

The Ohio State University
Anthropology 553.02
Prehistory of Eastern North America

Winter Quarter 2004

Instructor: Dr. William S. Dancey
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Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30-2:30 & by appointment

Meeting time & place: ^{Smith 1180} Lord 235, TR 9:30-11:30

Text: *Ancient North America*, (3rd ed.) by Brian Fagan (Thames and Hudson, 2000)

Course description: This course is an archaeological survey of the prehistoric cultures of eastern North America from initial human colonization to European contact, with geographical emphasis on the Southeast and Midwest. An ecological perspective will be used to present and analyze archaeological evidence for long-term changes in tradition and behavior. Aspects of change that will concern us include the colonization of the New World and human adaptation to the forests of the post-Ice Age era; the development of long distance exchange networks; the significance of mound construction and mortuary ritual; the domestication of native plants and the changing role of maize; the rise of social inequality and centralized authority; and the impact of European contact on indigenous societies.

Course objectives: Students who successfully complete this course should be able to list and describe major cultural transitions in the prehistory of eastern North America; describe how human groups adapted to the natural and cultural environments of the East; and discuss at least one regional research problem in up-to-date detail.

Course requirements: Students are required to complete two examinations, a research paper, and a brief presentation (in oral or poster form) on the results of their research. Students are also asked to hand in evidence of progress on their research at designated times (see course outline). The midterm and final will consist of essay and/or short answer questions. Instructions for the research paper and presentation will be distributed in the second week. These assignments are weighted as follows:

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THEIR NEEDS KNOWN TO THE INSTRUCTOR, AND FOR SEEKING AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SEEKING AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE FROM THE OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES (292-3307), PRIOR TO OR AT THE BEGINNING OF THE QUARTER. I RELY ON THE ODS FOR ASSISTANCE IN VERIFYING THE NEED FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND DEVELOPING ACCOMMODATION STRATEGIES.

Midterm examination	100 (30%)
Final examination	100 (30%)
Research paper	100 (30%)
Presentation	100 (10%)
Total	400 (100%)

Grading. Tests and other instruments of evaluation are graded according to the following scale : A (95-100), A- (90-94), B+ (86-89), B (83-85), B- (80-82), C+ (76-79), C (73-75), C- (70-72), D+ (65-69), D (60-64), E (Below 60)

Student Responsibility. Assigned projects and in-class exams are to be done individually. You are on your honor to work alone (unless instructed otherwise) and submit material that reflects your own ability. Anything else is academic misconduct and will be reported. You are also expected to take exams and submit written assignments on the days scheduled. Discuss anticipated absences or delays with the instructor in advance to avoid loss of credit. Class attendance is mandatory.

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic and Reading</u>
T Jan 6	Introduction; History of research (Fagan Ch. 1-3)
R Jan 8	Cultural and environmental background
T Jan 13	Colonization of North America (Fagan Ch. 4)
R Jan 15	Eastern Fluted Point Tradition (Fagan Ch. 5, 6)
T Jan 20	Early and Middle Archaic (Fagan Ch. 16)
R Jan 22	Early mounds and earthworks (Fagan Ch. 17)
	Paper topic due
T Jan 27	The Shell Mound Archaic
R Jan 29	Caves, rockshelters, and early farming
T Feb 3	Adena and the Early Woodland (Fagan Ch. 18)
R Feb 5	Hopewell and the Middle Woodland (Fagan Ch. 19)
	Paper bibliography due
T Feb 10	MIDTERM EXAMINATION
R Feb 12	Late Woodland (Fagan Ch. 20)
T Feb 17	Mounds, maize, and Mississippian (Fagan Ch. 20)
R Feb 19	Mississippian economy and society
	Paper outline due
T Feb 24	Caddoans and Oneota (Fagan Ch. 7)
R Feb 26	Fort Ancient, Monongahela, and Iroquois (Fagan Ch. 21)
T Mar 2	The European invasion (Fagan Ch. 22)
R Mar 4	Presentations
	RESEARCH PAPERS DUE
T Mar 9	Presentations
R Mar 11	Summary and review

The final examination is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 9:30 a.m.