

# ANTH 3357.001 Collapse and Sustainability

Spring 2016

**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: 12:00 to 12:30 and 2:00 to 3:00  
Wednesday: 2:00 to 3:00; Friday: 12:00 to 12:30 and 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](#).

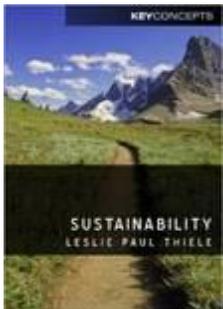


## Section Information: ANTH 3357.001

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** MWF, 10:00 to 10:50 am University Hall Room 09

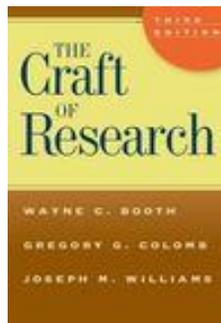
**Description of Course Content:** We have all been challenged by the message that we must achieve "sustainability" or society may "collapse." What must be sustained, for whom, and for how long? What does it mean for a society to collapse? Have past societies collapsed or transformed? In this course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

## Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:



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

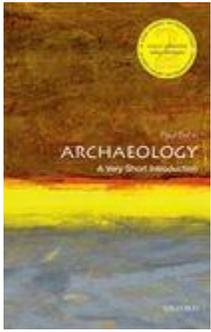
Any format



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.

**OPTIONAL Textbook:**



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.

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

**Student Learning Outcomes**

<b>Part 1: Understanding collapse and sustainability</b>	
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>Read <i>Sustainability</i> book and answer associated questions.</li> <li>Read assigned articles and complete Reading Notes of these readings</li> <li>Quizzes</li> </ul>
<b>Part 2: Research Methods</b>	
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, <i>The Craft of Research</i>, and answer the associated questions.</li> <li>Produce and present a research proposal</li> <li>Produce a research report</li> <li>Produce a website of your team research</li> <li>Read assigned articles and complete Reading Notes</li> <li>Quizzes</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 assigned articles and complete Reading Notes</li> <li>All course learning activities (see below) contribute to these overarching course goals</li> </ul>

Part 4: Case studies in sustainability and collapse	
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>Read assigned readings and complete Reading Notes</li> <li>All course learning activities contribute to these overarching course goals (see above)</li> <li>Quizzes</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 hope and expect 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 I and your fellow students want to hear your input during class discussions. Therefore, I **will take attendance and your attendance record will affect your grade.**

There are 42 classes from 25 January through 6 May. For each of the 42 classes you attend, you will earn 0.5 points toward your final grade (number of classes attended x 0.5 = your attendance points).

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 (e.g., smartphones, laptops, tablets)
- be physically and intellectually present
- ask questions and make comments about the course material (optional but strongly encouraged)
- arrive no more than 5 minutes late or leave no more than 5 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 devices
- arrive more than 5 minutes late or leave more than 5 minutes early. You must notify us to correct the attendance record if you decide to leave class early (within 24 hours of your early departure).

**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. Strong [evidence also demonstrates](#) that use of electronic devices for non-class purposes while in class or studying will diminish your learning and grade. It is also distracting to students sitting near you.

**Violation of the Attendance Policy:** You are solely responsible for maintaining (on the attendance sheet) an accurate record of your attendance. We rely on you and the [University's Honor Code](#) to ensure that this record is accurate. We 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 Dr. Ingram immediately. If any aspect of the attendance policy is violated, we reserve the right to withdraw all attendance points earned and unearned from the total points you accumulate in the course. That is, if you violate the attendance policy your attendance record may be ignored and you will receive 0 out of 20 possible points for attendance for the entire semester. This will have a significant impact on your final grade. Other grade penalties may also be applied at my discretion. Falsifying your attendance record or that of another student is a clear and serious violation of the Honor Code and will be reported to the UTA Division of Student Affairs. Falsifying your record is considered, at a minimum, "cheating."

**"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 us of your reasons for missing class. Attendance points are earned only for attending class.

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
<u>Reading Notes (select links) (individual)</u>	Each day a reading is assigned	15
<u>Quizzes (individual)</u>	See course schedule	10
<u>Book, <i>Sustainability</i> (individual)</u>	10 Feb	10
<u>Book, <i>The Craft of Research</i> (individual)</u>	1 April	10
<u>Research report (group)</u>	18 April	20
<u>Team evaluation of individuals</u>	6 May	5
<u>Website of team research (group)</u>	11 May	10
<u>Participation, attendance</u>	Daily	20
	TOTAL	100

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

<http://www.ingramanthropology.com/collapse-schedule.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

**Activities to earn additional points include:** Meet with Instructor (2 points), Interdisciplinary team leadership (5 points), and Additional Reading Notes (up to 5 points).

**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. If you have last-minute technical difficulties you can submit a print-out of your assignment at the start of class or email it to me prior to the due date/time. All assignments can and should be submitted early to avoid unexpected problems. If the assignment may be submitted late, the late submission policy will be described on the assignment description webpage.

**Quizzes:** All quizzes are listed on the course schedule and must be taken in-class. **There are no “make-ups”**. If you miss a quiz, this will be the quiz that you drop without penalty. If you miss a quiz because of a [“University Authorized Absence”](#) (click link) you must notify me, in writing and provide official documentation, prior to the quiz so that other arrangements can be made. Students with academic accommodations related to test taking should meet with me within the first two weeks of class.

**Late Assignments:** Early submission of your assignments is always accepted; late work will not be accepted, unless otherwise specified on the syllabus. This is an issue of fairness; we 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. We 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. [For additional information about late submissions, please click here.](#)

**Sharing Assignments and Plagiarism.** Individual assignments, such as the Reading Notes and answers to book questions, must 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/aao/fao/>).

**Americans with Disabilities Act: Disability Accommodations:** UT 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)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. 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 disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)**. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and

Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364.

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671.

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.

If you have an “Absence Leniency” or other accommodation, you must meet with me within the first 2 weeks of class to discuss the accommodation.

**Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos). For information regarding Title IX, 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 to the 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 <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR):** Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In **Quick Hits** sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information.

**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. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381

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