

ANTH 240: Archaeology

OFFERED: Spring 2022

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jeremy A. Beller

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course provides an introduction to the theories, methods, and techniques of archaeology. It is concerned with the kinds of questions archaeologists ask of the archaeological record and with the various steps of the process – data collection and description, analysis, and interpretation – through which they try to answer these questions. Although some case studies are mentioned, the course does not focus on the actual history or prehistory of any given region, but is rather an examination of the process through which the past is reconstructed and interpreted in the present. The laboratory sessions provide hands-on experience with techniques discussed in lectures and in the textbook. Please ensure that you have registered for both the lecture and a lab section.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

- Evaluate the strengths of different lines of evidence
- Identify the utility of different methods and techniques
- Describe and examine various datasets and cultural materials
- Become familiar with the common terminology and concepts in archaeology