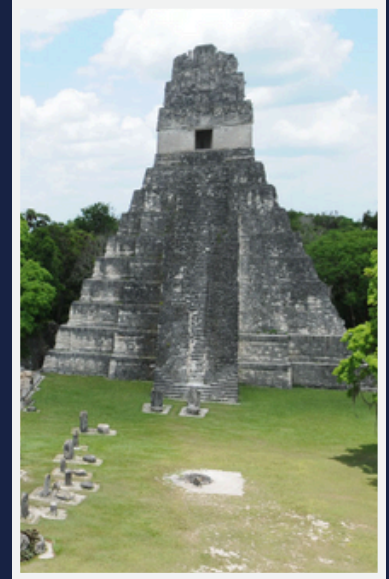


IDH2930 UNCOMMON READS: GODS OF THUNDER



Honors Program Fall 2024
Instructor: Anthony P. Farace

Wednesdays - 10:40-11:30 AM
Honors Village Res Com #1 114

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Issues relating to climate change, conflicts over religious ideology, and the movement of people are ever present in the science, media, and the culture of today. However, these are not new issues that humanity is facing. *Gods of Thunder* will outline how indigenous peoples of the Americas navigated the Medieval Warming Period (AD 800-1300 CE) a period of major climatic change and how these events led to the transformation of native religion and movement as people migrated long distances in a response to these phenomena. The course will demonstrate how learning about the past can help position our current world issues in historical context through discussions and annotations of our readings. At the end of the semester, students will learn broadly about the archaeology of the Americas and how the past is an important tool for navigating our own lives in the present.

(photos above are from Pauketat 2023)

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STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Explain...

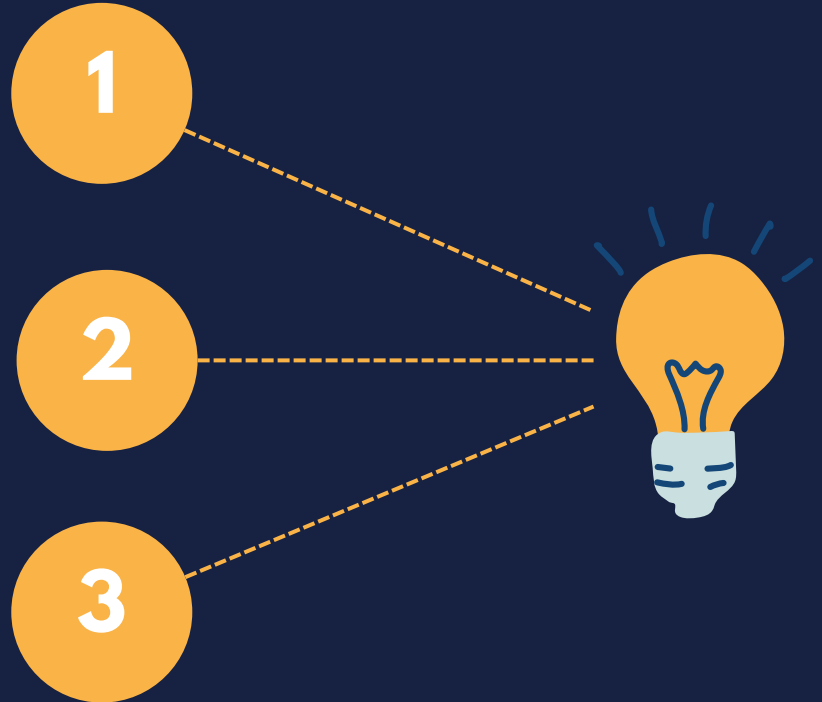
... how past cultures experienced and reacted to episodes of climate change and migration.

Critically Analyze and Contrast...

... these past issues with those in the present and examine how learning about these cultures might help our understanding of our world issues.

Argue and Describe...

... the utility of learning about the past and the importance of preserving archaeological sites and material culture.

