

ANTH 4358.001 Sustainability and Collapse

Fall 2013

Instructor: Scott E. Ingram, Ph.D.

Office Number: University Hall, Room 416

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Office Hours: Please come by without an appointment: Monday: 3:00 to 3:30 pm, Wednesday 3:00 to 4:00 pm, Friday 11:00 to 12:00 pm. Please make an appointment: Monday: 11:00 to 12:30, Wednesday 11:00 to 12:30, Friday: 2:00 to 3:00 pm. Or, contact me for other times/days.

Course website: www.ingramanthropology.com The website is the primary syllabus, schedule, and resource for the course. Please check it often. All course changes will be noted there first. If there is any conflict between this syllabus and the course website, please follow the website. Assignments are submitted and grades are recorded on Blackboard.

Section Information: ANTH 4358.001

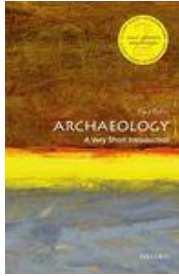
Time and Place of Class Meetings: M, W, F 2:00 to 2:50 am, University Hall, Room 09

Description of Course Content: We have all been challenged by the message that we must achieve "sustainability" or society may "collapse." What must be sustained, for whom, and for how long? What does it mean for a society to collapse? Have past societies collapsed or transformed? In this course we investigate the concept of social and environmental sustainability and collapse by considering examples of both in prehistory (e.g., Norse Greenland, Puebloan U.S. Southwest). Our examination ranges across a diverse intellectual landscape: from the interdisciplinary concepts of resilience and complex adaptive systems to traditional archaeological considerations of the influence of climate change and warfare on human populations. There is a strong emphasis on research methods, creating new knowledge, and interdisciplinary collaboration among students.

Student Learning Outcomes: **There are four sections of this course with specific learning outcomes for each section (please see website).** After completing the course, you will be able to: (1) Define and critically evaluate the concept of "sustainability" and collapse from multiple perspectives in order to understand and engage in informed discussions or actions that influence socio-environmental sustainability, (2) Understand the research process so you can conduct your own original research and improve your ability to evaluate the research of others, (3) Describe how archaeology and long-term studies of human-environment interactions can be used to inform modern sustainability studies in order to attempt similar efforts in this course, (4) Employ (in writing and verbally) an archaeologically-known case study to inform modern sustainability studies so that

you develop your own perspective on how (if and to what extent) the past can be used to gain insights about sustainability.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:



REQUIRED:

Archaeology: A Very Short Introduction
by Paul Bahn, Updated Edition, ISBN: 978-0-19-965743-8
Oxford University Press

Paperback and electronic formats are available.



REQUIRED:

The Craft of Research by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory, G. Colomb, and Joseph
M. Williams
Third Edition
ISBN: 978-0-226-06566-3

Additional required readings are uploaded to the course website (see the “Readings” tab, the password will be provided in class), Blackboard, or links to the readings will be provided on the course schedule.

Other Requirements: You will need regular and frequent access to a computer and printer and the ability to download (free) software [\(CMAP\)](#) to this computer to complete this course. There are generally no course prerequisites for enrollment but if you have questions about your ability to learn and actively participate in a course, please contact me before enrolling in the course.

Out-of-class Meetings: Class time will be provided for team meetings but additional out-of-class team meetings should also be expected. Dates and times of these meetings will be determined by each student group.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations: The course is comprised of a number of [learning activities](#). Please see the course website for specific descriptions of each and the dates assignments are due. A list of activities is provided below in the section on grading.

Course Schedule: A detailed daily class schedule is available on our [website, please click here to review](#). Due dates for all assignments are also on the schedule and/or elsewhere on the website. If needed, this schedule may change during the semester. In-class or email notice will be given if the due dates of any major assignment changes. The website is kept up-to-date. [As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course, Scott E. Ingram.]

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class meeting. I will keep track of attendance. With an exceptional attendance record, you will have the opportunity to acquire the necessary knowledge and understanding to fulfill the course learning outcomes and effectively complete course assignments. You will not understand how to complete the course assignments if you do not come to class.

Because I feel attendance is so important to your learning, I've created this grade incentive: Attend 36 or more classes between 30 Aug and 4 Dec and receive 10 points added to your total course points. Attend 34 or 35 classes between 30 Aug and 4 Dec and receive 6 points added to your total course points. Attend 32 or 33 classes between 30 Aug and 4 Dec and receive 4 points added to your total course points. Note: there are 40 classes between 30 Aug and 4 Dec. I do not start counting absences until after the last day for late registration, 28 August.

The university's policy on "authorized" absences is found [here](#). Unless you are absent for an authorized activity (as defined by the university), you do not need to notify me of your reasons for missing class. If you are more than 15 minutes late to class (for any reason) your attendance will not be recorded for that day. Falsifying your attendance record or that of another student is a violation of the University's Honor Code.

Other Requirements: There may be out-of-class meetings with other students as you prepare for the in-class presentation.

Grading:

Component (individual or group)	Point Value	Due Date
1. Argument maps of assigned readings (individual).....	5.....	Day reading is assigned
2. Book, Craft of Research (individual).....	10.....	13 September
3. Research proposal (group).....	5.....	30 September
4. Argument map for individual research (individual).....	10.....	7 October
5. Book, Archaeology a Very Short Introduction (individual).....	5.....	14 October
6. Research report (individual).....	25.....	4 November
7. Argument map for team research (group).....	10.....	11 November
8. Team evaluation of individuals.....	10.....	4 December
9. Website of team research (group).....	<u>20</u>	December, Finals Day/time
	Total 100	

Activities to earn additional points:

1. Additional argument maps....up to 10 additional points.....Day/time reading is assigned
2. Class attendance.....up to 10 points.....see Learning Activity description
3. Meet with instructor.....5.....no later than 15 November
4. In-class activities.....TBD.....if offered, unannounced

Final course grade:

90 to 100 points = A; 80 to 89 points = B; 70 to 79 points = C; 60 to 69 points = D; < 60 points = F

Please keep track of your grades on Blackboard throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if your performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Due Dates and Times: All assignments have specific due dates and times (please see the course schedule on our website). All are due by the start of our class on the day the assignment is due. All assignments are to be submitted on Blackboard unless otherwise specified. You will not be able to upload your assignments on Blackboard after the due day/time. If you have last-minute technical difficulties you can submit a print-out of your assignment or email it to me prior to the start of our class.

Late Work: Early submission of your assignments is always accepted; late work will not be accepted unless specified on the website in the activity description. This is an issue of fairness; I cannot grant an exception for one student without granting everyone an exception. Letting someone turn in a late assignment can be demoralizing to those who went to extraordinary efforts to complete an assignment on time. I don't want any student to think, "why did I bother to get this in on time if he wasn't serious about the due date/time?" If the website specifies that late work is accepted, it will result in a loss of 10% of the total point value of the assignment for each 24 hour period the assignment is late.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 6-9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials and completing activities, etc.

Grade Grievances: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate / graduate catalog. For undergraduate courses, see http://www.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#19;

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students

with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located at the end of the short hallway directly to your left as you exit the classroom. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

Librarian to Contact: Mr. Burton King, bking@uta.edu

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