

**- THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF NEANDERTHALS & OTHER EARLY HUMANS –
ANTHROPOLOGY 4KK3, Term 2, 2018-19**

Instructor: Tristan Carter (Chester New Hall, Room 507)

Contact: stringy@mcmaster.ca

Office Hours: Thursday, 5.30-6.30pm or by appointment

Seminar: Thursday, 2.30am - 5.20pm – **KTH B104**

Readings: there is NO textbook. All texts will be e-journal articles, with links provided via the course Avenue facility.

Course Outline & Aims

This course engages with current debates in Palaeolithic archaeology. Starting with recent discoveries in Africa, our main focus is Early – Late Pleistocene Eurasia and Neanderthal - early modern human populations. While a weekly short intro lecture provides you with contextual details, most of our learning occurs in presentation and debate format. The specific issues we engage with include:

- Representing the Palaeolithic: the science and politics of how we see our early ancestors
- What's in a name? The science and politics in defining new hominin species
- The catalysts for human evolution through time
- 'Then and us': What distinguishes modern humans from our past contemporaries and ancestors?
- The origins and significance of symbolic behaviour
- The implications of new ancient DNA capabilities
- Neanderthal / early modern human relations

- WEEK 1** Thurs. 10th Jan. – Introduction to the course: aims, scope, requirements
- WEEK 2** Thurs. 17th Jan. – ‘Man the mighty hunter’: Representing Early Prehistory
- WEEK 3** Thurs. 24th Jan. – What makes a new species? Lumpers & splitters in hominin studies
- WEEK 4** Thurs. 31st Jan. – Fire / meat and the radiation of *Homo erectus* beyond Africa
- WEEK 5** Thurs. 7th Feb. – pre-*sapiens* populations & the birth of seafaring?
- WEEK 6** Thurs. 14th Feb. – The Neanderthals: origin and behavioural complexity
- WEEK 7** **MID-TERM RECESS**
- WEEK 8** Thurs. 28th Feb. – Neanderthal diet: Meat, medicine and cannibalism
- WEEK 9** Thurs. 7th March. – Sex strikes, serpents and the origins of symbolic culture
- WEEK 10** Thurs. 14th March. – Modelling *Homo sapiens*' dispersal routes and their chronology
- WEEK 11** Thurs. 21st March – Neanderthal / early modern human interaction
- Submit long-paper proposal**

WEEK 12 Thurs. 28th March – Denisovans, Flores, and the new Andaman Islander genetic data

WEEK 13 Thurs. 4th April – Current debates in Palaeolithic rock art

WEEK 14 EXAM WEEK - **final paper due 4pm Friday April 12th**

Course Requirements

The course is evaluated on the basis of seminar presentation, general class participation, weekly responses and a final paper; the value of these components is as follows:

Seminar presentations	-	20%
Peer reviews	-	5%
Seminar attendance / responses	-	50%
Long paper proposal	-	5%
Long paper	-	20%

Seminar participation / responses – grade based on the student’s attendance and participation in general discussion, one leading of discussion / presentation and submission of all required response-papers.

Some of these seminars will be organised in group fashion, with team-members assigned specific roles: director / researchers / script-writers / graphic designers / actor-presenters – and as such will provide you with an array of **transferrable skills**.

Long-paper proposal – a long-paper proposal is to be submitted in class on **Thursday 21st March**. It should include a title, a 300 word statement about the proposed topic, and at least 5 appropriate sources.

Long-paper – A final 8 page paper is due by **4pm Friday April 14th**; format details to be provided.

NOTE THAT ALL WORK MUST BE COMPLETED: Grades are *never* re-distributed/re-weighed in the event of an MSAF. An MSAF simply gives you an extension on work missed.

Late Assignments

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 thereof 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 appropriate documentation from SAS, or other university certification system (see below).

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates & deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice & 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 his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

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, <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

Plagiarism, e.g., the submission of work that is not one's own for which other credit has been obtained. (*Insert specific course information, e.g., style guide*)

1. Improper collaboration in group work. (*Insert specific course information*)
2. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

(*If applicable*) In this course we will be using a software package designed to reveal plagiarism. Students will be required to submit their work electronically and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

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

(Approved at the Faculty of Social Sciences meeting on Tues. May 25, 2010)

MSAF

- 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 for Missed Academic Term Work](http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=11&navoid=1698#Requests_for_Relief_for_Missed_Academic_Term_Work)

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

Privacy Protection

In accordance with regulations set out by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act, the University will not allow return of graded materials by placing them in boxes in departmental offices or classrooms so that students may retrieve their papers themselves; tests and assignments must be returned directly to the student. Similarly, grades for assignments for courses may only be posted using the last 5 digits of the student number as the identifying data. The following possibilities exist for return of graded materials:

1. Direct return of materials to students in class;
2. Return of materials to students during office hours;
3. Students attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with assignments for return by mail;
4. Submit/grade/return papers electronically.

Arrangements for the return of assignments from the options above will be finalized during the first class.

Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances (RISO)

The University recognizes that, on occasion, the timing of a student’s religious, Indigenous, or spiritual observances and that of their academic obligations may conflict. In such cases, the University will provide reasonable academic accommodation for students that is consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Please review the [RISO information for students in the Faculty of Social Sciences](#) about how to request accommodation.

AODA

If you require this information in an alternate/accessible format, please contact Marcia Furtado at 905-525-9140 extension 24423 or email furtam1@mcmaster.ca