

**El Paso Community College**  
**Syllabus**  
**Part II**  
**Official Course Description**

<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<u>Anthropology</u>								
<b>COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER</b>	<u>ANTH 2302</u>								
<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<u>Introduction to Archaeology: Theory and Method</u>								
<b>COURSE CREDIT HOURS</b>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><b>3</b></td> <td><b>3</b></td> <td><b>:</b></td> <td><b>0</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Credits</b></td> <td><b>Lec</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>Lab</b></td> </tr> </table>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Lec</b>		<b>Lab</b>
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<b>Credits</b>	<b>Lec</b>		<b>Lab</b>						

**I. Catalog Description**

Studies the human past through material remains. Includes a discussion of methods and theories relevant to archeological inquiry. Includes topics on the adoption of agriculture, response to environmental change, the emergence of complex societies, and ethics in the discipline. Examines both the methods of archaeological investigation and the concepts behind it. Studies the history of archaeological thought, as well as contemporary theoretical aspects with an emphasis on the nature of archaeological evidence and its interpretation. Addresses applied methods such as survey, mapping, excavation and analysis particularly as used in the American Southwest and Mesoamerica. **(3:0)**.

**II. Course Objectives**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- A. Unit I History of Archaeology
  1. Understand the historical background of archaeological investigations.
  2. Understand modern advances in archaeological studies.
  
- B. Unit II Archaeological Theory
  1. Explain the relationship between “natural” science and “social” science as evidence in archaeology.
  2. Explain the relationship between theoretical evolution (biological and cultural) and archaeology.
  3. Discuss the concept of culture (cultural ecology, cultural materialism, and cultures as systems).
  4. Discuss the concepts of cultural dynamics (co-genesis, diffusion, innovation, assimilation, syncretism, incorporation, resiliency/stability, integration, etc.)
  5. Evaluate “chaos” theory as it applies to cultural process and the archaeological record.
  6. Describe and be able to distinguish among archaeological transformation processes.
  
- C. Unit III Archaeological Method
  1. Select and set up an appropriate archaeological research model/design for a given site.
  2. Name and apply the methods of locating and identifying archaeological sites.
  3. Describe the varied approaches to archaeological excavation and actual excavation techniques.
  4. Identify the models and methods of interpretation and synthesis of the archaeological records.

- D. Unit IV Reconstructing the Past
1. Interpret “Family and Household” from the archaeological evidence.
  2. Interpret trade and economic activities from archaeological remains.
  3. Understand signs and symbols from archaeological materials.
  4. Interpret political and social systems from the archaeological evidence.
  5. Interpret religious systems and beliefs based on the archaeological materials

### **III. Evaluation**

Methods for course evaluation will be at the discretion of each instructor. Instructors may use one or more of the following methods of evaluations:

- Essay Exams
- Objectives Exams
- Papers
- Groups Projects
- In-Class Activities

### **IV. Disability Statement (American with/Disabilities Act [ADA])**

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

### **V. 6 Drop Rule**

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.