ANTHRO 128
ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
SYLLABUS
SPRING 2017
(revised, January 16)

Class Meetings
Tues. and Thurs. 3:30-5
Room 101, 2251 College

Instructor
Professor Junko Habu
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AIMS OF THE COURSE

This course provides an overview of recent discussions on long-term sustainability of human-environmental interaction in the fields of archaeology, ecological anthropology and related disciplines. The theoretical foundation of this course is that of historical ecology (see e.g., Balée 1998), which conducts comprehensive research into long-term and short-term cultural change while emphasizing the impact of human actions on the environment. Key aspects of human cultures and societies that will be discussed in this course include: 1) food and subsistence diversity, 2) networks (including the mobility of people, goods and information), 3) local autonomy and sovereignty, 4) rituals, traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous rights, and 5) implications of technological developments (see the figure below). The importance of the initiatives of local stakeholders will also be emphasized.

PREREQUISITE

None. Although this is an upper division course in Anthropology, freshmen and sophomores in Anthropology, as well as students in other majors, are encouraged to take this course (but please be prepared to read the assigned readings before each class meeting).
EVALUATION

Mid-term Class Tests (20%x2) 40%  	February 16 & March 23
Final In-class Test (20%) 20% 	April 27
Attendance and Class Participation 20% 
Group Presentation 20%

GROUP PRESENTATION

Group presentations are scheduled in late April (schedule to be confirmed depending on the total number of students). The class will be divided into groups of several individuals, with group composition dependent upon the research areas/topics of individual students. Each group of students will be asked to summarize key issues of a given research area/topic, and to suggest possible future research directions. Each group will be required to give a formal presentation (approximately 15 min.), which will be followed by questions and class discussion. Prepare a handout for your presentation that outlines the main thesis and structure of your presentation along with the list of academic references (i.e., books, journal articles etc.) and other citations. Each group is expected to rehearse its presentation during the instructor’s office hours prior to the final presentation and revise the contents. Also, submit your ppt file after your presentation.

CLASS STRUCTURE

Each class meeting usually starts with a lecture followed by class discussion on assigned readings. Students are expected to attend classes and take notes, since the contents of the class lectures may be quite different from those of the readings. Powerpoint summaries will be posted on BCourses after class meetings. Students are responsible for the contents of lectures as well as the assigned readings.

SCHEDULE AND ARTICLES/CHAPTERS TO BE READ BEFORE THE CLASS
(Additional readings may be assigned)

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION
Jan. 17: Introduction

Jan. 19: Goals and Scope of the Course


WEEK 2: ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AND SO-CALLED “COLLAPSES”
Jan. 24: Collapses or Reorganization?


Jan. 26: Archaeological Perspectives


WEEK 3: HISTORICAL ECOLOGY: THEORY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE
Jan. 31: Historical Ecology


Feb. 2: Archaeological Perspectives


WEEK 4: INDIGENOUS RIGHTS, TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE (TEK), AND RITUALS
Feb. 7: Mining, Resources, Developments and Indigenous Rights


Feb. 9: Ethnographic and Archaeological Perspective

WEEK 5: INDIGENOUS RIGHTS, TRADITIONAL EOCLOGICAL KNOWKEDGE (TEK), AND RITUALS (Cont’d)/ MIDTERM 1
Feb. 14: Guest Lecture by Prof. Kent Lightfoot

Feb. 16: Mid-term 1

WEEK 6: DIVERSITY
Feb. 21: Food Diversity and Biodiversity


Feb. 23: Archaeological Approaches

WEEK 7: NETWORKS, MOBILITY AND LANDSCAPE
Feb. 28: Globalization and the Movements of People, Goods and Information


Mar. 2: Archaeological Perspectives


WEEK 8: AUTONOMY, SOVEREIGNTY AND SOCIAL INEQUALITY
Mar. 7: Local Autonomy and Sovereignty


Mar. 9: Archaeological Perspectives

WEEK 9: SCALE OF ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY
Mar. 14: Large vs. Small-scale Systems, and the Issue of Demography


Mar. 16 Archaeological Perspectives

WEEK 10: SCALE OF ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY (Cont’d)/ MIDTERM 2
Mar. 21: Guest Lecture (TBA)

Mar. 23: Midterm 2

SPRING RECESS (March 27-31)
WEEK 11: TECHNOLOGY AND INTENSIFICATION
Apr. 4: Implications of New Technological Developments

Apr. 6: Archaeological Perspectives

WEEK 12: ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE
Apr. 11: Climate Change and Human Impacts

Apr. 13: Archaeological Perspectives


WEEK 13: GROUP PRESENTATIONS
Apr. 18: Group Presentations (1)
Apr. 20: Group Presentations (2)

WEEK 13: GROUP PRESENTATIONS (Cont’d) AND FINAL IN-CLASS TEST
Apr. 25: Group Presentations (3)
Apr. 27: Final In-class Test

WEEK 15: RRR WEEK (NO INSTRUCTION)