

ASB 223—Buried Cities and Lost Tribes: New World

Glendale Community College
Fall Term 2009
LEC 34554
M W 2:30-3:45
Room: HU 103
Instructor: Dr. Penny Minturn
Office Hours: by appointment
Email: penny.minturn@gmail.maricopa.edu

Course Description

ASB 223 is an introductory-level course concerned with the archaeology of the New World. We will explore the nature of archaeological inquiry paying particular attention to how archaeologists interpret the archaeological record in order to learn about the past lifeways of ancient human groups. Topics include the peopling of the Americas; the development of agriculture, writing, and artistic and intellectual accomplishments; and the origins of settled life, urbanism, and the rise, peak and fall of the great New World civilizations. Examples are drawn from North, South, and Central America.

Course Goals

By the end of the semester you should develop an appreciation for the rich complexity and breadth of human behavior exhibited by the ancient peoples of the New World, be able to use cross-cultural analysis to compare different New World cultures and civilizations to one another and to evaluate our own society, and learn how archaeologists use empirically-based arguments to test hypotheses and develop theories in order to learn about ancient human groups. In this class you will not only gain knowledge about New World prehistory, but you will also develop a fundamental understanding of why and how archaeologists conduct research.

Required Text

Images of the Past, 5th edition, by T. Douglas Price and Gary M. Feinman, 2008.

This book is up to date, easy to read, and quite comprehensive. Be advised that some material in lectures is NOT covered in the text, and conversely, some of the assigned reading from the text is NOT covered in lectures.

Course Requirements

Exams: There will be four exams. Each exam is worth 25% of your grade. Each exam will be equal parts multiple choice, true/false, and short answer essay. If you miss an

exam, and have a good, documentable reason, a make-up exam may be possible. You must discuss this with me. I will not come to you to find out if you want to make it up.

If you are absent more than twice during the first two weeks of class, you will be dropped from the class.

Grading

Grades will be assigned according to the percentage of total points scored on the combined exams.

90% and above = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

below 60% = F

Note that a grade of “C” or higher is required for transfer credit to a University.

Academic Integrity

All students are expected to act with civility, personal integrity; respect other students’ dignity, rights, and property; and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their own labor. An environment of academic integrity is requisite to respect for self and others and a civil community.

CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED

Please refer to the Catalog & Student Handbook (<http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/catalog/>) regarding campus-wide policies relating to academic misconduct and disciplinary standards.

Special Accommodations

I am committed to providing access to a quality education for all students, including those with documented disabilities. If you have a disability and wish to have an accommodation for the course, it is your responsibility to notify the Disability Services and Resources office located in TDS 100 (623-845-3080). They will have you complete the appropriate paperwork to submit to me. You are encouraged to request accommodation early in the semester so that, once identified, reasonable accommodation can be implemented in a timely manner.

In-Class Behavior

This classroom is acoustically "live" and even whispering in the back row carries to the front of the room, which distracts me and the other students. Please don't make excessive comments or carry on private conversations during class time. I encourage classroom participation; let us all know what you're thinking!

Please turn your phones, pda's, etc off. If you feel it absolutely necessary, we can discuss your keeping your phone on vibrate for emergencies only.

Syllabus Subject to Change

I will stick to the syllabus if at all possible, but I reserve the right to make changes as we go along....I will make changes ABUNDANTLY clear during class time. Be sure to check with a classmate after an absence to see if assignments have changed.

BEST ADVICE EVER.....

Communicate with me. If you have a problem, question, or conundrum...I can't help you fix it if I don't know about it. Contact me before or after class, or email me to set up another time to meet. I'll try my best to accommodate you!

Weekly Schedule

(Note that this schedule may be changed as the semester progresses. All changes will be announced by the instructor in class)

Week 1 (Aug.24, 26)	Introduction to Archaeology (Chapter 1)
Week 2 (Aug. 31, Sept.2)	Hunters and Gatherers in the New World--pp 145-157; pp 172-173; pp 182-191
Week 3 (Sept. 7)	Labor Day Holiday (No Class)
Week 3 (Sept. 9)	Agriculture in the New World—pp 197-206; pp 216-218; pp 222-224; pp 232-233; pp 242-262
Week 4 (Sept. 14, 16)	Exam 1 Review Exam 1, Sept 16
Week 5 (Sept. 21, 23)	The American Southwest-handouts
Week 6 (Sept. 28, 30)	American Southwest (cont'd)
Week 7 (Oct. 5, 7)	Native North Americans (Chapter 7)

Week 8 (Oct. 12, 14)	Native North Americans (cont'd)
Week 9 (Oct. 19, 21)	Exam 2 Review
	Exam 2, Oct 21
Week 10 (Oct. 26, 28)	Ancient Mesoamerica: The Aztec (Chapter 8)
Week 11 (Nov. 2, 4)	Ancient Mesoamerica: The Aztec (cont'd)
Week 12 (Nov. 9, 11)	Ancient Mesoamerica: The Maya (Chapter 8)
Week 13 (Nov. 16, 18)	Ancient Mesoamerica: The Maya (cont'd)
Week 14 (Nov. 23,25)	Exam 3, Review
	Exam 3, Nov. 25
Week 15 (Nov. 28, Dec. 2)	South America: The Inca (Chapter 9)
Week 16 (Dec. 7, 9)	South America: The Inca (cont'd)-Final Review
Dec. 14	FINAL EXAM