Archaeology and Popular Culture
ANT 3106
Spring 2018 (3 credits)

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Teaching Assistants and their office hours	TBA
Classroom	CB1 103
Class Hours:	Section 0M01 Th 3:00-4:15
Sinelli Office Hours:	Mon 11:00-1:15
	Tues/Thurs 12-2:45

Course Description: This course This course explores archaeology's character and meaning as it is portrayed in contemporary popular culture. Archaeology holds a considerable fascination for a large portion of the general public, but how does the public obtain its information about the ancient past? This course discusses the popular meanings of archaeology and the conception of archaeologists, and contrasts these with reality. Following on from this, the significance of archaeology in contemporary film, the media, fiction and nonfiction literature, art and advertising are presented and discussed. This course also assesses the extent to which the often stereotypical portrayals of archaeology in popular culture are either harmful or beneficial and archaeology's role in society.

Course Objectives:
- Identify the ways in which the past has been mobilized in popular culture and why

• Critically examine the potential effects such mobilization has on the general public's understanding of the past
• Consider the implications of archaeology in popular culture for various stakeholders in the past
• Critically evaluate specific examples of archaeology in popular culture
• Present your own assessments concerning certain examples of archeology within popular culture to non-specialists

Required Text
Feder, K. L. 2018. Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries. 9th Edition
Additional readings will be assigned over the course of the semester.

You will also need to watch "The Mummy" with Brandon Frasier in Week 8 so that you can complete an assignment on it. I cannot put it online due to copyright issues. But you can get it on Netflix, Amazon Prime, etc.

Course Evaluation:
Students' grades will be based out of 500 total points. Grades for every assignment will be posted online.

2 exams – 200 points (100 each)
Exams will consist of multiple choice/True-false and short answer questions. You will need RED scantrons to take them.

3 Assignments - 150 points (50 each)
You will complete three role-playing assignments that are based on topics we discuss in class. Specific paper guidelines will discussed in class at the appropriate time.

Assignment 1: Anthropology Survey. Pretend that you are an anthropologist studying public beliefs about archaeology, pseudoscience myths, and perceptions of the past. Construct a survey of 15 brief statements about both legitimate archaeological facts and pseudoscientific babble and ask at least ten regular people if they agree, disagree, or are neutral with the statements. You will turn in a report that includes the statements you developed, anonymous demographic profiles of your participants (e.g. age, sex, occupation, level of education), a summary of the results, and your analysis of where you think archaeologists are doing well and doing poorly in conveying scientific fact to the general public.

Assignment 2: Journal Editor. Pretend you are on the editorial board of an archaeological journal. Find an article in popular media (i.e. NOT in a scholarly, academic or peer-reviewed book or journal) that discusses a new archaeological discovery. Analyze the article for scientific accuracy and note any discrepancies. Also, how does the article present the science? How does the article present the archaeologists? What conclusions does it draw? If this article were submitted to your journal, would you, as editor, agree to publish it?

Assignment 3: TV Critic. Pretend you are the TV critic for a popular science magazine (something like Discover or Scientific American). Watch an episode of any TV series that purports to explore mysteries of the past. Evaluate if their conclusions are rooted in the scientific method. Identify what they got right, as well as any inaccuracies or unsubstantiated statements made in the show. Finally, make a recommendation to your readers: should they view this particular TV series as a legitimate source of scientific information or not?

10 weekly modules – 150 points (15 points each)
As this is a mixed mode class, in lieu of attending lecture on Fridays you will complete a total of 10 weekly modules through Webcourses. These will be based on chapters from the textbook (but one is based on the Mummy movie) and your assessment for each module is a Canvas-based online quiz.

All faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. I n order to document that you began this course, please complete **Module 1** by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than 11:59 PM on January 12, 2018. **Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.**

Grading Scheme Used For Final Grades:
The +/- system will be used in this course. These percentages correspond to the following letter grades:

A = 470 or more
A- = 450-469
B+ = 435-449
B = 420-434
B- = 400-419
C+ = 385-399
C = 370-384
C- = 350-369
D+ = 335-349
D = 320-334
D- = 300-319
F = 299 or less

Individual exams and quizzes will not be curved. Neither will the overall course distribution.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Exams: To minimize disruptions, if you do not arrive within 10 minutes of the start of class on exam day, you will not be seated for the exam. I will direct you to the Anthropology office where you will take a different exam.

Make-up Exams: If there is an unforeseen emergency and you will not be able to take an exam or announced quiz, it is critical that you notify me immediately via phone or email. DON'T PLAN ON WALTZING INTO CLASS THE WEEK AFTER THE EXAM WITH SOME EXCUSE ABOUT WHY YOU MISSED IT.

I will not allow make-up exams without a valid excuse and I will require documentation supporting your story—NO EXCEPTIONS. The only acceptable form of documentation for illness is a doctor's statement. Proof of personal or family emergency can consist of a police report, a deceased's obituary, a towing or garage invoice, police report, or other form I deem acceptable. Any make-up exam or quiz will take a different form than the original. All make-ups will have at least one short answer section as well as an essay component. Except in extraordinary cases approved by me, all makeup exams must be completed within 3 business days of the scheduled exam time.

Exam discussions: I will not go over completed exams during class times. Also, I will retain all of the exams and none will be returned. However, I encourage every one of you to make-an appointment with a me or a TA and we will gladly go over your exams with you on an individual basis.
Announced quizzes: To minimize disruption, all quizzes will be administered toward the end of class. As with exams, I will not allow make-up quizzes without a valid excuse and I will require documentation of your absence.

Scantron Issues: If you fail to complete the scantron properly or submit a crumpled or damaged scantron your assignment will not be graded by the machine and a zero will appear in your Webcourses grades page. If this happens to you, contact a TA IMMEDIATELY to arrange a time to meet them, find your scantron, and correct the error. YOU HAVE ONE WEEK FROM THE DAY THE GRADE WAS POSTED TO CLEAR UP THE MATTER. LAST MINUTE REQUESTS FOR HAND GRADING OF SCANTRONS WILL NOT BE HONORED.

Other grade disputes: If you feel that your grade on a test or assignment is inaccurate, it is your responsibility to contact a TA within one week of the posting of the grade. Late requests or claims for a grade change will not be honored.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. If you are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook (http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/) for further details. As in all University courses, The Golden Rule Rules of Conduct will be applied. Violations of these rules will result in a record of the infraction being placed in your file and receiving a zero on the work in question AT A MINIMUM, and you will also receive the "Z" designation on your final grade. At the instructor's discretion, you may also receive a failing grade for the course. Confirmation of such incidents can also result in expulsion from the University

Special needs students: I am pleased to assist those students need additional accommodation. However, you MUST present me with documentation from Student Disability Services that verifies your needs. ANY REQUEST FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION THAT IS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY SUCH DOCUMENTATION WILL NOT BE HONORED.