

ANTH 442

Marine Historical Ecology

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Iain McKechnie

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course explores how coastal archaeological data is increasingly central to extending ecological observations of coastal environments within the interdisciplinary framework of marine historical ecology. The course considers anthropological theory, Indigenous perspectives, and marine ecology through case-study readings spanning the worlds' oceans and coastlines. As this is a 4th-year seminar, students will be supported in compiling data and developing analyses as part of group and individual research activities. Together, we will seek to expand the analytical potential of maritime archaeological sites and refine understanding of global environmental change using archaeological information and other archives.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Coastal archaeological sites are ubiquitous, but most people (& many marine scientists) don't yet recognize how these vulnerable places can help to inform marine conservation, ocean governance, climate change, and environmental histories. We will read, discuss, and explore how this knowledge is being applied globally. In addition to assignments and class activities, each participant will be responsible for drafting a research proposal for a generic funding agency to partner with local communities to address a relevant coastal or marine conservation issue involving archaeological information.