

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY: 070-313

SPRING 2025

PROVISIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Professor Carmel Schrire
Class Location: Bio 206, DC
Class Hours: T. 2-5 pm
Office: Ruth Adams Bldg 201, DC
Email: cschrire@anthropology.rutgers.edu
Office Hours: T 12-2pm; by appt, or email.
Course Web Site: CANVAS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

If you (like me) have ever wondered how come you got to be sitting in a classroom in the US, this course might give you some of the answers.

It is likely that you are here because of the tumultuous changes in world populations between 1400-1900 AD when people were dislocated and relocated under the massive onslaught of capitalism, globalization, the Transatlantic slave trade and the Industrial Revolution.

The time period is sometimes called the Age of Mercantile Capitalism and it produced the material and social world in which we live today. Historical Archaeology uses the written records and archaeological finds to describe this era. It draws on diaries and legal records to interpret the presence of Spanish gold in a Portuguese wreck off the Namibian coast (left), to deconstruct a portrait of an East African enslaved cook at the Castle in Cape Town (center), and to decode a the Portuguese soldier on a bronze plaque from Nigeria (right),

And much more.

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The course includes lectures and lab sessions and by the end you will be primed for a job with a local archaeological contract field project this summer, a Summer Field School, or a job in an antique market or auction house.

No pre-requisites

RELATED COURSES:

Colonial Archaeology (070 333) is the closest related and the logical pairing to this course. It is a practical laboratory course that teaches students to identify material culture of the 17th-19th century.

Topics in Historical Preservation: Cultural Resource Management (442) is cross-listed through the program in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies (CHAPS).

Courses in Evolutionary Anthropology that have significant overlaps with topics taught in Historical Archaeology include Australian Archaeology (070 330), South African Archaeology (070 426) and North American Archaeology (070 332).

Courses in Cultural Anthropology including 070 225, 230, 304, 305, 374, 376 and 380 deal with issues of globalization and colonialism.

Courses in History including History of Colonial America (512:300), Plantation to White House (512:268) and Health and Environment in America (01:512:121) also deal with related topics.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/ GOALS: EA 1-5

Historical Archaeology teaches how a combination of archaeological and documentary evidence might be used to interpret the past. It deals with major socio-economic changes attendant on the rise of the modern world, showing how major shifts in trade and human relocation combined to create the world in which we live today.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The schedule listed below is a provisional one that we reserve the right to change in the event of new finds, publications and events.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS.

Please visit the [Rutgers Student Tech Guide](#) page for resources available to all students. If you do not have the appropriate technology for financial reasons, please email Dean of Students deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu for assistance.

COURSE GRADING:

Grading will be based on **TWO class tests** (60%), **ONE Powerpoint presentation** in the final class. (30%) and occasional **Assignments** (10%)

There will be **NO FINAL EXAM**

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Evaluation: Grades will be assigned according to the usual system (A=80-100%, B+= 75-79%, B=70-74%, B-=67-69%, C= 60-66%, D=50-59%, F=0-49%).

COURSE RESOURCES:

The course uses a number of published sources as well as online movies and clips. Published materials are posted on CANVAS under “Files” called “Provisional Course Readings” and “Provisional Course Schedule”. Sources are also embedded within the Powerpoint files that will be posted after each lecture.

COURSE POLICIES:

1. **Classes:** There will be one three-hour class a week, that might include a practical session as well as movies and clips.
2. **Attendance:** Students need to attend all the classes, read the recommended texts and watch the movies and clips. Sources (including Powerpoints) will be posted online but **no recording of the class** will be made either by me or any students.
3. **Decisions about use of electronic devices** will be made depending if lapses in attention like sleeping and game playing persist.
4. **Academic Integrity:** This course follows the ethics and rules stated in the Rutgers University protocols. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be adjudicated by the proper authorities with the utmost seriousness. Cheating lowers the value of a Rutgers degree and the learning experience for all students. No form of cheating, including plagiarism, will be tolerated. One commits plagiarism when one represents the text or ideas of others as one’s own creation. Please visit the website of the Rutgers Office of Academic Integrity (<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>) for a fuller explanation of plagiarism and of the penalties for it. Convicted plagiarists will receive a disciplinary F in the course and possibly face expulsion from the University.

EXAMINATION POLICIES:

If you require additional time or alternative accommodations on exams or other assignments, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 732-932-2848 or dsoffice@rci.rutgers.edu to determine your Coordinator for Students with Disabilities. If your requests for accommodations are APPROVED, the CSSD generates a Letter of Accommodation (LOA); the LOA must be presented to me at the beginning of the term; if you are approved for accommodations in the middle of the semester, you are strongly encouraged to present the LOA to me as soon as possible. For further information, please reference: <http://studentaffairs.rutgers.edu/disability/>

ETHICS & RULES

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