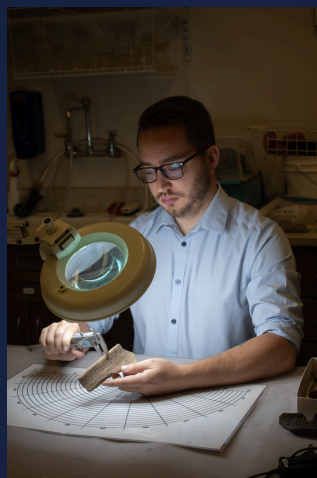


INSTRUCTOR INFO

Instructor:
Anthony P. Farace

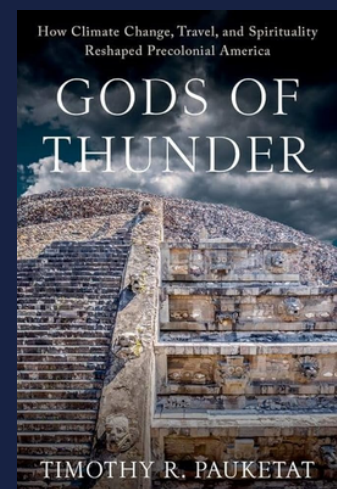
Contact: afarace@ufl.edu
or through Canvas

Virtual Office Hours:
Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 or by
appointment



REQUIRED TEXTS

This title needs to be purchased on Perusall through the Canvas course: Pauketat, Timothy (2023) *Gods of Thunder*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.



COURSE FORMAT

The teaching format is a fully in-person, discussion course. Course topics are given weekly based on the chapter we are reading each week. Deadlines for the course are Eastern Time (ET). Assignments will be due at 11:59 PM EST and will be turned into Canvas. Be sure to read the instructions for all assignments to confirm the due dates and times. Assignments are expected to be graded by one week after the due date. Feedback will be given specific to the assignment contents. New Modules will open after class on Wednesdays. Course homework will be due by the following class. Perusall assignments will have two due dates, see the Perusall assignment description.

GRADING

Grade Percent	Passing Grade	Grade Points
93.0 or above	A	4.00
92.9 - 90.0	A-	3.67
89.9 - 87.0	B+	3.33
86.9 - 83.0	B	3.00
82.9 - 80.0	B-	2.67
79.9 - 77.0	C+	2.33
76.9 - 73.0	C	2.00
72.9 - 70.0	C-	1.67
69.9 - 67.0	D+	1.33
66.9 - 63.0	D	1.00
62.9 - 60.0	D-	0.67
<59.9	E	0.00

Letter grades are assigned based on the total percent of points. This course does not fulfill a general education requirement.

If you need more information on UF's grading policy follow this link:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Course Assignment Breakdown (100%/100 pts)

Since this course is primarily a discussion based course your grade will be weighted heavily towards the participation you give in class:

I. Participation 50%

There are other assignments outside of class that will help prepare you for discussion or will apply the skills learned in the course:

II. Course Reflection Essays (2 x 5%) 10%

III. Perusall Annotations 30%

IV. Current Archaeology Presentation 10%

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

I. Participation (50%)

Since this course is focused around the reading and discussion of *Gods of Thunder* it is important that you are present and participate in class. Therefore, 50% of your class grade will be based on participation points. In the first 8 weeks and the last 8 weeks, you can earn up to 25 points each. You can earn these points by:

- Being present in class. Unexcused absences will result in a loss of points.
- Being on time to class.
- Not being active in our class discussions. You should answer questions, ask questions, and give your own ideas and perspectives throughout our class sessions. I will be monitoring this.
- Being respectful of your classmates and instructor. Treat others how you would like to be treated.
- Fostering a safe environment to discuss ideas and fostering others ideas by contributing to another student's ideas.

II. Course Reflection Essays (10%)

There are two different short essays (500-600 words) that will be assigned during the beginning and end of the semester. These are prompt driven which you can find on Canvas. The first essay due September 3rd will have you discuss your knowledge of archaeology and climate change and how the two intersect. The second essay due December 11th will have you take what we have learned (and read) through the semester and describe how we might be able to utilize the information to understand more about climate change today.

These assignments should be 500-600 words in 12 point font, Times New Roman. You should start the paper with your name, class #, date, and assignment name. The assignment will be submitted on Canvas and scanned through TurnItIn to check for plagiarism and AI.

