

NEANDERTHALS AND THE ICE AGE WORLD
ANTH 3375

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Office Hours: **Thurs 9:15 – 10:15 am**
 Friday 12:30 – 1:30 pm
 OR BY APPOINTMENT (Email me!)

CLASS MEETS: Tuesday and Thursday, 11 – 12:20, in University Hall room 09

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

What was life like during the Pleistocene, and how do we know? In this course, we explore the archaeological record and recent research on the physical and social environment of Neanderthals, early modern humans, and their contemporaries. We address topics ranging from new genetic and isotopic analyses, to the origins of art and symbolism.

Despite the esoteric nature of the evidence, Neanderthals and the Paleolithic era have long captured the imagination of the non-scientists, and have inspired artists, authors, and filmmakers. Our class also explores the ways in which art and science have informed and influenced each other, and how the Paleolithic is imagined and even used in modern society.

The course format is primarily lecture and discussion, with at least one in-class lab. Lectures will follow topics shown on the schedule below and the Churchill textbook. In addition, we will read 3 popular science texts and 2 novels, all of which deal with various ideas about Neanderthal extinction and their interactions with early humans. Students will produce short essays on each of these texts, identifying and evaluating the major arguments advanced by each author. There is also an opportunity to participate in some replication of Paleolithic technologies.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of the course, students are able to:

- Explain the behavioral and anatomical adaptations of Neanderthals and how these differ from those of Early Modern Humans.
- Describe the current state of scientific knowledge about Late Pleistocene hominin society.
- Summarize a variety of competing arguments explaining the causes for Neanderthal disappearance.
- Critically evaluate depictions of Paleolithic society in fiction and popular science formats.

REQUIRED TEXTS: The following texts will be supplemented by a few additional readings posted to Blackboard.

Core Textbook:

Thin on the Ground: Neanderthal Biology, Archaeology, and Ecology
by Steven Churchill (2014)

Popular Science Summaries:

Neanderthal Man: In Search of Lost Genomes
by Svante Pääbo (2014)

The Invaders by Pat Shipman (2015)

Lone Survivors: How we came to be the only humans on Earth
by Christopher Stringer (2012)

Novels:

The Inheritors by William Golding (1955)

Dance of the Tiger by Björn Kurtén (1980)

Optional Extra Credit Novel:

Reindeer Moon by Elizabeth Marshall Thomas (1987)

Excerpts from the following texts:

The Paleolithic Origins of Human Burial by Paul Pettitt, 2011

The Humans Who Went Extinct by Clive Finlayson, 2009

Cro-Magnon by Brian Fagan, 2010

REQUIREMENTS / GRADING:

GRADING SCALE:

Grades for assignments and tests are posted to Blackboard as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to track your progress and determine that grades have been entered correctly to Blackboard. If you find a discrepancy, contact me immediately.

Your total course grade will be determined based on the following scale.

90% and greater	A
80% to 89%	B
70% to 79%	C
60% to 69%	D
Less than 60%	F

* A .5% is rounded to next higher grade.

You will be graded on multiple assignments and quizzes. These can be broken down into the categories detailed below. The value of each grade category is given as a percentage of the total grade. In addition to providing grades for individual assignments, I provide (via Blackboard) a summary grade for each of these categories (for example - "Quiz grade"). You can use these summaries to figure out how you are doing.

Requirement	% of Course Grade
Book Essays	50%
Quizzes	30%
Final Exam	20%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS DETAILS:

- **Book Essays (10% each, 50% total):** There are 6 required book essays on the 3 popular science books (Stringer, Shipman, and Pääbo) and on the 3 novels (Golding, Kurtén, Thomas). Essays should discuss the main hypotheses and supporting evidence as discussed by the authors, should provide some critical evaluation of these hypotheses, and should integrate information from class lecture, discussion, and previous readings. Essays should be 700 - 1000 words in length, and may be discussed in class.
- **Reading / Lecture Quizzes (30% total):** On most Thursdays, I will give a short quiz at the beginning of class that will cover reading and lecture topics. I will

often provide advance information on what the quiz will cover. I usually only provide this information in class (not by email). I will drop the lowest 2 quiz grades automatically. To determine your quiz grade, take the average of all but your lowest 2 grades.

