

**ANTH 4358.001 Collapse and Sustainability**  
Spring 2015

**Instructor:** Scott E. Ingram, Ph.D.

**Office Number:** University Hall, Room 416

**Office Telephone Number:** Department office: 817-272-2661 (I do not have a phone in my office)

**Email Address:** [singram@uta.edu](mailto:singram@uta.edu)      **Faculty Profile:** <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/scott-ingram>

**Office Hours:** Please come by without an appointment: Monday 11:00 to 12:30, 3:00 to 3:30; Wednesday 11:00 to 12:00, 3:00 to 3:30, Friday 11:00 to 12:00, or other days/times by appointment.

**Course website:**

<http://www.ingramanthropology.com/collapse.html>

This 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](#).

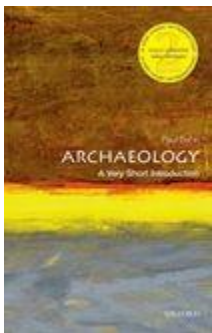


**Section Information:** ANTH 4358.001

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** MWF, 2:00 to 2:50 University Hall Room 09

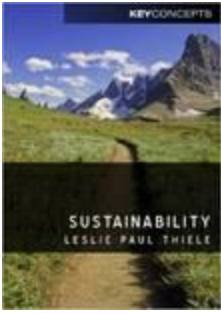
**Description of Course Content:** We have all been challenged by the message that we must achieve "sustainability" or society may "collapse." What must be sustained, for whom, and for how long? What does it mean for a society to collapse? Have past societies collapsed or transformed? In this course 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.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**



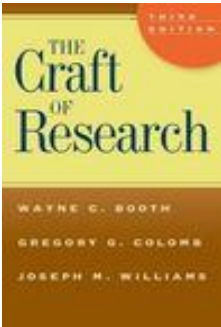
Archaeology: A Very Short Introduction  
by Paul Bahn,  
Updated Edition, ISBN: 978-0-19-965743-8  
Oxford University Press  
Paperback and electronic formats are available.

For students that have taken ANTH 2399, an alternative reading will be provided.



Sustainability  
 by Leslie Paul Thiele  
 Wiley Press  
 ISBN: 978-0-7456-5610-6

Any format



The Craft of Research  
 by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory, G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams  
 Third Edition, ISBN: 978-0226065663

Paperback and electronic formats are available.

**Additional readings** will be required and posted on our website or on Blackboard.

You will need regular and frequent access to a computer and printer and the ability to download software ([CMAP](#)) to this computer to complete this course.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Part 1: Understanding collapse and sustainability	
Learning Outcomes (After completing this section, you should be able to...)	Activities and Methods of Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>Define the concept of resilience of socio-ecological systems to: (1) understand and evaluate how some scientists are investigating and promoting solutions to the problem of sustainability; and, (2) recognize and use some new concepts to address sustainability issues now and in the past.</li> <li>Identify scientifically-credible resources to inform your understanding of specific sustainability problems (e.g., climate change, biodiversity loss, energy, population growth, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Defining sustainability, collapse, and resilience assignment</li> <li>Read assigned articles and create argument maps of these readings</li> <li>All course learning activities (see below) contribute to these overarching course goals</li> </ul>
Part 2: Research Methods	
Learning Outcomes (After completing this section, you should be able to...)	Activities and Methods of Assessment

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conduct original, empirical, research as an individual and a member of an interdisciplinary research team</li> <li>• critically evaluate the research of others</li> <li>• identify resources for your study of collapse and sustainability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the book, The Craft of Research, and answer the associated questions.</li> <li>• Produce and present a research proposal</li> <li>• Produce an argument map for your individual research</li> <li>• Produce a research report</li> <li>• Produce a website of your team research</li> <li>• Read assigned articles and create argument maps of these readings.</li> </ul>
<b>Part 3: Understanding how the past can inform collapse and sustainability studies</b>	
Learning Outcomes (After completing this section, you should be able to...)	Activities and Methods of Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the book, Archaeology: A Very Short Introduction, and answer associated questions.</li> <li>• Read assigned articles and create argument maps of these readings.</li> </ul>
<b>Part 4: Case studies in sustainability and collapse</b>	
Learning Outcomes (After completing this section, you should be able to...)	Activities and Methods of Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of using archaeologically informed case studies and long-term studies of human-environment interactions to inform modern sustainability studies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Argument maps of assigned readings</li> <li>• All course learning activities contribute to these overarching course goals (see above)</li> </ul>

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:** Please see the course website, <http://www.ingramanthropology.com/collapse-grading.html> for specific descriptions of each assignment and the dates assignments are due. A list of activities is provided below in the section on “Grading and Schedule”.

**Attendance, Participation, and Learning:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I have established the following attendance policy:

I expect and hope you will attend every class because you will learn much more this way, you will learn different things than are in our readings, you will learn how to successfully complete the course requirements, and your fellow students and I want to hear your input during class discussions. Therefore, I will take attendance and your attendance record will affect your grade.

