

Prelim-Life in the Early Holocene

3 credits

Ruth Adams Building (RAB-207),
Douglass/Cook Campus

10.20–11.40 am, Tuesday & Friday (**Starting January 17th**)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course offers, through various reading materials and lectures, the student a perspective on the period of human history bridging the last Ice Age—the Pleistocene—and the onset of domestication. The Early Holocene being a period of relatively abrupt climatic changes, can be viewed as the last period in history when all of humankind enjoyed a similar mode of subsistence, viz. that of hunting and foraging.

Instructor:

Hylke de Jong, office hours: by appointment
room BIO-204 B, Douglass/Cook Campus
hd189@anthropology.rutgers.edu

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Human Holocene/Post-Pleistocene adaptations, global population increase, warming world, settling the Earth, domestication.

LEARNING GOALS

- Archaeological Method and Theory [ea1]
- Evidence for Prehistoric Diets [ea2]
- Hunter-gatherer versus agricultural lives
- Early Holocene adaptations
- Climates
- Onset to Domestication
- Food, food-gathering, and food production in the past [ea1, 4, 5]

Lecture Schedule by week

- Week 1
Introduction, approaching agricultural origins
- Week 2
Understanding foragers
- Week 3
Identifying foragers and farmers in the archaeological record
- Week 4
The hearth of domestication, SW Asia
- Week 5
Central and South Asia
- Week 6
Rice and forest farming in East and SE Asia
- Week 7
Weed, tuber, and maize farming the Americas
- Week 8
Spring Recess
- Week 9
AfricaL Afro-Asiatic pastoralists and Bantu Farmers
- Week 10
Transitions to Farming in Europe
- Week 12
Neolithic Lives
- Week 13
Why did foragers become farmers?
- Week 14
Presentations
- Week 15
Final Class-recap

Readings

Recommended

Barker, Graeme 2006 *The Agricultural Revolution in Prehistory: Why did Foragers become Farmers?* Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Additional reading will be made available on Canvas.

GRADING AND ASSESSMENT

Grades

Grading will be based on a term paper due by the end of the semester (40%), a 20 minute presentation on an individually researched topic given during the last two classes of term (40%), and two essays (each 10%).

A note on absence in times of COVID-19

It is in everyone's best interests that if you have symptoms or feel ill in general, that you self-isolate and do not 'power' through to class. Alternative assignments will be made for people who could not attend the lesson. The main point is that classes can only be held in person if everyone takes sensible precautions. If the absence lasts longer than a week, please contact the Dean of Students:
<http://deanofstudents.rutgers.edu/>

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity

All students must strictly adhere to the Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy, which identifies and defines violations including cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and denying others access to information or material. Full definitions of each of these violations, as well as the consequences of violating the Academic Integrity Policy, are available as part of the student handbook. For details see:
<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy>. You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

Student-Wellness Services:

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

If you are facing other financial hardships, please visit the Office of Financial Aid at <https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/>.

Just In Case Web App

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/
www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 /
www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 /
<https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at:
<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 /

<http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.