- **Final Exam (20%):** The final exam will be a take home essay and is cumulative.
- **On-line Plagiarism Tutorial:** *You must complete the tutorial to get credit for all written assignments* - failing to do so could result in late submission penalties. If you violate the standards of academic integrity described on the Office of Student Conduct site, and in the tutorial, *you will fail the course*.

Go to the web site of the Office of Student Conduct:



(<http://www.uta.edu/conduct/academic-integrity/index.php>)

Review the UTA policies on Academic Integrity.

Click on the link to the Plagiarism Tutorial.

You must pass this with a score of 100% in order to get credit for the tutorial (the site itself will tell you that 70% is passing, but we have higher expectations in anthropology). You may take the tutorial as many times as you require to achieve 100% accuracy. At the conclusion of a successful test, you *must email* your results to me - I will not give you credit unless I receive the email from the test.

RECOMMENDATION REQUESTS:

If you plan to ask me for a recommendation for employment, graduate school, or any other endeavor upon completion of this course, note that I have the following minimum requirements:

- Grade of A or B
(depending on the scholarly requirements of the recommendation).
- Excellent attendance and participation in class.

Reading and Lecture Schedule (Subject to Revision):

Week	Dates	Topic	Core Reading (May be supplemented)
1	Aug. 27 th	Introduction to the Course & Neanderthal Overview	Churchill ch. 1
2	Sept. 1 st & 3 rd	History of Ice Age Research & Time Frames / Climate	Stringer ch 1 & 2
3	Sept. 8 th & 10 th	Middle Pleistocene Antecedents in Africa, Asia, and Europe	Churchill, ch. 2
4	Sept. 15 th & 17 th	Neanderthal Anatomy Neanderthal Anatomy Lab, UH 468	Churchill, ch. 2 & 4
5	Sept. 22 nd & 24 th	Material Culture of the Paleolithic	Churchill, ch. 3
6	Sept. 29 th Oct. 1 st	Neanderthal Landscapes & The Mammoth Steppe	Churchill, ch. 6
7	Oct. 6 th & 8 th	Neanderthal Diet & Predation Strategies	Churchill, ch. 7 & 8
8	Oct. 13 th & 15 th	Neanderthals and the Carnivore Guild Neanderthal mobility and activity	Churchill, Ch 9 Churchill, Ch. 10
9	Oct. 20 th & 22 nd	Ancient DNA Neanderthal Speech and cognition	Pääbo + articles TBA
10	Oct. 27 th & 29 th	Neanderthal Society / Demographics Neanderthal Burials	Churchill, ch. 11 Pettitt ch 5
11	Nov. 3 rd & 5 th	The Upper Paleolithic "Revolution" and the Middle Stone Age of Africa	Churchill, ch. 12 Finlayson ch 6 & 7 Shipman
12	Nov. 10 th & 12 th	Upper Paleolithic innovations in Eurasia	Hoffecker article Fagan ch 7 & 8
13	Nov. 17 th & 19 th	Art, Symbols, and Gender in the Paleolithic	Fagan ch 9, 10 & 11
14	Nov. 24 th	The end of the Ice Age	TBA
15	Dec. 1 st & 3 rd	The Paleolithic in fiction and film Film: Quest for Fire	Golding
16	Dec. 8 th	Summary discussion of extinction hypotheses	Kurtén

IMPORTANT DATES:

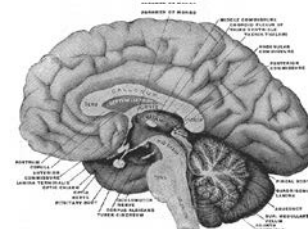
GRADED ASSIGNMENTS	Due Date / Test Date	Grade %
Plagiarism Quiz	September 1 st	Required
Book Essay 1 - Stringer	September 22 nd	10
Book Essay 2 - Pääbo	October 20 th	10
Book Essay 3 - Shipman	November 3 rd	10
Book Essay 4 - Golding	December 1 st	10
Book Essay 5 - Kurtén	December 8 th	10
Final Exam	Tuesday, December 15 th 11 am - 1:30 pm	15

COURSE POLICIES

(including the policies of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs):

1. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:

Make sure all your work is the product of
YOUR BRAIN!



