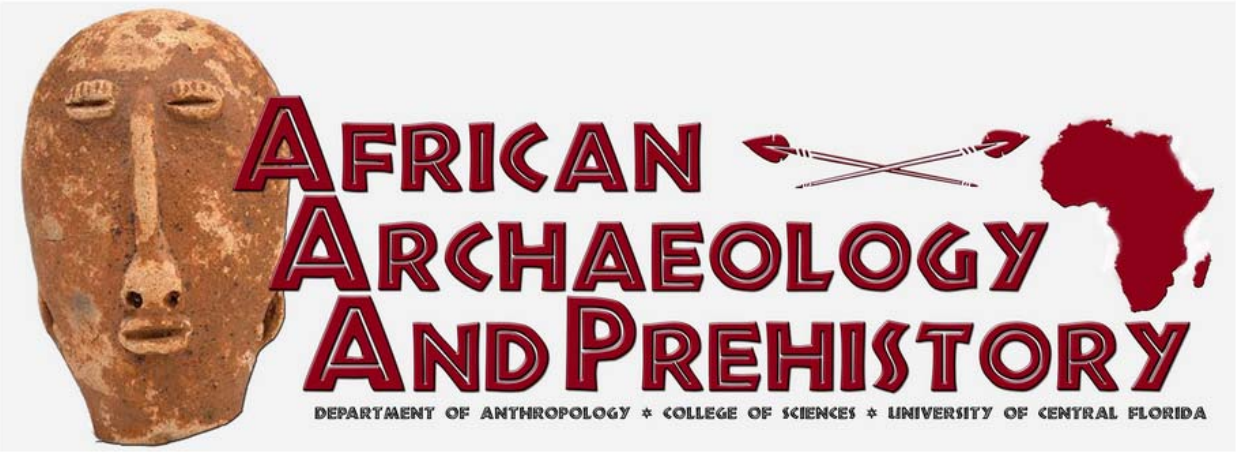


ANT 3930 African Archaeology and Prehistory
Dr. Groff

Syllabus

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Dr. Amanda T. Groff
Office	HPH 309
Office Hours(Virtual)	Contact at skype screenname: "profgroffucf" by appt. or in person Wednesdays 10am-12pm; 1-2pm **Please make an appointment first!!**
Phone	Dept Phone: 823-2227
E-mail	amanda.groff@ucf.edu
GTA	Thomas Lee
GTA E-Mail	tomlee@knights.ucf.edu

Course Information

Course Name	ANT 3930- African Archaeology and Prehistory
Credit Hours	3 hrs
Semester/Year	Spring 2018
Location	100% Online

Course Description

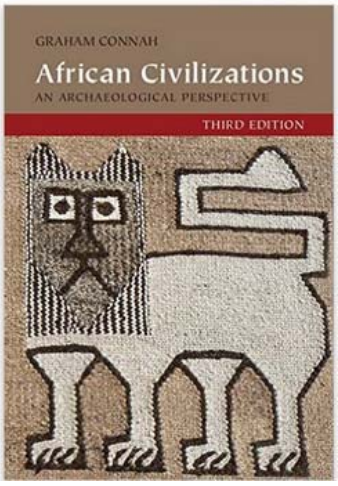
This course offers an introduction to the archaeological heritage of Africa, beginning with the emergence of modern humans and ending with the arrival of the Europeans. Africa offers the world's longest record of human occupation and plays a central role in our understanding of human evolution, the prehistory of our species, and state formation. We will examine the roots of Africa's rich and varied cultures and address major questions about African identity in the archaeological record. We will also address lesser known archaeological sites around Africa to highlight some of the forgotten ancestry of this great continent.
After a brief review of human origins and Stone Age foragers, the course will feature the following themes: history of archaeological research in Africa, the emergence of agriculture and settled communities, ancient African metallurgy, urbanism, the development and archaeological evidence of complex societies (with particular emphasis on, for example, Sudan, Ethiopia, Chad, Niger, West and South Africa, and Zimbabwe), and the role and influence of ancient trade and contact across the continent.

Course Goals

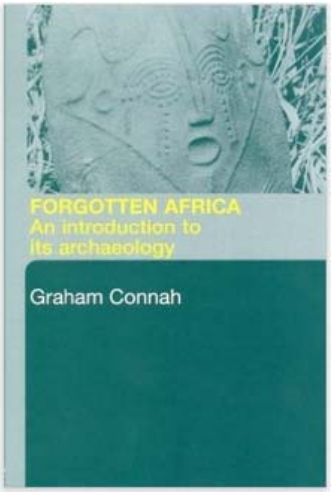
The specific objectives for this course are to:

- Become familiar with "forgotten" (and archaeologically rich) African societies, and their distinctive cultural traits, their foundation, growth, and collapse;
- Learn how geography, climate, vegetation, and resources have impacted the development of societies and cultures in Africa;
- Gain introductory knowledge of African studies and its importance to the overall understanding of human evolution and state formation;
- Develop sensitivity to African perceptions of their own past and recognize the limitations of Eurocentric models of interpreting African past;
- Gain appreciation for the study of African archaeology and of the techniques for its recovery and preservation.