There are 41 classes from 26 January through 8 May. We do not start counting classes attended until after the last day for late registration, 23 January. So, from 26 January to 8 May, 0.5 points may be earned for each class you attend. If you attend more than 40 classes, the additional class attended will count as extra credit. Because points may be earned by attending class, I establish the following attendance rubric. To earn 0.5 points for each class you attend, you must meet the following criteria:

- no in-class use of electronic devices for non-class purposes (except for group projects)

- be physically and intellectually present
- ask questions and make comments about the course material (optional but strongly encouraged)
- arrive no more than 10 minutes late or leave no more than 10 minutes early
- sign the attendance sheet

It is not fair (and a violation of the University's Honor Code) for you to expect points for any class you attend if you:

- use your electronic device for non-class purposes (e.g., texting, surfing the internet, listening to music, working on assignments)
- arrive more than 10 minutes late or leave more than 10 minutes early. You must notify me to correct the attendance record if you decide to leave class early.

**Attendance Policy Rationale:** I design each class meeting to contribute to your learning. If you spend class time using your phone or laptop, texting, etc. you are not intellectually present, engaging with the course concepts, or learning. [The human brain is not capable of multi-tasking](#), only rapid shifting. Use of electronic devices is also likely distracting and diminishing the learning of students who can see you using your device. Please sit in the back row of class and do not sign the attendance sheet if you plan to use an electronic device in-class for non-class purposes or need to leave early.

You are solely responsible for maintaining (on the attendance sheet) an accurate record of your attendance. I rely on you and the [University's Honor Code](#) to ensure that this record is accurate. I pass an attendance sheet around the class for you to sign during each class meeting. You may not record another student's attendance. Do not sign over a day that has been shaded yellow. If there is an error, please contact me immediately. If any aspect of the attendance policy is violated, I reserve the right to withdraw attendance points. Falsifying your attendance record or that of another student is a clear and serious violation of the Honor Code.

**"Authorized" absences:** 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. Attendance points are earned only for attending class. Authorized absences do not earn points.

Students with an **"Absence or Tardiness Leniency" academic accommodation** must stop by my office within the first two weeks of class to discuss this accommodation and agree on an appropriate attendance policy.

**Other Requirements and 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.

**Grading and Schedule:** You are expected to keep track of your performance/grades on Blackboard throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if your performance drops below satisfactory levels; see "Student Support Services," below.

Learning Components - Activities	Date Due*	Points
<a href="#">Argument maps of assigned readings (individual)</a>	Due before 2 pm on the day stated in the Schedule.	10
<a href="#">Book, Sustainability(individual)</a>	9 Feb	5
<a href="#">Book, The Craft of Research(individual)</a>	25 Feb	5

<a href="#">Research proposal (group)</a>	2 March	5
<a href="#">Argument map for individual research (individual)</a>	16 March	5
<a href="#">Book, Archaeology a Very Short Introduction (individual)</a>	27 March	5
<a href="#">Research report (individual)</a>	10 April	25
<a href="#">Argument map for team research (group)</a>	27 April	5
<a href="#">Team evaluation of individuals</a>	8 May	5
<a href="#">Website of team research (group)</a>	11 May	10
<a href="#">Participation, attendance</a>	Daily	20
	TOTAL	100

[Activities to earn additional points include](#): Meet with Instructor (5 points), Interdisciplinary team leadership (5 points), and Additional argument maps (up to 1 point for each extra map, up to 5 additional points).

\*Please see our course website and/or Blackboard for any changes in this schedule:

<http://www.ingramanthropology.com/principles-schedule-spring-2015.html> If there is any conflict between this syllabus and the course website, the website should be followed.

**Final course grade:**

90 to 100 = A

80 to 89 = B

70 to 79 = C

60 to 69 = D

< 60 = F

**Criteria for Assignment Evaluation:** Please see the [evaluation criteria for maps](#), [activities](#), and projects on each associated webpage description.

**Due Dates and Times:** All assignments have specific dues 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, unless otherwise specified. All assignments are to be submitted on Blackboard, again, 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 at the start of class on the due date or email it to me prior to the start of our class. All assignments can and should be submitted early to avoid unexpected problems.

**Exams and Make-up Exams:** There are no exams in this course.

**Late Assignments:** [Please click here for a full description of our late assignment policy](#). Early submission of your assignments is always accepted; late work will not be accepted (unless otherwise specified in the assignment 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 you have a "[University Authorized Absence](#)" (click link) on the day/time an assignment is due, submit the assignment prior to your absence or make other arrangements with me prior to the assignment due date.

**Sharing Assignments and Plagiarism.** Individual assignments, such as argument maps of the readings and the Research Report, should be completed individually. Sharing assignments is a violation of the University's Honor Code. Plagiarism is also a violation of the Honor Code. Please complete this excellent tutorial to learn

more about plagiarism: <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/> I may use [SafeAssign](#) for the submission of your assignments.

**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://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>

**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://wweb.uta.edu/ao/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](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses 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.

**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 individuals with disabilities.

**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](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Writing Center :** The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40 minute sessions to review assignments, *Quick Hits* (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit <https://uta.mywconline.com/> to register and make appointments. For hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions of the services we offer undergraduates, [graduate students](#), and [faculty members](#), please visit our website at [www.uta.edu/owl/](http://www.uta.edu/owl/).

**Anthropology Librarian to Contact:** Mr. John Dillard, [dillard@uta.edu](mailto:dillard@uta.edu)

**Course Schedule:** A detailed daily class schedule is available on our [website, please click here to review](#). The website is kept up-to-date and if there is any conflict between this printed syllabus and the website, the information on the website will prevail. 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 or exam changes.

“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.”

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

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