

**GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, COMMERCE, AND EDUCATION**

**WORLD PREHISTORY
ANTHROPOLOGY 2190 3(3-0-0) UT 45 Hours**

November 4, 2003

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Laurie Nock

Calendar Description:

An introductory archaeology course that provides an overview of New and Old World prehistory; spans the earliest origins of humans, the spread of anatomically modern humans and the development of hunting and gathering societies, the origins of food production, and the emergence of ancient urban societies.

Course Description:

(Lecture)

This course provides a survey of world prehistory in various major regions throughout the scope of human history. The major part of the course will review archaeological data and interpretations of the Old Stone Age (Paleolithic period), the origins and establishment of food production (Neolithic period), and the emergence of complex and state societies. These events will first be considered in the Old World and then in the New World.

Required Text:

Brian M. Fagan, *People of the Earth: An Introduction to World Prehistory*. 10th edition, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. 2001.

Supplementary readings will be handed out from time to time. Videos and slide show will also be shown on occasion to illustrate topic material. This is required material for exams.

Grade Determination:

Grades for the course will be based on two non-cumulative mid-term exams (multiple choice and short answer), one assignment (short answer and short essay questions), and one non-cumulative final exam (multiple choice and short answer). The mid-terms will be valued at 25% each, the short assignment at 20%, and the final exam at 30%. They are marked using the alpha system.

| Examination/Assignment | Weight |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Mid-term examination 1 | 25% |
| Mid-term examination 2 | 25% |
| Assignment | 20% |
| Final-examination | 30% |

Other Regulations:

Unexcused absence from an exam will result in a mark of zero. Excused absence from exams (informed prior to exam and confirmed by written note from the appropriate authority) will result in a weight transfer towards the final exam. No make-up assignments will be allowed. Deferred exam rules will apply to the final exam.

SYLLABUS (subject to adjustments)

Week 1 Read: Chapter 1

Introduction, course description, discussion of outline, exams, and grading.
Introduction to World Prehistory, general concepts.

Week 2 Read: Chapters 2 and 3

Dating Methods; Early Hominids: Human origins, *Homo erectus* and *Homo sapiens*.

Week 3 Read: Chapter 4 and 6

The spread of modern humans: Modern humans in Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia.

Week 4 Read: Chapters 5 and 7

Modern humans in the Americas, Intensification and Complexity.

Week 5

MID- TERM EXAM

Week 6 Read: Chapters 8 and 9

Origins of Food Production. Theories and Models
Food Production in the Old World: Farming in Southwest Asia

Week 7 Read: Chapters 10, 11 and 12

Food Production the Old World continued: Europe, Africa and the Pacific

Week 8 Read: Chapters 13 and 14

Food Production in the New World

The Development of Civilizations and some major theories on the emergence of state societies.

Week 9

MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Week 10 Read: Chapters 15, 16 and 17

Early civilizations in the Old World: Mesopotamia, Africa, Southeast Asia.

Week 11 Read: Chapters 18, 19, 20

Civilizations in the Old World continued: China, Mediterranean Europe. Late Prehistory of temperate Europe

Week 12 Read: Chapters 21 and 22

Early civilizations in the New World: Mesoamerica and Andean States

Week 13

Early civilizations in the New World wrap-up

Summary and "loose ends"