Required Texts:



- "African Civilizations: An Archaeological Perspective" by Connah
- 3rd edition
- Publisher: Cambridge University Press
- ISBN: 978-1107621275



- "Forgotten Africa: An Introduction to its Archaeology" by Connah
- Publisher: Routledge
- ISBN: 978-0415305914

Course Requirements:

This course begins on January 8th, 2018 and ends on April 27th, 2018. Your grade in this course will be based out of **495 total points**. There will be quizzes at the end of each module and exams worth a total of 375 points, and assignments worth a total of 120 points. **This course is a self paced course, so you may go at your own speed. However, modules are grouped together and due on specific dates throughout the course (see schedule below)**. **This is to stop students from doing all the modules at the last minute and expecting to have all their work graded before final grades are due.** There will also be a deadline for the last modules (once again, to curb students from handing in everything at the last moment). Please note the module closing dates below (all Modules close at 11:59PM on their respective due date)… **I will not, under any circumstances, open a module for students because they missed the closing date**. This is something that all students are advised of since the beginning of the course. **You will only be able to advance to the next module once you have completed all the requirements for the preceding module.** You begin the course by clicking on the "modules" button on the main page. Each individual module, as well as the getting started module, is available from this page.

Schedule and Total Points

Module #	# of Quiz Points	Assignment Points	Closing Date for Module
Getting Started Module	10	0	January 12
1	5	10	January 19
2	5	10	January 19
3	5	10	February 2
4	5	10	February 2
Exam 1	100		February 9
5	5	10	February 23
6	5	10	February 23
7	5	0	February 23
8	5	10	March 9
9	5	10	March 9
Exam 2	100		March 23
10	5	10	April 6
11	5	10	April 6
12	5	10	April 20
13	5	10	April 20
Exam 3 (Final)	100		April 27
TOTAL	375	120	

You must first achieve a perfect score of "10" on the Getting Started Quiz in the Getting Started Module before you will have access to Module 1.

Each module ends with a timed quiz and you will only see one question at a time. **Once a quiz is opened, it is your ONLY chance to complete the quiz** – there is no second chance! Any quiz problems that are the result of you waiting until the last minute to take the quiz will result in a "0" for the quiz. Also, you will receive a "0" for any assignment that is not completed by the time the module is closed such as discussions, internet assignments, and exercises.

It is your responsibility to check on your grades. Automatically graded quizzes should be available immediately after you submit them. If you check your grades and your quiz has not been graded please email me and I will manually grade it.

Grading Scheme

The +/- system will be used in this course. These percentages correspond to the following letter grades

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93.5-100%
A-	89.5-93%
B+	86.5-89%
B	82.5-86%
B-	79.5-82%
C+	76.5-79%
C	69.5-76%
D+	66.5-69%
D	62.5-66%
D-	59.5-62%
F	<59

Under no exception will I make individual allowances for anyone in this course in terms of grading. Since you have the whole term to complete the course at your own pace, I will not allow anyone to make up missed assignments at the end of the course - do not wait until the last minute complete assignments. In addition, I will not curve anyone's final grade nor will I provide extra credit for anyone that is unhappy with their final course grade. Please do not ask! (I do round up scores, anything .5 or higher. For example, a percentage of 89.5 would be rounded to an A-)

Reviewing Quiz/Assignment Questions:

I am happy to address any questions you have concerning a grade. But please know you have up to 1 week after the closing of a quiz to bring up these questions or discrepancies concerning your score. After 1 week, I will no longer address these concerns. This is to prevent students from waiting until they see their final grade to address any issues in an effort to get their score bumped up. Please be sure to review your grade as soon as you submit and be sure to bring up any questions to me immediately!

Important Dates and Information

Add class deadline Friday, January 12 ; Drop class deadline: Thursday, January 11
Withdrawal deadline for this course: Wednesday, March 21
Final course closing date: Friday, April 27

First Assignment and Your Financial Aid

As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the Getting Started Quiz and Assignment by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than **January 12**. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Make-ups/Excuses:

There are NO make-ups in this course. As each set of modules closes every three weeks, you are provided plenty of time to complete modules prior to the deadline. However, I do understand that there are circumstances that can interrupt your ability to finish modules on time. Some of these valid excuses include a death in the family, family emergency, or you are personally injured or ill. Documentation (doctor's note with dates, obituary) of these incidences MUST be provided in order for a make-up to be allowed. *** A broken computer is NOT a valid excuse.

Additionally, a written email or note from a parent, friend, or employer does NOT count as a valid excuse.