As a student of the University of Texas at Arlington, you are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. Any instance of academic dishonesty will have a significant negative impact on your scholastic record, not to mention your grade in this class.

Discipline may include a **failing grade for the class** together with either **suspension or expulsion** from the University of Texas. Also, academic misconduct **will be reported** to the Office of Student Conduct.

I am not kidding and I have no tolerance for even "small" amounts of cheating or plagiarism. To avoid doing this "accidentally," **never cut and paste from anything you didn't write.**

The Board of Regents has defined academic dishonesty as follows: "Scholastic dishonesty includes but *is not limited to* cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another

person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2).

All 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.

2. LATE WORK POLICY:

Assignments are graded down **10%** of their value per day after the due date.

3. MAKE-UP QUIZ POLICY:

There are no make-up quizzes!

If you miss one of the quizzes, take comfort in the fact that I drop the 2 lowest of these, and they are not individually worth a lot.

4. ATTENDANCE POLICY: **Be there on time!**

Attendance *and punctuality* are expected. Walking in late is rude and distracting - don't do it! Students who are late, absent, or *unconscious* on multiple occasions **will most likely lose points** on their overall grade.

The Provost's Office would like me to add: "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."

5. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY:

I expect you to check your UTA email daily during the week!

A note from the Provost:

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>.

To obtain your NetID or for logon assistance, visit:

<https://webapps.uta.edu/oit/selfservice/>.

If you are unable to resolve your issue from the Self-Service website, contact the Helpdesk at helpdesk@uta.edu.

6. BLACKBOARD POLICY:

I use Blackboard A LOT. **Check it often** for assignments, instructions, announcements, and to monitor your progress.

7. ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY:



From my perspective, when I lecture I am in a conversation with you. Granted, I tend to do much of the talking, but it's a conversation, nevertheless. When you start texting in the middle of lecture, it's exactly as if you were texting in the middle of a one-on-one conversation with me - which is both rude and really distracting. So don't even have your cell

phone out in class. If you need to leave it on vibrate for emergency calls, discuss this with me before class.

I also do not allow laptops in lecture - unless you have a special waiver from the Office for Students with Disabilities. During labs, you may use a tablet or laptop to reference digital anatomical sources or to take notes, and you may use your phone to take photos (although generally, this isn't a good use of time). You may not use lab time to check email, facebook, text, etc. This is a waste of the time you paid for.

8. TITLE IX POLICY:

As stated by the Provost's Office:

"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."

9. DROP POLICY:

The last day to drop a class is November 4th, by 4 pm.

The Provost's Office states:

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 (**through September 2nd, 2015**). 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/>).

10. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT POLICY:

Contact me early in the semester.

All tests taken in the ARC need to be scheduled well in advance.

Please inform me if you have a disability requiring special consideration for classes and exams, and provide me with the relevant paperwork during the first two weeks of class.

If you need to take any tests or exams in the Office for Students with Disabilities (UH 102), please note that these must be scheduled with *both* the instructor and that office at least a week in advance. It is possible (and preferable) to set up this schedule near the beginning of the semester. The University's policy is as follows:

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.

11. STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY

Please fill out the feedback survey!!

The Provost adds: "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>."

12. FINAL REVIEW WEEK POLICY

As stated by the Provost's Office:

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.

13. EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES:

Know your exit routes!

The nearest exits are just to the east of our room. To reach these, exit the room by either door, turn left, then turn either left or right, continue up the short set of steps, and through glass doors to the outside. Note that there are additional exits if this route is too crowded. 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.

COURSE SUPPORT SERVICES **(Get Help - Get a better grade!)**

PRIVATE TUTORING

The University provides a private tutoring service for this course at a rate of \$6.50 per hour. To sign up for tutoring first go to the University Tutorial Office (205 Ransom Hall) and request a login ID. After this you may schedule tutoring sessions on-line.

WRITING SUPPORT:

Having trouble with that essay? **Get help!**

Contact the UTA writing center on-line at: <http://www.uta.edu/owl/>
Not only will they give you advice on your work, they also have short



workshops throughout the semester. Writing well is one of the most valuable skills you can acquire in college!

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE:

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.