

Prepared by the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Human Services

Date of Departmental Approval: February 14, 2011

Date approved by Curriculum and Programs: March 9, 2011

Effective: Fall 2011

1. **Course Number:** ANT108  
**Course Title:** World Archeology
2. **Description:** This introduction to world prehistory traces our shared human past from the emergence of human material culture to the rise and establishment of ancient states and empires. Special attention devoted to the study of the early civilizations of Western Asia, Europe, China, India, Africa, and the Americas provides for the understanding of how and why the various continents developed their unique civilizations. Archaeological discoveries provide the basis and background for this study.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following.
  - Describe the role and approach of anthropological archaeology to examining and interpreting the past.
  - Identify the mechanisms of culture change at local, regional, and global levels
  - Identify cross-cultural variations in the types of societies and subsistence patterns.
  - Discuss various theories explaining the major turning points in human prehistory.
  - Debate the relevance of different cultural adaptations for the survival of human societies.
  - Identify the various major stone tool cultures and their relative periods and regional provenience.
  - Explain the development of different social institutions and how these institutions influence the lives of the people in traditional and modern societies.
  - Explain and discuss from a critical perspective the most important roles played by subsistence, technology, social organization and so forth as they are expressed in the archaeological record.
4. **Credits:** 3 credits
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** No
6. **Prerequisite:** None
7. **Semester Offered:** Fall
8. **Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** Evaluation of student performance includes map identification exercises, topical quizzes, written exams, class participation, and attendance.
9. **General Topical Outline:**
  - The Concept of World Prehistory and Archaeology
  - Advent and Dispersal of Modern Humans
  - Optimal Foraging Adaptations
  - Intensification and Sedentary Life
  - Incipient Food Production
  - Cultivation in the Near East, Europe, Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and the New World
  - The Nature of Cultural Complexity
  - The Advent of Complex Societies in the Near East, Africa, South Asia, Asia, and the New World