****If an error occurs while taking a quiz, or while attempting to upload a document, you MUST take a screen shot of your computer desktop which shows the error. IMPORTANT: Your screen shot must include proof of time/date. Without the date and time there is no way to prove that your issue occurred prior to the deadline. Screen shot directions:**
http://www.take-a-screenshot.org/ (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

Discussion Board Appropriateness:

The discussion board is to be used by students to discuss topics concerning our class. Feel free to discuss topics covered in the class, articles you may have found online. As stated in the golden rule, please do not share or discuss specific quiz/exam answers or answers to assignments. Additionally, please do not use the discussion board to launch personal attacks against myself or fellow students. If there is an issue, please do not hesitate to contact me privately. I am happy to help in any way I can.

Student non-solicitation

Students have the right to privacy and non-solicitation in an online environment. Thus, students are NOT permitted to send out mass emails to the entire class via inbox or knights.ucf.edu without explicit permission from the professor. If a student wants to bring up a subject to the class, the student must use the Discussions and select the appropriate discussion thread for conversing. I have provided an area under Discussions for students to message and contact each other. I will not tolerate students harassing, spamming, or inciting each other when discussions can be handled and monitored in one location via the Discussions tab. If you are being spammed or bullied by a fellow student, please report to me and I will handle the issue. The Office of Student Conduct may be used if a solution cannot be found.

***This applies to mass emails, you are obviously more than welcome to email individual friends in the class

Email Appropriateness:

Please address emails in a formal matter. Emails are the only correspondence I have with you, therefore, they are the only impression I get of your character. Sometimes emails that are blunt can come off as rude.

Online Technology

By signing up for an online class, students assume the responsibility for having a functioning computer and programs necessary for viewing videos or accessing websites. A broken computer or non-functioning software is not a valid excuse for missing a deadline. Additionally, if a student waits until after 5pm on the due date to work on an assignment and experiences an issue, they are responsible for finding a solution (Unless there is a mass issue that effects every student in the class...if this is the case the professor will produce a solution.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an exam, quiz, or written assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the *UCF Golden Rule* for further information. I will assume for this course

that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone. To ensure academic honesty, Turn it in.com may be used to check students work. Turn it in.com is a website that runs students assignments against all websites and electronic versions of text and articles. Students assignments will be flagged if plagiarizing has occurred. Flagged students will then be contacted by the instructor or the TA.

****Any form of plagiarism within an assignment will result in a 0 for that assignment and the possibility of receiving a 'Z' grade (see below)**

****If you are caught plagiarizing, the professor will assign a 'Z' grade!!! A 'Z' grade will follow you around the rest of your academic career; essentially, anyone who views your transcripts will know you cheated. Do not PLAGIARIZE!!! For more info:** http://integrity.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade/students

Plagiarism Statement:

Many incidents of plagiarism result from students' lack of understanding about what constitutes plagiarism. However, you are expected to familiarize yourself with UCF's policy on plagiarism. All work you submit must be your own scholarly and creative efforts. UCF's Golden Rule defines plagiarism as follows: "whereby another's work is used or appropriated without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own."

For a detailed explanation on plagiarism, please click this link: **Plagiarism Statement**

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

****If you are registered with SDS, please contact the professor immediately for information concerning extended quiz and assignment times**

*****Please note that if you are permitted extended quiz/exam times, it is your responsibility to begin quizzes, quiz-graded assignments, and exams with enough time prior to the deadline to fulfill that extension. Having extended quiz times DOES NOT give you permission to run beyond the deadline time of 11:59pm.**

Copyright

This course contains copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, video lectures, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

According to the Academic Misconduct section of the UCF Golden Rule section C. states: "Commercial use of academic material: Selling notes, handouts, etc., without authorization or using them for any commercial purpose without the express written permission of the University and the instructor is a violation of this rule." Students cannot use any class materials for commercial purposes without instructor consent. If you do, it could result in disciplinary expulsion. All punitive sanctions can come with educational sanctions to help enforce the rules of conduct. In other words, we will file a lawsuit.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

My expectations of you for taking African Archaeology

- I expect you to do your work and not copy the work from others.
- When you take an online quiz, I expect you to complete the quiz by yourself.

- I expect you to treat all communications with me and your fellow students professionally and respectfully. I expect you to write using conventional rules of grammar, spelling, and paragraph formation. Please refrain from slang.
- I expect you to progress in a timely manner through the course. You are permitted to work at your own pace, however if you leave everything to the last minute it will be impossible to complete the course.
- I expect you to check your e-mail and participate in discussions. Only by doing this can you fully participate in the course, and keep up-to-date on any announcements.

What You Can Expect From Me

You can expect from me everything I expect from you, and I will respond to your email as fast as is physically possible. In addition, your grades will be posted in a timely manner.

Final Comments

If you cannot accept the requirements for this course after reading this syllabus, you may want to rethink taking this course. Hope you enjoy the class!

****The professor reserves the right to change this syllabus at anytime. It is the students responsibility to review the syllabus for updates.