Winter Quarter 2014

ANAR 111 – Foundations of Archaeology
(Anthropological Archaeology: Method and Theory)

Instructor: Thomas E. Levy, Distinguished Professor, Department of Anthropology, UCSD
Office Hour: Thursday 4:00 – 5:00 PM, Calit2, Atkinson Hall Room 1601F, please make appointment
Class Location: Center Hall 222
Web page:

Required reading:
Renfrew, C. and Bahn, P. 2008 Archaeology - Theories, Methods and Practice.
London: Thames and Hudson. (5th ed); Optional readings: We have included some optional readings for those that want to engage with the material in greater depth.

Course Requirements:
Mid-Term 40%
Final Research Paper: 60%
Total: 100%

Final Paper due: Monday, March 17, 2014 by 5 pm

Extra Credit: Earn 10% of the course grade by volunteering 20 hours in the Levantine Archaeology Laboratory. Contact Prof. Levy for details. Some of the work will include 3D scanning of artifacts, processing ancient pottery, creating digital elevation models and other lab work.

Optional: As part of the UCSD-TV series, Dig This! I have had the opportunity to interview a number of important archaeologists who are major players on the world archaeology scene. These interviews are available on the website http://dss.ucsd.edu/~tlevy/ or Google ‘Dig This UCSD’. On the syllabus, an effort has been made to list the archaeologist interviewee who is most closely linked to the lecture topic. I would like you to see my recent TEDx talk on Cyber-archaeology; the URL is listed below. Enjoy!

Class Objectives: Let’s be honest, archaeology is fun! There are also possibilities of getting a real job in cultural heritage or cultural resource management – even with a BA. This class is aimed at providing you with a foundation in the latest methods and theories used in anthropological archaeology today. At UCSD, archaeology is viewed as an integral part of the broader field of anthropology. As such, archaeology can be thought of as the 'past tense' of cultural anthropology. ANAR 111 will also give you an in-depth preparation for participating in the UCSD archaeological field school program in the Middle East (Jordan) or South America (Peru).

During the course of your research, you are urged to discuss your research topic (or issues raised in class) with the instructor during office hours. Bibliographic references should follow the scientific notation system as found in the journal, American Anthropologist, Current Anthropology, World Archaeology, American Antiquity, etc.
Required research paper: The paper should be ca. 10 - 15 pages in length. See instructions at end of the syllabus.

Statement on Academic Integrity from UCSD
"Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of University intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind."

Lect. 1 Tuesday January 7, 2014
The Future of the Past – Cyber-archaeology
Reading – Renfrew and Bahn, Chapter 1;

TEDx talk – Thomas Levy - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LfmIU0MXksU

Lect. 2 Thursday January 9, 2014
Anthropological Foundations and Cultural Typologies: Bands, Tribes, Chiefdoms, States, Empires, & World Systems
Reading: Renfrew & Bahn 2008: Chapters 2 and 5

Lect. 3 Tuesday January 14, 2014
Functionalist Approaches in Western Archaeology: Paleo-economies and Social Change
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn 2008: Chapter 6

Lect. 4 Thursday January 16, 2014
Methods of Dating the Past
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn 2008: Chapter 4

Lect. 5 Tuesday January 21, 2014
Archaeology of Death – Lessons from a Pastoral Nomad Cemetery
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn 2008: Chapter 11 ‘Who Were They? What Were They Like?’

Lect. 6 Thursday January 23, 2014
GUEST LECTURER – Matt Howland, UCSD Anthropology Grad Student – ‘GIS and Archaeology’

4:30 PM ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL IN JORDAN ORIENTATION – 6TH COLLEGE, DOGG HOUSE. PIZZA

Lect. 7 Tuesday January 28, 2014
Finding Archaeological Sites – Surveying and Excavation
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn 2008: Chapter 3
Optional Reading:

UCSD-TV Interview with Prof. Robert MeC. Adams, UCSD
http://www.google.com/search?q=dig+this+ucsd&hl=en&rlz=1G1GGLQ_ENUS280&tbs=vid:1&tbq=a&ei=L4erS-qWF478sgPV6-2SDA&sa=X&oi=video_result_group&ct=title&resnum=4&ved=0CCQQwQwAw

Lect. 8 Thursday January 30, 2014
Environmental Archaeology, Subsistence Economies and Diet: Economic Prehistory.
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn - Chapter 6, 7.
Optional Reading:

Lect. 9 Tuesday February 4, 2014
Ethnoarchaeology I - Analogy, the Present and the Past: A View from the Peri-Chadian Plain (Northern Cameroon).
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn, pp. 166-169.

UCSD-TV Interview with Prof. A. Holl
http://www.google.com/search?q=dig+this+ucsd&hl=en&rlz=1G1GGLQ_ENUS280&tbs=vid:1&tbq=a&ei=L4erS-qWF478sgPV6-2SDA&sa=X&oi=video_result_group&ct=title&resnum=4&ved=0CCQQwQwAw

Lect. 10 Thursday February 6, 2014 - MID TERM EXAM

Lect. 11 Tuesday February 11, 2014
The New Archaeology and Neo-Evolutionism.
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn 2008: Chapters 5 and 12
Optional Reading:

Lect. 12 Thursday February 13, 2014
Post-Processual Archaeology.
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn - Chapters 10 and 12.
Optional Reading:
Lect. 13 Tuesday February 18, 2014
The Evolution of Societies: Structural and Gender Issues.
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn, pp. 153-194.
Optional Reading:

