

Spring 2008

ANT 3141 - Development of World Civilization

Department of Anthropology, University of Florida

Time: Tuesday (period 5-6) (11:45 AM – 1:40 PM)
Thursday (period 5) (11:45 AM – 12:35 PM)

Place: Turlington Hall L011

Instructor: Renzo Duin
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office hours: T 10 – 11 AM, 2 – 4 PM & by appointment
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Objectives, Expectations, & Grading

Development of World Civilization is a course on how the World transformed after the so-called Neolithic Revolution, a process that started circa 11,500 years ago in the Near East. Domestication of plants and animals emerged together with sedentism, or ‘domestication of people’. The course readings from the textbook, assigned readings, weblinks, films and class discussions are designed to gain insight into the process of the development of World Civilization worldwide. Short films (most between 3 and 19 minutes) will be used to illustrate the course material in a dynamic way. These films are not ‘time fillers’ but interrelate directly to the discourse and you can expect questions on these short films in the exams.

This course will discuss the similarities and differences between the development of World Civilizations in the Near East, Africa, Asia, Europe, Austronesia, North-, Meso- and South-America; similarities and differences resulting from adaptation to the environment, and the impact of civilizations on this very same environment. Therefore, this course is divided into three sections. The first section is on theory and practice of World Civilization. The second and third sections are regional case studies. An exam will be given after each section. Furthermore, to answer the question “how do we know what we know?” this course will discuss the dynamic discipline of archaeology, one of the four fields in Anthropology.

Development of World Civilization spans topics such as social organization, religion, technology, economics, symbolism, reproduction, politics, genetics, biomechanics, subsistence, settlement patterns, migration, warfare, health and disease, growth and development, material culture, art, music, and storytelling, to name but a few, and how it all worked together in the development of civilizations. An additional goal is to provide students with basic responsiveness to understand the importance of diversity in similitude of human cultural expression.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Required Materials

- *The Human Past*, Chris Scarre (ed.), 2005.
- Additional relevant articles and weblinks will be made available via the interactive syllabus @ <http://plaza.ufl.edu/duin/ta/>.

Grading & Student Evaluation

percentile breakdown

100.0-90.0 = A; 89.9-87.0 = B+; 86.9-80.0 = B; 79.9-77.0 = C+; 76.9-70.0 = C;
69.9-67.0 = D+; 66.9-60.0 = D; <60.0 = E

Exams

There will be three non-accumulative exams and a fourth accumulative exam, since the Development of World Civilization is interconnected and knowledge from one section will be further developed in another section. The exams will each have 50 multiple choice questions for a total of 100 points. Questions will come from both lecture (including films showed during lectures) and the textbook. Grades will be provided via e-learning.

Your final grade will be based upon two non-accumulative exams (lowest of the three will be dropped) and the fourth exam. All exams are equal in weight, so that 300 points = 100%

After everyone has taken the exam, the exams will be posted online so that you may prepare for the accumulative fourth exam.

Exam 1, Spring 2008 ([click here](#))

Exam 2, Spring 2008 ([click here](#))

Exam 3, Spring 2008 ([click here](#))

Attendance & Participation

A lecture will be presented at each meeting on the scheduled material as outlined below, using additional information from outside sources to expand upon the text readings. You are expected to read the assigned chapters and outside sources BEFORE class, so you can engage in class discussions. We will occasionally view films, and perform exercises to help illustrate particular concepts. The supplemental lecture material, films, and exercises are all fair game on exams, so I suggest that you come to class prepared to listen and to participate.

Five or more absences without legitimate excuse will result in a reduction of 10% of your final grade.

**** TURN OFF CELL PHONES IN CLASS ****

Course Outline

Week 1, Jan 8, 10

- Orientation and Ground Rules.
- Introduction Instructor and course material

Readings:

The (online) Syllabus

Scarre Chapter: 1

Short Films:

Film: Remember Iraq's Heritage: Our Heritage [5 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/rememberiraq_700kW.html

Film: Erasing Memory: The Cultural Destruction of Iraq [28 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/erasingmemory_700kW.html

Extra:

Film: In Transit [15 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/intransit_700kW.html

The first section is a discourse on the theory and practice of Civilization. Anthropological and archaeological hypothesis that tried to explain the development of Civilization will be discussed. What happened at Flashpoint? When did people begin domesticating plants and animals? And what were, in response, the consequences for the people themselves? Resulting in the rise of social inequality among and between civilizations.

Week 2; Jan 15, 17

From foragers to farmers to States to Empires (to foragers?).

- Out of Africa and into the World.
- Anthropological theories on the evolution of social organization and civilization.

Readings:

Scarre Chapter: 2, 3 (see note on how to skim these chapters)

Scarre Chapter: 4, 5 (till *The Beginnings of Agriculture*)

NOTE: this is not a class in Biological Anthropology so skim these chapters for the main topics (titles, bold, figures). Warning: do not get drowned in the many hominid names.

Week 3; Jan 22, 24

What is Civilization and how do we unearth it?

- Archaeology in the field: how to 'dig-up' a past Civilization.
- The Rise of Social Inequality (Chiefdoms and beyond).

Scarre Chapter: 1

Film: The Sledge of the Stone Age: Transport of a Megalith [3 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/sledge_700kW.html

Film: Radical Archaeology Television Parody (on Digging for the Truth)

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/radical_700kW.html

Week 4; Jan 29, 31

Neolithic Revolution.

- Hypothesis on the origins of agriculture.
- Domestication of plants and animals (and people?).
- Monolithic Architecture and Writing Systems

Scarre Chapter: 5, 6

Extra:

Oberg 1955

Carneiro 1970

Film: Çatalhöyük [8 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/catalhoyuk_300kW.html

Film: Tools, Techniques and Tablets: Retracing Ancient Agricultural Heritage [26 min.]

