Standard Course Syllabus

**ARCH 201-4 INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY**

Calendar Description: A survey of methods used by archaeologists to discover and interpret the past. Examples will be drawn from selected sites and cultures around the world. Breadth-Social Science.

Example Course Outline Description[[1]](#footnote-1): Archaeology is the study of human cultures through the analysis of material remains, such as artifacts, structures, animal bones, and plant remains. This course will introduce students to archaeological method, practice and interpretation. It will consist of a survey of principles, concepts, techniques, theories and interpretive approaches used by archaeologists to study human cultures of the past.

The following topics must be covered:

**Theory** History of archaeology

 Culture History

 Processual Archaeology

 Post-Processual Archaeology

**Method** The archaeological record

 Site survey and excavation

 Dating techniques

 Ancient technologies

 Subsistence reconstruction

 Establishing cultural chronologies

 Processes of culture change

 Reconstruction of social organization

 Reconstruction of trade and exchange networks

 Warfare

 Religion

 Cultural Resource Management

Possible Textbooks:

(2016) Department currently uses:

Renfrew, Colin and Paul Bahn, 2016, *Archaeology: Theories, Methods, and Practice*. Seventh Edition, Thames & Hudson, New York.

Other choices could include:

 Kelly, Robert and David H. Thomas 2013. *Archaeology*. Sixth Edition, Wadsworth Cengage earning, Wadsworth.

 Renfrew, Colin and Paul Bahn 2015. *Archaeology Essentials: Theories, Methods and Practice*. Third Edition, Thames and Hudson, New York. (a much condensed version of Renfrew and Bahn 2016).

 Greene, K and T.Moore 2014. Archaeology An Introduction. Fifth Edition, Routledge, London.

1. Course coverage and materials are at the discretion of the instructor, but major changes in ARCH 201 course content should be approved by Archaeology Department Chair well in advance of the first day of classes. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)