

Eastern Oregon University
Course Syllabus

Number of Course: ANTH 395

Name of Course: Archaeological Research Methods

Catalog Description: This course focuses on the processes involved with making sense out of bits of scrap, rust, bone, and other materials collected from archaeological sites. Analyzing and collecting data from artifacts and features recovered during excavations is a core step for archaeologists in learning about human behavior in the past. This course explores techniques such as lithic analysis, faunal analysis, botanical/pollen analysis, stable-isotope analysis, spatial analysis, and other types of research methods used by archaeologists to study human history through material culture.

Credit Hours: 5

Required Texts or Suggested Materials:

<http://eou.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/TBWizardView?catalogId=10001&langId=-1&storeId=87851>

Prerequisites: ANTH 201, ANTH 202, ANTH 203, and junior standing.

Learning Outcomes:

Varies by course, but generally, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the selected topic.
MOA: appropriate assignments
- Examine the selected topic from an anthropological perspective.
MOA: appropriate assignments
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills and writing skills appropriate for the level of course.
MOA: appropriate assignments

Course Requirements and Means of Assessment:

- *Peer Review Journal Article Review (12.5%):* Choose a method of analysis and identify five peer review journal articles focused on that method. Write a review of the technique that includes problems and potential solutions raised in the articles.
- *Collecting an Electronic Assemblage (12.5%):* Assemblages can really come in any form and be studied across any dimension. You are tasked with gathering an electronic assemblage that will serve as the raw material for your analysis project.
- *Analysis Project (25%):* You will conduct an analysis of your gathered assemblage using a database program or other applicable technique. The turn-in for this project will be a report on your findings which includes detailed explanation of your methods and also provides the data you used in your analysis.

- *Exams (50%):* There are three exams for this course, each worth 100 points. The lowest exam score of the three will be dropped. Since one exam score will be dropped, make-up exams will be reserved for only the most severe circumstances.

Grading Policies:

<u>Grading</u>	<u>Grading Summary</u>
A - 90% - 100%	50pts – Peer Review Article Review
B – 80% - 89.9%	50pts – Collecting an Electronic Assemblage
C – 70% - 79.9%	100pts – Analysis Project
D – 60% - 69.9%	100pts - Exam 1
<u>F – 59.9% and below</u>	<u>100pts - Exam 2</u>
	400 Total Points

Your Final Grade % = Points Earned / Total Points (400)

Brief Outline of Course:

“Artifacts don’t come with ID tags.” This is a commonly heard saying among archaeologists. So how does an artifact go from a dirt-covered object in the ground to a valuable part of the archaeological record? This course focuses the processes involved with making sense out of the bits of scrap, rust, bone, and other materials collected from archaeological sites. Analyzing and collecting data from artifacts and features recovered during excavations is a core step for archaeologists in learning about human behavior in the past. This course explores techniques such as lithic analysis, faunal analysis, botanical/pollen analysis, stable-isotope analysis, spatial analysis, and other types of research methods used by archaeologists to study human history through material culture.

General Education Category and Outcomes: N/A

University Writing Requirement Outcomes: N/A

Writing Center Statements:

For on-campus courses

The Writing Center provides a place — physical or virtual — where every EOU writer can find an interested, responsive reader. Writing tutorials are free of charge for EOU’s undergraduate and graduate students who are writing for any course at any level, or who are writing resumes, job letters, graduate applications, and more. Go to eou.mywconline.com to schedule an appointment in the Writing Center (Loso Hall 234).

For online or on-site courses

The Writing Center provides a place — physical or virtual — where every EOU writer can find an interested, responsive reader. Writing tutorials are free of charge for EOU students writing for any undergraduate course. Go to [EOU's eTutoring page](#) to submit a paper to a writing tutor.

For graduate courses

The Writing Center provides a place — physical or virtual — where every EOU writer can find an interested, responsive reader. Writing tutorials are free of charge for EOU students writing for any graduate course. Go to [EOU's eTutoring page](#) to submit a paper to a writing tutor. Click on [Graduate Students How To](#) for information about tagging your submission.

Classroom Decorum:

Instruction is the most valuable function at Eastern Oregon University. To assure that all students gain full benefit of instruction, the University insists that appropriate classroom decorum be maintained. Minimum elements of appropriate classroom decorum include: punctuality, courtesy, civility, purposefulness, and integrity. (Please see the Student Handbook online at <http://www.eou.edu/sse/student-handbook/>).

Academic Misconduct Policy:

Eastern Oregon University places a high value upon the integrity of its student scholars. Any student found responsible for an act of academic misconduct (including but not limited to cheating, unauthorized collaboration, fabrication, facilitation, plagiarism or tampering) may be subject to having his or her grade reduced in the course in question, being placed on probation or suspended from the University, or a combination of these. (Please see the Student Handbook online at <http://www.eou.edu/sse/student-handbook/>).

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities policy:

Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation for any type of disability, must contact the Disability Services Office in Loso Hall, Room 234. Phone: 541-962-3081.

Disclaimer:

This standard syllabus provides only general information on the course. For those enrolled in the course a detailed syllabus will be provided by the Instructor at the beginning of the term. Please keep in mind that not all courses are offered every year. Consult Webster for scheduling information.

Date: 4/10 – Rory Becker