(SLOs 2, & 3)

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

III. Perusall Annotations (30%)

Since this is a course focused around reading a book, you will be expected to join into a collaborating reading experience by annotating, asking questions, and interacting with other posts from your peers on Perusall. This ensures that you understand the main ideas, theories, and arguments that the authors are making. Using the Perusall tool through Canvas, you will read the assigned chapter/article for each week and make three annotations due by Tuesdays at 11:59 PM so we can discuss them in class. These should consist of two insights and one question. These could be specific to your or something you think your peers might need more explanation on. You will be responsible for reading through these before class on Perusall so we can discuss them. Review the Perusall Student Guidelines on Canvas. (SLO 1, 2, & 3)

Tips for annotating on Perusall:

- Highlight words and concepts that are unclear to you, look them up, then share what you found in a comment. Remember to include the source of your reference.
- Share facts and descriptions from the text that surprise you and tell us why.
- Engage each chapter in multiple places.
- Ask questions (using a "?" has Perusall recognize a comment as a question) and read the comments and questions posed by others.
- Upvote comments or questions that are helpful.

Review the Perusall Student Instructions on the Orientation page.

Perusall®



ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

IV. Current Archaeology Presentation (10%)

Every week a student will lead a 5 minute informal presentation outlining a real world example of recent archeological work that pertains to the world area and topic that we are discussing for that week's reading. This assignment will familiarize you with current archaeological research where we can make connections to what we are reading each week.

Requirements:

- A student will pick a recent research article (within the past two years).
- Here a research article refers to a peer reviewed research paper OR a scientific news article that describes the research in detail.
- Then the student will summarize the main points of the research.
- A student, if they wish, can prepare a formal presentation however this is not required. The student can just give a informal, vocal presentation to the class instead.
- Students are encouraged to contact the instructor if they are unsure of the article's relevance or if they are having trouble finding something.
- A sign-up sheet will open during the first week of class on the Canvas Discussions where you can pick which week you will present.
- Before your presentation, you are required to submit your article to the sign-up sheet where other students can access it.
- Students will be graded on how well you are able to present the main points of the research including the research question, methods, the result/discussion, and the relevancy of the article.

Try looking here for reputable sources:

For peer reviewed journal research, check out these journals:

- Science
- Nature
- American Antiquity
- Antiquity
- Latin American Antiquity
- Southeastern Archaeology
- And try searching on UF library's search engine

For Science-oriented, reputable news sources:

- Live Science
- The Scientific American
- Archaeology Magazine
- AP News
- Science News
- Science Daily

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Readings	Assignments	Due Date (all at 11:59 PM)
28-Aug	Introduction & Burke et al. (2021)	1st Course Reflection Paper	Due September 3rd
4-Sep	Chapter 1. Temples of Wind and Rain	Perusall Annotations Chapter 1	First Annotations Due Sept. 3rd Response Due Sept. 8th
11-Sep	Chapter 2. Lost in Ancient America	Perusall Annotations Chapter 2	First Annotations Due Sept. 10th Response Due Sept. 15th
18-Sep	Chapter 3. Dark Secrets of the Crystal Maiden	Perusall Annotations Chapter 3	First Annotations Due Sept. 17th Response Due Sept. 22nd
25-Sep	Chapter 4. Mesoamerican Cults and Cities	Perusall Annotations Chapter 4	First Annotations Due Sept. 24th Response Due Sept. 29th
2-Oct	Chapter 5. Across the Chichimec Sea	Perusall Annotations Chapter 5	First Annotations Due Oct. 1st Response Due Oct. 6th
9-Oct	Chapter 6. Ballcourts at Snaketown	Perusall Annotations Chapter 6	First Annotations Due Oct. 8th Response Due Oct. 13th
16-Oct	Chapter 7. A Place Beyond the Horizon	Perusall Annotations Chapter 7	First Annotations Due Oct. 15th Response Due Oct. 20th
23-Oct	Chapter 8. The Other Corn Road	Perusall Annotations Chapter 8	First Annotations Due Oct. 22nd Response Due Oct. 27th
30-Oct	Chapter 9. Paddling North	Perusall Annotations Chapter 9	First Annotations Due Oct. 29th Response Due Nov. 3rd
6-Nov	Chapter 10. Smoking Daggers	Perusall Annotations Chapter 10	First Annotations Due Nov. 5th Response Due Nov. 10th
13-Nov	Chapter 11. First Medicine	Perusall Annotations Chapter 11	First Annotations Due Nov. 12th Response Due Nov. 18th
20-Nov	Chapter 12. Wind in the Shell	Perusall Annotations Chapter 12	First Annotations Due Nov. 19th Response Due Nov. 23rd
27-Nov	No class	Thanksgiving	None
4-Dec	Schug et al 2021 & Newsom et al. 2023	Work on 2nd Course Reflection Paper	None
11-Dec	Exams Week/ No Class	2nd Course Reflection Paper	Due at 11:59 PM on Dec 11th

