ANTH470-01: ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE COLONIAL ENCOUNTER
Tuesday, Thursday 11:00 - 12:20, Washington 304

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Due to its capacity to span prehistory and history, archaeology is poised to play an important role in the development of historical anthropology. The study of the colonial encounter serves a point of departure for this effort as it offers a context for bridging historical events and the longue durée, everyday practices and cultural structures, social evolution and colonial discourse. This seminar considers early contact between Native Americans and European colonists in eastern North America from 1493 - 1700. We focus our gaze on the archaeology of native societies, their pre-colonial culture history, and the local / global repercussions of colonial interaction. We begin by surveying an epistemological landscape shaped by anthropology, history, archaeology, and ethnohistory as well as the fluid boundaries of these fields in the face of the colonial encounter. Next we read six monographs covering distinct regions of the Eastern Woodlands undergoing colonial contact, each of which applies different methods and interpretive frameworks. Finally, we consider four themes related to the colonial encounter – acculturation, depopulation, ethnogenesis, and resistance.

EXPECTATIONS:
This advanced, four-credit seminar explores issues of central importance in anthropology. Students are expected to come to class prepared to evaluate the readings, to offer opinions, and to make arguments regarding the topics raised in class discussions.

ASSIGNMENTS:
• Three review essays covering each of parts I - III of the course (roughly 6-8 pages each, quality being more essential than quantity here and throughout the semester). The review essays will summarize key themes running through the readings and class discussion and will offer an argument about them. Additional reading beyond those assigned in class may be used to broaden or bolster your central argument.

• A research paper proposal with an annotated bibliography.

• A final research paper (roughly 20 pages). Students are encouraged to choose topics that expand upon discussion of part I (theoretical and methodological issue), part II (regional studies of the colonial encounter), or part III (themes raised by the archaeology of culture contact). The assigned readings should serve as a foundation for this effort, though additional research is also required. Students should note that I have chosen several of the assigned readings in part because they have excellent bibliographies that may aid in further research. Students may also choose to develop a regional study outside of the six covered during class.

• Each student will lead class discussion three times over the course of the semester (dates will be assigned during the first class). This will require preparation prior to class to arrive at an understanding of 1) major arguments in the readings, 2) significant strengths and shortcomings of these arguments, and 3) the significance of any seminal studies or publications referenced in the readings.

READING:
We will read six monographs and a selection of articles. All of the articles may be downloaded from the class’ Courseinfo web site (http://courseinfo.wm.edu/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_3742_1&frame=top). The monographs offer studies of contact period archaeology and ethnohistory in the Caribbean, the Southeast (2 studies), the Chesapeake, the Middle Atlantic, and New England.


GRADING:
Class discussion: 20%  Review essays: 15% (x 3)  Research Proposal: 5%  Research paper: 30%
Part I: Laying the Groundwork for a Study of Culture Contact in the Americas

Aug 29 Course introduction

Sept 3 Anthropology and history


Sept 5 Theorizing the Colonial Encounter


Sept 10 Archaeological Perspectives on the Colonial Encounter


Sept 12 The Precontact Setting


Recommended (but not required):
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 17</td>
<td>REVIEW ESSAY #1 DUE</td>
<td>Discussion of review essays</td>
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<td>Sept 19</td>
<td>Columbus and the Tainos</td>
<td>Deagan and Cruxtent Chs 1 - 5 (95)</td>
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<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (A)</td>
<td>Deagan and Cruxtent Chs 6 - 11 (125)</td>
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<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (B)</td>
<td>DeSoto and Southeastern Chiefdoms</td>
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<td>Hudson Chs 1 - 4 (125)</td>
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<td>Oct 1</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (C)</td>
<td>Hudson Chs 5 - 7 (100)</td>
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<td>Oct 3</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (D)</td>
<td>Ethnogenesis and the Choctaw</td>
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<td>Galloway Chs 1 - 3 (125)</td>
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<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (E)</td>
<td>Galloway Chs 4 - 6 (125)</td>
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<td>Oct 10</td>
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<td>Galloway Chs 7 - 9 (100)</td>
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<td>Oct 15</td>
<td>Fall break</td>
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<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>RESEARCH PROPOSAL AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE</td>
<td>Discussion of research proposals</td>
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<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (A)</td>
<td>Algonquins and English in the Middle Atlantic</td>
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<td>Rountree and Turner Chs 1 - 3 (125)</td>
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<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (B)</td>
<td>Rountree and Turner Chs 4 - 7 (100)</td>
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<td>Oct 29</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (C)</td>
<td>Native Peoples of Southern New England</td>
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<td>Bragdon Introduction and Chs 1 - 2 (100)</td>
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<td>Oct 31</td>
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<td>Bragdon Chs 3 - 8 (100)</td>
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<td>Nov 5</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (E)</td>
<td>Iroquoia</td>
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<td>Snow Chs 1 - 5 (90)</td>
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<td>Nov 7</td>
<td>STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (A)</td>
<td>Snow Chs 6 - 10 (80)</td>
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Part III: Themes in the Study of the Colonial Encounter

Nov 12  REVIEW ESSAY #2 DUE  Discussion of review essays

Nov 14  STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (B)  “Acculturation” and Material Culture Change


Cusick, James G. “Historiography of Acculturation: An Evaluation of Concepts and Their Application in Archaeology”. In Studies in Culture Contact. (15)

Nov 19  STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (C)  Depopulation


Nov 21  STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (D)  Ethnogenesis


Nov 26  STUDENT DISCUSSION LEADER (E)  Resistance and Political Transformation


Nov 27  THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Dec 3  Course Review and Synthesis

Dec 5  REVIEW ESSAY #3 DUE

Dec 17  FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE  4:00 Washington 117