

# INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY AND PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Wednesday 5:15–8:00 (Synchronous online)

## INSTRUCTOR

Dr. MIKAEL HALLER

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Virtual Office Hours:

Tues 2–3:30pm

Wed 2:30–5pm

Thurs 12:30–2pm

or by Appointment

(Collaborate/MS Teams for office hours)

Göbekli Tepe, Turkey: World's Oldest Temple



## Course Summary

Archaeology and Physical Anthropology, with their long temporal framework, provide a unique opportunity to examine the development of human society; including how humans, and their ancestors, evolved both culturally and biologically over the past 5 million years. This course examines the nature of modern archaeological and physical anthropological research including topics on hominid evolution, origins of agriculture, and rise of states. We will examine how archaeologists and physical anthropologists work in the field, how they construct their interpretations and how analogical reasoning is crucial to this process. Through practical exercises, students will have an opportunity to apply this knowledge using real research data.

Course Delivery This is an online synchronous course using a combination of the following programs: Collaborate, Moodle, and Microsoft Teams.

Course Text Olszewski, Deborah I.  
2020 *Archaeology and Humanity's Story: A Brief Introduction to World Prehistory*.  
Second Ed. Oxford University Press, New York.

Course Requirements (all assignments/exams will be submitted through Moodle)

- |    |   |            |
|----|---|------------|
| 1) | <b>READING SUMMARIES</b> (1% each; 15 in total)<br>These will be a summary of the main themes and arguments of the reading, due on the day assigned before class. Follow specific format. | <b>15%</b> |
| 2) | <b>Assignment Grade</b><br>The Assignment grade will consist of 2 assignments<br>1) Garbage Assignment (10%)<br>2) Bog Bodies (2 parts) (10%)   | <b>20%</b> |
| 3) | <b>Quizzes</b> (2 multiple-choice and matching quizzes) (5% each)   | <b>10%</b> |
| 4) | <b>Midterm Exam</b> (Due: Oct. 28)<br>A short answer and essay take-home exam based on the first part of the course (Chps. 1–8).  | <b>25%</b> |

- 5) **Final Exam** (Due: Dec. 9) **25%**  
 A short answer and essay take-home exam  
 based on the second part of the course (Chps. 9–15).  
**Exams will be based on information from lectures, readings, discussions, and videos.**

- 6) **PARTICIPATION** **5%**  
 Attendance will be taken and used in conjunction with your preparedness (did you read the text and articles) and your contributions to class discussions.

### Summaries

2 typed pages double-spaced for the class's readings (1-inch margins, 11 font). These will be a summary of the main themes and arguments of the reading, due on the day assigned before class (no late submissions will be accepted). These are to be in your own words—**do not plagiarize the in-text summaries.**

Follow specific format. **Use headings.**

Title: (complete bibliographic information; single-spaced)

Description: (include a detailed description of the main themes and arguments of the reading; 1 page).

Relevance: (Describe how this reading relates to the course and our class discussions; 1 page).

(Summaries are worth 1% each)

### Grading Policy

If a student misses an exam it will be possible to write a make-up exam, but the illness or emergency must be documented promptly. Submitting exercises late will result in losing 25% for each day. Cheating and plagiarism will be dealt with in strict accordance to the StFX's Academic regulations (<http://www2.mystfx.ca/registrars-office/academic-integrity>). If students miss class, they are responsible for obtaining their own notes as I do not give out my class notes.

### SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

I encourage students that require special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications to contact Learning Services ([http://sites.stfx.ca/accessible\\_learning/services](http://sites.stfx.ca/accessible_learning/services)). Please make arrangements within two weeks from the start of the course.

All StFX students have access to Microsoft Cloud services and should take advantage of this to ensure a backup of academic files. If you choose not to use this service, you are responsible for making your own backups to prevent losing data and not being able to submit required coursework

### Communication

All students have a StFX e-mail account, which must be checked regularly as notices and information pertaining to the course will be sent electronically. You can send electronic correspondence to my university e-mail address ([mhaller@stfx.ca](mailto:mhaller@stfx.ca)). Handouts and syllabus are available on the course Moodle site

*Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe, and equitable learning environment, free from discrimination and harassment. I invite you to work with me to create a classroom space – both real and virtual – that fosters and promotes values of human dignity, equity, non-discrimination, and respect for diversity. Please feel free to contact the Human Rights and Equity Advisor Megan Fogarty if you have questions or concerns about equity in the classroom or in the StFX Community in general. Megan can be contacted by email at [mfogarty@stfx.ca](mailto:mfogarty@stfx.ca) or by telephone at 902-867-5306.*

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MONTH	DAY	TOPIC	READINGS	HAND OUT	DUE (summaries)	DUE
SEPT	16	Acquiring and Interpreting Data	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 1			
SEPT	23	Humanity's Roots	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 2	A #1	Chapter #1 Chapter #2	
SEPT	30	Becoming Human	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 3		Chapter #3	
OCT	7	Modern Humans	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 4		Chapter #4	Quiz#1
OCT	14	Hunting, Gathering, Foraging, Farming Ancient Mediterranean	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 5 Olszewski 2020: Chapter 6		Chapter #5 Chapter #6	A #1
OCT	21	North American	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 7 Olszewski 2020: Chapter 8	<b>MID-TERM EXAM</b>	Chapter #7 Chapter #8	
OCT	28	Early Dynastic Mesopotamia Pharaonic State and Old Kingdom Egypt	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 9 Olszewski 2020: Chapter 10	A #2a	Chapter #9 Chapter #10	<b>MT Exam</b>
NOV	4	Shang China; Indus Valley	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 11 Olszewski 2020: Chapter 12		Chapter #11 Chapter #12	
NOV	18	Mesoamerica and Classic Maya	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 13	A #2b	Chapter #13	A #2a
NOV	25	Andean South America and Inka Empire	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 14		Chapter #14	Quiz#2
DEC	2	Mapungubwe and Great Zimbabwe in Africa Politically Complex Societies in Perspective	Olszewski 2020: Chapter 15 Olszewski 2020: Epilogue		Chapter #15	A #2b
DEC	9	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>				