

**San José State University**  
**ANTH 160 Section 6 (50748), Fall 2020**  
**Reconstructing Lost Civilizations**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Jay Ou
<b>Office Location:</b>	Zoom Online
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	W2-3pm or by Appt.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Asynchronous Online
<b>Classroom:</b>	Asynchronous Online
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Completion of, or co-registration in, a 100W course, and instructor approval

**GE/SJSU Studies Category:** R

**Technology Intensive Online Course**

This course adopts an online classroom delivery format. A computer with internet connectivity and Canvas is required for students to participate in class activities and submit assignments. See [University Policy F13-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf> for more details. All course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and is to be used for private, study purposes only, and cannot be shared publicly or uploaded without the instructor's approval (see University policy S12-7).

**Canvas and MYSJSU Messaging**

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, and grades can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) or [Canvas](#) to learn of any updates.

## **Course Summary**

Explores scientific archaeology and the reconstruction of civilizations. Topics include framing hypotheses, site selection, excavation, analysis of artifacts and ecofacts, and reconstructing social systems.

## **GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)**

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

GELO1 demonstrate an understanding of the methods and limits of scientific investigation;

GELO2 distinguish science from pseudoscience;

GELO3 apply a scientific approach to answer questions about the earth and environment.

## **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

*Interaction of science and technology:*

CLO1 Knowledge of the evolution of archaeological thought, and the role of key individuals in development of archaeology as a science.

CLO2 Broad understanding of human evolutionary history since the emergence of our species and the critical issues and problems of evidence.

CLO3 Understanding of the important role archaeology plays in modern nationalism, identity, and political ideology.

*Differences between scientific, non-scientific, and pseudoscientific approaches:*

CLO4 Critical examination of pseudoscience, frauds, scientific racism, and extraordinary claims made concerning past civilizations and human evolution.

CLO5 Scientific methods and philosophy contrasted to non-scientific approaches to the past.

*Interaction of humans and the physical world:*

CLO6 Working knowledge regarding several ancient civilizations that have historically been the focus of archaeology and their interaction with the environment.

CLO7 Investigation into the impact of human activity and culture on the prehistoric and historic environment.

CLO8 Critical understanding of the major theories and intellectual frameworks concerning human adaptations, invention of agriculture, and the rise of complex states.

*Application of science and technology:*

CLO9 Knowledge of scientific methods as applied in archaeology and the techniques used in modern archaeological contexts to generate new knowledge.

CLO10 Students will develop critical thinking skills in assessing archaeological evidence.

CLO11 Students will learn research skills applicable across academic disciplines.

*Values and limitations of science and scientific inquiry:*

CLO12 Students will gain experience forming specifically testable hypotheses, recognizing research questions, and evaluating cases of research.

CLO13 Students will learn of the interdisciplinary nature of modern archaeology.

### **Required Texts/Readings**

*Images of the Past*. T. Douglas Price and Gary M. Feinman, 2020. McGraw Hill. 8th Edition  
ISBN 9781264177820

*Frauds, Myths and Mysteries*. Kenneth Feder, 2017. Oxford University Press. 9th Edition.  
ISBN 9780190629656

### **Assignments and Grading Policy**

20% Two Writing Assignments (500 words each)

30% Research Paper (2000 words)

50% Five Exams (10% each)

### **Writing Assignments**

Assignments will be focused on course themes. They will be posted on Canvas one week before due date.

### **Research Paper**

This paper should address one or more key topics to be approved by instructor. Requires a minimum of five peer-reviewed academic sources that address the paper topic. Minimum of 2000 words (approximately eight double spaced pages) of student's own writing required—excluding cited text, cover page, references.

### **Exams**

Non-cumulative multiple choice/short answer exams

### **Grading Policy**

Course grades will be assigned as follows:

Grade	Points	Percentage
A plus	960 to 1000	96 to 100%
A	930 to 959	93 to 95%
A minus	900 to 929	90 to 92%
B plus	860 to 899	86 to 89 %
B	830 to 829	83 to 85%
B minus	800 to 829	80 to 82%
C plus	760 to 799	76 to 79%
C	730 to 759	73 to 75%

C minus	700 to 729	70 to 72%
D plus	660 to 699	66 to 69%
D	630 to 659	63 to 65%
D minus	600 to 629	60 to 62%

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Wk	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/19	<b>Course Introduction</b>
2	8/24	<b>Introduction to Archaeology</b> Readings: PF 1, Feder 2
3	8/31	<b>Science and Pseudo-Science</b> Readings: Feder 1, 3, 4
4	9/7	<b>Human Origins and Evolution</b> Readings: PF 2-3 <b>Due 9/11: Exam 1</b>
5	9/14	<b>Environmental Changes and Culture</b> Readings: PF 4
6	9/21	<b>Megaliths and Identity</b> Readings: PF 9, Feder 13 <b>Due 9/25: Exam 2</b>
7	9/28	<b>Monumental Architecture: Complex States and Empires</b> Readings: PF 8 <b>Due 10/2: Writing Assignment 1</b>
8	10/5	<b>Monumental Architecture: Complex States and Empires</b> Readings: Feder 10 <b>Due 10/9 Exam 3</b>
9	10/12	<b>Technology and Commerce</b> Readings: Feder 8-9
10	10/19	<b>First Americans</b> Readings: Feder 5
11	10/26	<b>Native North Americans</b> Readings: PF 5 <b>Due 10/30 Exam 4</b>

12	11/2	<b>Ancient Mesoamerica</b> Readings: PF 6
13	11/9	<b>South America</b> Readings: PF 7
14	11/16	<b>Psychics and the Paranormal</b> Readings: Feder 11-12
15	11/23	<b>Due 11/23: Research Paper</b>
16	11/30	<b>The Past as Present and Future</b> Readings: PF 10 <b>Due 12/4 Writing Assignment 2</b>
17	12/7	<b>Due 12/7 Test 5</b>

### **Classroom Protocol**

1. Check Canvas and SJSU email regularly for updates or changes to schedule.
2. All correspondence will be conducted via canvas and canvas message. Include proper subject headings (course number and section, full name, topic) and standard business letter format.
3. Late assignments and exams will not be accepted unless accompanied by documented proof of medical emergency.
4. Grades will only be discussed during office hours and not during class times.

### **University Policies**

#### **General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student**

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90–5 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

#### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/late-drops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/late-drops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### **Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/student-conduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/student-conduct/>.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.