

# ANTH 441

## Archaeological Method and Theory

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*INSTRUCTOR:* Dr. April Nowell

### **Course Description and Objectives**

This course is designed as an in-depth investigation of the major methodological and theoretical issues confronting archaeologists today. Emphasis is placed on the ways in which archaeologists reconstruct human behavior using the archaeological record and how different theoretical approaches relate to the types of data recovered and the interpretation of those data. The first third of the course is designed to provide students with a solid background in the past 60 years of archaeological thought while the final two thirds of the course will focus on where the discipline is today. It is expected that students will leave the course with a thorough understanding of the theoretical foundations of the discipline, an awareness of issues facing archaeology today and an ability to critically evaluate the primary literature in our field.

### **Skills Development**

Research, critical reading, academic writing (clear, focused, data supported writing), academic debate, and public speaking.