Anthropology 201
INTRODUCTION TO PREHISTORY
Fall 2004

Instructor: Dr. Russell Stafford
Office Hrs: 8:30-9:30 TTH or by appointment
Office: Holmstedt Hall, Rm 105
Phone: x3989
Email: anstff@isugw.indstate.edu
Web Page: http://isu.indstate.edu/stafford/

Objectives: This course contributes to an understanding of human cultural origins and evolution through the scientific study of world prehistory from the beginnings of culture more than two million years ago to the emergence of early urban societies several thousand years ago. The flexibility of human culture in the face of changing physical and social environments is of particular interest. What it means to be human (anatomically, behaviorally, and culturally) and the affect of climatic and environmental change on human culture over the last 2 million years are a focus of discussion.


For the latter portion of the course several articles will be placed on reserve in the Library.

Requirements:
$ There will be three non-cumulative examinations consisting of objective questions (~80 pts each). Missed exams must be made up the following day unless you have a written medical excuse.
$ You are also required to write a series of four 200-300 word take-home essays through the course of the semester (15 pts each), based on major issues in the development of human culture. These word processed essays will be due one week after they are assigned.
$ Also, a 2-3 page double-spaced typewritten paper reviewing an article of your choice from a popular magazine on a prehistoric topic is required (see guidelines on web site; 50 pts). This paper is due Tuesday, December 2nd.
$ You are responsible for content of videos and slides shown in class. It will normally not be possible to view these at another time, so don’t miss class. If you do miss these presentations, you will need to get the notes from one of your classmates.

Web Page: Assignments and other course information are available on my web page, which can be found at: isu.indstate.edu/stafford/coursesF04.html or through your MyISU web portal. I will make assignments in class, but you will need to print out copies from the web page. Due dates for assignments and test dates will be available on the web page, in addition to being announced in class. An outline of the course lectures will also be posted on the web page.

Attendance: Regular attendance of lectures and class participation are important ingredients to success in this course and will play a part in determining your grade. Chronic absence ($5) could result in a lower grade (loose 5 pts per absence after fourth). Your first four absences are A free@ that you do not need to provide an excuse. An attendance sheet requiring your signature will be circulated in the first five minutes of class; credit for attendance is based on that sheetBlon≠be tardy.
Keys to Success: Beyond attendance other keys to success in this course are thorough notes based on class lectures. Although the lectures cover topics similar to those found in the text book, the lectures also go well beyond the text, discussing many other issues and facts. So taking comprehensive notes in class is very important. I will use overheads to provide an outline of important information that will be covered on exams, but the overhead outlines are just that—an outline. My lectures will elaborate on the overhead content so your notes should (must) include those additional details if you are to have all the information you need to do well on exams.

Another key to success are well written and proofed take-home essays and papers. Take the time to go over your written assignments and make sure they are logically argued, grammatically correct, and lack spelling errors. MOST IMPORTANTLY, FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS POSTED ON THE WEB FOR EACH ASSIGNMENT. The student code of conduct regarding plagiarism will be strictly enforced.

Course outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>week</th>
<th>événement</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Brief Introduction to Archaeology</td>
<td>(Chapters)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Early Human Culture (H. habilis)</td>
<td>Klein 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Paleoclimatic Change &amp; Global Warming</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Acheulian Hunters? (H. erectus)</td>
<td>Klein 4,5</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mousterian Hunters (Neanderthal)</td>
<td>Klein 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>Upper Paleolithic Hunters (Modern Humans)</td>
<td>Klein 7,8</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>Mesolithic Hunters &amp; Gatherers</td>
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Exam #1

Exam #2
Course outline:

11-13 Neolithic Farmers

(Were plants and animals intentionally domesticated by prehistoric peoples?)

14-15 Emergence of Complex Urban Societies

(Did civilization improve the human condition?)

16 Exam #3 (Finals Week)

Points:
Three Exams (~80 pts each), Paper (50 pts); Essays (60 pts total)= Total ~350 pts + attendance (no extra credit).

Grading Curve:
A:90-100%,
B+:86-89%,
B:80-85%,
C+:75-79%,
C:65-74%,
D+:60-64%,
D:55-59%,
F<55% of total points.