

ARCHAEOLOGY AND POPULAR CULTURE

ANTHROPOLOGY 2PC3, Spring Term 2017

Instructor: Christine Cluney (Kenneth Taylor Hall, Room B128A)

Contact: cluneyc@mcmaster.ca

Office Hours: By appointment

Lecture Times and Location: Mondays, 6:30-9:30 p.m. – LRW /1057
Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m. – LRW/ 1057

Readings: All required readings will be posted via Avenue to Learn.

Course Summary: This course uses popular representations of archaeology (from Indiana Jones and Lara Croft, to museums, to tales of ancient aliens) to critically review the discipline's practice and practitioners from past to present.

Background and Aims: Archaeologists and Archaeology loom large in the public imagination via fiction, Hollywood, documentaries and popular press, generally in a stereotypical form, as: tomb-raider, detective, adventurer, academic and spy. What lies behind these images? What is archaeology's role in the 21st Century beyond "edutainment"? The course will use film, documentaries, literature, and other forms of popular media to study the characters and the stereotypes of archaeology.

Course Requirements: The course grades will be composed as follows:

Weekly reading summaries (2-3 articles per week to be posted ahead on Avenue). Due to the Avenue Dropbox each week (starting May 7th, ending June 11th by 10:00 pm each Sunday) -20%

Discussion Facilitation/Participation-Each week, I will post discussion topics based on readings and lecture. Five to six students per week (a schedule will be posted to google docs) will be responsible for posting their own questions or thoughts on the issue. I will post the topic by Thursday (starting May 4th) for students to comment back and forth until the following Wednesday where we will review in class (First discussion Wednesday May 10th). All students can participate each week, but the students assigned to that week should help to keep the discussion going -20%

Take home media midterm (due IN CLASS Wednesday, May 24th). A short paper will be due (approximately 5-7 pages) reviewing a topic within media and archaeology. This may include a series of television programs, a movie, book, video game or other media outlet -30%

Final poster presentation On the last day of class, we will have a poster session, where each student will present a poster they have created on a particular archaeologist, an archaeological site, hoax, or pseudoscientific claim. You will also be expected to give feedback on your peers' posters. We will have food and beverages in a conference style setting -30%

Assignments/Late Policy: Grades will not be re-distributed or re-weighted in the event of an MSAF. An MSAF simply gives you an extension on work missed. Late assignments must be handed to your instructor at the start of the class on the assigned date. Late assignments are penalized 5% of the mark

per 24 hour period or part there of with a maximum of 72 hours (3 days and 15%) after which a zero grade will be submitted. Extensions can only be gained if the student provides an appropriate note/letter from SAS, or other university certification system (e.g. MSAF – see below). Any late submission needs to be placed in the Dept. of Anthropology drop box (5th floor CNH opposite elevators) which is checked at 4pm each business day unless you have permission from the instructor to do otherwise. Assignments received after 4pm will be dated the following day.

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF) policy

- The MSAF should be used for medical and non-medical (personal) situations.
- Approval of the MSAF is automatic (i.e. no documentation required)
- Rules governing the MSAF are as follows:
 - The timeframe within which the MSAF is valid has been reduced from 5 days to 3 days.
 - The upper limit for when an MSAF can be submitted has been reduced from ‘less than 30%’ to ‘less than 25%’ of the course weight.
 - The ‘one MSAF per term’ limit is retained.
 - As per the policy, an automated email will be sent to the course instructor, who will determine the appropriate relief. Students must immediately follow up with their instructors. Failure to do so may negate their relief.
- Policy: The MSAF policy can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar under General Academic Regulations > Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work or here: http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=1698#Requests_for_Relief_f_or_Missed_Academic_Term_Work

AODA

If you require this information in an alternate/accessible format, please contact Delia Hutchinson at 905-525-9140 extension 24523 or email hutchin@mcmaster.ca

Special Accommodations: Students with special learning needs are asked to contact the instructor no later than the second week of classes. You must have written confirmation from Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Students can contact SAS to arrange for special accommodation for writing exams. They also provide or assist students with their academic and disability-related needs, including: Learning Strategies, Assistive Technologies, Test & Exam Administration, Note-Taking Programs, Classroom Accommodations. Tel: 905-525-9140 x28652 Email: sas@mcmaster.ca Website: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g., the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, Appendix 3, www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm. The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one’s own for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Faculty of Social Sciences E-Mail Communication Policy: Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Email Forwarding in MUGSI: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html>

*Forwarding will take effect 24-hours after students complete the process at the above link

Use of Computers: Computer use in the classroom is intended to facilitate learning in that particular lecture. At the discretion of the instructor, students using a computer for any other purpose may be required to turn the computer off for the remainder of the lecture. Similarly, if the use of cell phones or tablets become distracting for other students or the instructor, students will be asked to put them away. PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL TO OTHERS!

Course Changes: The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

2PC3 CLASS SCHEDULE—subject to change

WEEK 1 (May 1-6): Science and Pseudoscience/Ancient Aliens

WEEK 2 (May 7- 13): Raiders of the Lost Ark/Stereotypes in Archaeology/Ethics

WEEK 3 (May 14-20): Evolution of Museums/ Hoaxes

WEEK 4 (May 21-27): Victoria Day—no class **Monday May 22/** Take home media assignment due **Wednesday May 24**

WEEK 5 (May 28-June 3): Conspiracy Theories/ Archaeologists as Detectives

WEEK 6 (June 4-10): Colonialism/Nazis/Egyptomania

WEEK 7(June 11-17): Advertising and Review/**Final Projects symposium Wednesday June 14th**