COURSE POLICIES

Accommodations

If you require an accommodation for the course, you should connect with the Disability Resource Center as soon as possible to enroll by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>. If you feel that you would like to use your accommodations for this course, please view the guidelines here:

<https://disability.ufl.edu/students/accommodations/accommodation-letters/>.

Accommodations should be submitted to the professor as soon as possible to prevent any delays in your progression in the course. Ideally, these should be sent to the instructor before the end of the first month of classes

Campus Resources

Students experiencing personal problems that are interfering with their academic performance are encouraged to contact Student Affairs, DRC, and/or the Counseling and Wellness Center.

- UF Student Affairs: <https://ufsa.ufl.edu/> or <https://care.dso.ufl.edu/>
- Disability Resource Center (DRC): www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575
- Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student

Library Resources

The UF Libraries provide access to numerous resources and services that will help you succeed in this course. Access thousands of online databases, books, and articles or visit one of the branch locations for additional resources, services, and study spaces. Further, as this class requires students to complete a bibliography and research paper, both the Anthropology Library Guide and the Anthropology Assignment Guide may be of assistance. You can also contact the Anthropology Librarian directly for help with developing your research topic/question, searching for sources, and evaluating information. And you can also Ask A Librarian for help by email, chat, text, or phone.

- There is a Library Guide for archaeology: <https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/anthropology/archaeology>
- Ginessa Mahar (Anthropology Librarian): gjmahar@ufl.edu, office: Library West 500

Cheating and Plagiarism

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Click [here](#) to read the Conduct Code. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

If you cheat or plagiarize any assignment, you will automatically receive a 0 on the assignment. Any alleged violations of the Student Honor Code will result in a referral to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. Please review the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code at www.sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/.

GatorEvals

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Harassment and Discrimination

"Harassment" is defined as conduct that (1) is of any type (written, oral, graphic, or physical), (2) is directed towards or against a person because of their personal status (i.e., race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, national origin, age, disability, marital status, pregnancy or others), and that (3) unreasonably interferes with the individual's work, education, or participation in activities or programs at UF or creates a working or learning environment that a reasonable person would find threatening.

"Discrimination" is defined as a conduct that (1) adversely affects any aspect of an individual's employment, education, or participation in activities or programs at UF, and (2) is based on one or more personal characteristics listed above. Any student who feels that his/her rights have been violated may speak to the instructor who will direct the complaint through the proper university channels, or the student may directly file a complaint with UF Department of Human Resources.

Late Assignments/Extensions

Extensions on assignments will be given if you have a documented illness, health, emergency, or major scheduling conflict. Proof of these events must be provided to the instructor via email or filled out through the Dean of Students office (<https://care.dso.ufl.edu/instructor-notifications/>). These arrangements should be made with either your instructor or TA. The best way to provide communication for late assignments/extensions would be through e-mail or Canvas mail.

All late assignments without a documented excuse will be reduced by 5% for each day late. After 10 days the assignment will be marked as a zero. All of the policies stated above are consistent with the university policies for absences and illnesses. Please review this link for further information:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#absence-text>

Technology Support

As a reminder, neither the Instructor or TA are experts in IT support. We may be able to mediate some difficulties if they arrive. However, most of these problems will need to be dealt with using UF or Perusall's IT support. Here is the contact information for both resources:

UF Helpdesk (Phone and E-mail)

- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- helpdesk@ufl.edu
- Chat with a specialist via their website: <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- Walk-In

Normal Hours:

- Monday – Friday 8am to 10pm
- Saturday – Sunday 8am to 5pm

Perusall Help

- Use this link to view their help forum:
<https://support.perusall.com/hc/en-us/categories/360002173133-Students>
- You can also submit a support request through your account in Perusall or through this link:
<https://support.perusall.com/hc/en-us/requests/new>