapter 4; Chapter 6: 178-194; Chapter 13: 364-372.
	Types of Ancient Civilizations: Empires Definition and Examples from Different World Regions <u>Readings:</u> Scarre & Fagan: Chapter 3: 94-98; Chapter 8: 225-240; Chapter 11; Chapter 14: 374-392; Chapter 16: 450-461; Chapter 18: 500-505; <u>and</u> “The Archaeology of Empires” by Carla Sinopoli (posted on the course Moodle site)
	The “Collapse” of Ancient Civilizations: Meaning and Cause <u>Readings:</u> TBA
	Overview and Comparisons of the Rise and Fall of Ancient Civilizations <u>Readings:</u> Scarre & Fagan: Chapter 19.
	Final Exam to be held during the scheduled exam period.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Exams: There will be two exams (a midterm and a final). The final will be non-cumulative.

Assignments: Each student is required to complete two written assignments (as described on separate handouts).

Fourth Hour: A weekly fourth hour of instruction will be delivered *via* the course Moodle site in the form of various resources, including additional readings and PowerPoint material pertaining to the week’s topic(s) that may not have been covered in class; films may also occasionally be assigned as a fourth hour activity.

EVALUATION PROFILE:

Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%
Written Assignment #1	30%
<u>Written Assignment #2</u>	<u>10%</u>
	100%

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 77 - 79%	C+ = 67 - 69%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89	B = 73 - 76	C = 63 - 66	F = 0 - 49
A- = 80 - 84	B- = 70 - 72	C- = 60 - 62	

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Office Hours: TBA.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes. If the student is absent, s/he is responsible for all announcements and material covered in class.

Assignments: Assignments must be handed in during class, on the due date. The instructor does not generally accept assignments by e-mail and late assignments will only be accepted if prior permission has been obtained from the instructor.

Missed Exams:

Make-up tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crisis. Students should be prepared to provide proof of inability to write the test on the scheduled date (e.g. letter from doctor).

Incomplete Grades:

Given at the discretion of the instructor. Generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises.

English usage: University-level English skills are expected in all written assignments. Students who anticipate having difficulties should visit the Writing Centre early in the term.

Cheating and plagiarism:

Plagiarism is using the words, images or ideas of someone else as if they are your own, without giving acknowledgement to the original source. It is the responsibility of all students to ensure that they understand what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it through proper documentation. **Students caught plagiarizing will receive, at minimum, a grade of 0 on the assignment, and may be subject to further penalties in accordance with the University policy.**

Electronic Devices:

No personal electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, calculators, electronic dictionaries, etc...) may be used during an examination without prior approval from the instructor. During an exam, turn off all cell phones and pagers and remove them from the desk.

Emergency Procedures:

Please read the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.