UCSD-TV Interview with Prof. Gary Feinman, Field Museum, Chicago
http://www.google.com/search?q=dig+this+ucsd&hl=en&rlz=1G1GGLQ_ENUS280&tbs=vid:1&tb o=u&ei=L4erS-qWF478sgPV6-2SDA&sa=X&oi=video_result_group&ct=title&resnum=4&ved=0CCQQqwQwQAw

Lect. 14 Thursday February 20, 2014
Changing Technologies
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn 2008 - Chapter 8.
Optional Reading:

Lect. 15 Tuesday February 25, 2014
Ethnoarchaeology II: Complex Societies: The Hereditary Bronze Casters of Southern India
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn, 345-356

Lect. 16 Thursday February 27, 2014
Cognitive Archaeology: Problems, Procedures and Processes Underlying the Study of Chiefdom Organizations. An example from the Chalcolithic period, Israel.
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn - Chapter 10.
Optional Reading:
Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JACzEMqiFN4

Lect. 17 Tuesday March 4, 2014
Prehistoric Trade and Exchange.
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn - Chapter 9.
Optional Reading:

Lect. 18 Thursday March 6, 2014
Why Did Things Change? Explanation in Archaeology
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn 2008: Chapter 12

Lect. 19 Tuesday March 11, 2014
Center - Periphery Archaeology: Egyptian-Canaanite Interaction in the Southern Levant.
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn - Chapter 9.
See Web page: http://anthro.ucsd.edu/~tlevy/Archaeology_in_the_Levant/Nahal_Tillah.html

Lect. 20 Thursday March 13, 2014
Archaeology, Ethics and Anthropology – Who’s Past?
Reading: Renfrew and Bahn - Chapter 14
URL: http://www.publicanthropology.org/ElDoradoTaskForce/PageIndex.htm
UCSD-TV Millennium lecture with Prof. Thomas Levy (http://webcast.ucsd.edu/ucsdtv.html)

Final Paper Due – March 17, 2014 by email to: tlevy@ucsd.edu

Term Paper Assignment
The Paper: Before starting this research project, students should come up with a topic and discuss it with Dr. Levy for approval (come on in to the lab early in the quarter to talk about it!). You are required to write an original term paper for this course. All papers are due Friday, June 4, 2010 by 16:00 pm in Levy’s mailbox in the Department of Anthropology. Late papers may have their grades reduced, depending on the reason why they are late and how late they are. Papers should be approximately 15-20 pages long and based on ca. 10 published sources (books, monographs or periodicals; please do not use the text book as a reference for your paper). The bibliography should follow the style of scientific referencing published in the journal, World Archaeology. Use illustrations and summary graphs and tables to support your study. Grades will be reduced for English errors. Use “Spell check”! Papers will also be checked via Turnitin.Com.

Topics: The aim of this term paper is to acquaint you at a more in-depth level with some of the theories, issues and methods used in archaeology today. You should select one of the themes from Renfrew’s book, Archaeology - Theories, Methods, and Practice and research the topic with the aim of presenting the different approaches that have been used to investigate that theme. The paper will be in three parts:

a) Theoretical issue or Method. This should include a discussion of the history of the theoretical issue/method where you trace its development to the present. Here you will describe the different
schools of thought and the debates that have surrounded it. This part of the paper should be based on at least six bibliographic references.

b) Case Study. Using the library sources, you will describe how the theoretical issue or method has been applied to a given body of archaeological material from any region in the world that interests you. This should be based on a minimum of two bibliographic references.

c) Conclusion. Here you will summarize the different approaches to the theoretical issue or method selected for your paper. Present an argument highlighting your view on the problems and why you think a particular approach to the problem is correct based on your understanding of the issues.

Helpful note: Try to demonstrate original thinking about your topic by melding together data from 2 or more sources in your discussions. Try to use data from 2 or more sources and make your own tables and graphs to summarize the information. Use Excel to help handle data. Do not use internet web sites as sources; it must come from books or peer reviewed journal sources that have page numbers. Always cite the page numbers from your sources.

Bibliography format: We will follow the typical social science bibliographic citation style as outlined for the journal, Near Eastern Archaeology (http://www.bu.edu/asor/pubs/nea/back-issues/instructions.html):

Your term paper should use the author-date system of documentation in the text, endnotes, and reference list. References are incorporated, in parentheses, within the body of the article, citing the work by author's last name, year of publication, page, and plate or figure number. For example, "(Petrie 1934: pl. 14:25)," "(Gophna 1972: 48-59; Alon 1974: 28)," or "(McGovern, Fleming, and Swann 1991: 400-402)."

Page references must be used for every citation in the author-date system; i.e. (Jones 1935:111).

Papers that are "in preparation" or "forthcoming" should not appear in the list of references. If appropriate, a notation of "personal communication" may be included in the body of the text, e.g., "(A. Caubet, personal communication, 1992)."

If a paper has been accepted and scheduled for publication, you may indicate that it is "in press" but do not give a publication date; include this type of citation in the list of references.

Page citation should follow the style illustrated here: 100-105, 202-7; but 123-55, 532-85; 324-421. This system applies to any citation of numbered items, e.g., pl. 23:13-14; figure 3:11-15; CE 330-39; but 1230-1225 BCE.

Notes should be kept to an absolute minimum. Excessive notations will not be accepted. Notes should appear at the end of the research paper rather than at the bottom of a page. Where endnotes are included, number them sequentially in the text, using superscript numbers. Compile all notes at the end of the article. Citations within the notes must meet the same requirements as those in the main text.