<http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/trib300kW.html>

Week 5; Feb 5, 7

World Systems.

- Socio-Political implications of the Rise of Civilization in Southwest Asia.
- The Mediterranean World.
- Modern World System.

Scarre Chapter: 12, 13

Film: The Acropolis [12 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/acrop_300kW.html

Film: Jordan (At the Cross Roads) [15 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/jordan_300kW.html

Film: Pompeii Destroyed [13 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/pompdest_300kW.html

Film: Roman Africa: Tunisia [12 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/tunisia_300kW.html

Extra:

Film: The Shipwreck at Playa Damas (on Columbus last Voyage) [11 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/vizcaina_300kW.html

Week 6; Feb 12

Exam 1 [exam review: Feb. 14 only when ALL students have taken the exam.]

The second section holds regional case studies, where we will place into context the theories discussed in the first section. We will continue our exploration of the Development of Civilizations from the Near East, and spread out to other parts of Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia and Polynesia. How the developments are unique, related to the natural environment and/or tied into social developments in other regions.

SUGGESTION: make yourself a **MAP** and plot the discussed Civilizations in place and time.

Week 7; Feb 19, 21

Civilizations in Africa.

- Rise of Civilization in Saharan and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Rise of Civilization in East Africa (Egypt and Great Zimbabwe).

Scarre Chapter: 10

Weblink: Great Zimbabwe

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/israel/zimbabwe.html>

Week 8; Feb 26, 28

Civilizations in Asia.

- Rise of Civilization in East Asia (China and Indochina).
- Rise of Civilization in South Asia (India and Indus Valley).

Scarre Chapter: 7, 14, 15

Film: Black Forest & Steel Cakes (on iron smelting in India)

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/blackforest_700kW.html

Film: Computer Reconstruction: Temple Site at Phimai

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/phimai_300kW.html

Weblink: the Phimai Sanctuary in Thailand

<http://www.thingsasian.com/stories-photos/1647>

Week 9; Mrch 4, 6

Civilizations in Europe, Australia and Austronesia.

- Rise of Civilization in Australia and Austronesia (including Polynesia).
- Rise of Civilization in Europe (LBK, TRB and Celtic)

Scarre Chapter: 8, 11

Film: VAKA TAUMAKO: The First Voyage [17 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/VakaTaumako300K_W.html

Film: Danebury: Ritual and Religion in the Iron Age [19 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/danebury_300kW.html

Weeks 10; Mrch 11 – 13

SPRING BREAK: NO CLASSES

REMEMBER that EXAM 2 will be the first Tuesday AFTER Spring Break!

Week 11; Mrch 18

Exam 2

Like the second section, the third section holds regional case studies as well, where we will place into context the theories discussed in the first section. We will continue our exploration of the Development of Civilizations but will be focusing on the Americas (North, Meso, and South America).

Week 11; Mrch 20

Origins of food-producers in the Americas.

- Guest speaker: Dr. Oyuela-Caycedo.

Scarre Chapter: 9

Article on the Bottle Gourd

Week 12; Mrch 25, 27

Civilizations in North-America.

- Peopling the 'New World'?

- Rise of Civilization in North-America (Hohokam, Anasazi, Mississippian, Cahokia).

- Visit to the Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH) exhibit on the Calusa.

Scarre Chapter: 4:166-172, 18

Film: MESA VERDE: Legacy of Stone and Spirit [13 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/MesaVerde300k_W.html

Film: Signs of Life: Archeology and Preservation in New Mexico [28 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/signsoflife_300kW.html

Film: Ancient Mound Builders: The Marksville State Historic Site [15 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/marksville_300kW.html

Film: Moundville: Journey Through Time [17 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/moundville_300kW.html

Week 13; Apr 1, 3

Civilizations in Meso-America.

- Rise (and decline) of Civilizations in Meso-America (Olmec, Maya, Aztec).

Scarre Chapter: 16

Film: the Maya [10 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/mayazinc1_300kW.html

Film: Yaxuná: Archaeology of an Ancient Maya City

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/yaxuna_700kW.html

Film: K'ante 'el – Precious Forest [11 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/kanteel_300kW.html

Film: The Aztecs [8 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/mayazinc2_300kW.html

Week 14; Apr 8, 10

Civilizations in South-America.

- Rise (and decline) of Andean Civilizations (Moche, Chimu, Inca)

- Rise (and decline) of Amazonian Civilizations (Arawak diaspora)

Scarre Chapter: 17

Film: The Incas [9 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/mayazinc3_300kW.html

Film: Chavin de Huanter: A CyArk Case Study [4 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/cyarkchavin_700kW.html

Film: The Prehistoric Mounds of Uruguay: Linking the Past and the Future. [24 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/uruguay_300kW.html

Film: Etnias [8 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/etnias_300kW.html

Weblink: Brazilian Stonehenge

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/4767717.stm>

Week 15; Apr 15, 17

Rise and Decline of Civilizations.

- Retrospect and Prospect.

Scarre Chapter: 19

Film: Reclaiming Our Heritage: The Monacan Indian Nation of Virginia [21 min.]

http://www.archaeologychannel.org/content/video/reclaiming_700kW.html

Week 16; Apr 22

Exam 3 and 4

(Exam 3 is on the material covered in the third section)

(Exam 4 is a cumulative exam on all sections)

NOTE: since Exam 3 is covered on the same day, Exam 4 will ONLY consist of 40 questions instead of 50, with a value of 2 points. You will thus be given a benefit of 20 points in exam 4 in order to make 100 points, so please do not ask for extra credit.)