Instructor: Dr. James M. Davidson
Course Level/Structure: Undergraduate/Graduate seminar

Time: Thursday only – Periods 4 through 6 (10:40 am to 1:40 pm)
Class Room: Turlington B357

Office: Turlington B134
Email: davidson@ufl.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm (and by appointment)

Website for electronic readings: http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/davidson/

Course Description and Objectives: The seminar’s goal is to provide grounding in the anthropological literature of material culture. In addition to theoretical articles, there will be practical hands-on training on select 19th and early 20th century material culture, including bottles, ceramics, “small finds,” such as clothing-related objects, and the material culture of historic cemeteries (e.g., coffins and caskets, coffin hardware).

Course Requirements:
Class participation/attendance  20%
Synopses of Key Readings (18)  20%
Leading Class Discussion:  10%
Major research paper  50%

Required Texts:
There are no required textbooks to purchase, but the course will rely heavily on a number of individual readings (e.g., articles, book chapters).

Attendance: Regular attendance and participation in class discussions is a requirement. Students are expected to have read the material for that day, and come to class prepared to discuss the readings.

Leading Discussion:
For some weeks, one or more students will lead class discussion, and will need to prepare a list of questions/points of discussion.

Synopses of Readings:
For some key readings, a synopsis (i.e., a critical summary) ranging from one to three paragraphs (not to exceed one page in length for each reading) will be required and due at the beginning of each class, before we begin the discussion. Readings requiring synopses are marked with a bold, underlined XXX at the end of each citation.
Research Paper:
One research paper will be due at the end of the semester (15 to 20 pages).

Each student will choose the individual topics of the paper, after consultation with me. It could involve original research, an analysis of an existing dataset, or a comparison of two or more papers, sites, or theories. Each student will be required to present his or her work to the class, during the last week of the semester. The formality of this presentation (e.g., power point, etc.) is negotiable.

Grading:
A final letter grade will be assigned at the end of the semester, according to this scale:
A  (90-100%)
B+  (86-89%)
B   (80-85%)
C+  (76-79%)
C   (70-75%)
D+  (66-69%)
D   (60-65%)
E   (59% or less)

Attendance:  Regular attendance is expected. Excessive unexcused absences will detract from the final grade (see above).

Accommodating Students with Disabilities:
Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who in turn must provide this documentation to me when requesting accommodation.

Academic Honesty:
The University reminds every student of the implied pledge of Academic Honesty: “on any work submitted for credit the student has neither received nor given unauthorized aid.” This refers to cheating and plagiarism. Consult the Student Guide at www.dso.ufl.edu/stg/ for further information. Students caught cheating will be referred to the University administration for disciplinary action, the consequences of which can include (among other things) failure of this course.
Schedule/Topics/Readings:

Week 1 (Aug 24): General discussion of course and content

Week 2 (Aug 31) Some Definitions of Material Culture

Ferguson edited volume: *Historical Archaeology and the Importance of Material Things*. Special Publication Series, Number 2. Society for Historical Archaeology.
1. Stanley South: Foreword
2. Leland Ferguson: Preface
3. Leland Ferguson: Historical Archaeology and the Importance of Material Things
4. James Deetz: Material Culture and Archaeology—What's the Difference?

Shackel, Paul A. and Barbara Little

Yentsch, Anne and Mary Beaudry

Robb, John E.

Gosden, Chris and Yvonne Marshall

Binford, Lewis R.

Deetz, James and Richard L. Bushman

Week 3 (Sept 7): Making Sense of Material Culture: Typologies and Issues of Classification

Stone, Lyle M.

Spaulding, Albert C.

Krieger, Alex D.

Ford, James A. and Julian H. Steward

Gifford, James C.

Whittaker, John C., Douglas Caulkins, and Kathryn A. Kamp

Orser, Charles E. Jr.

(Section on typologies…………………)

**Week 4 (Sept 14): Chronology and Its Application**

Ford, J. A.

Krieger, Alex D.

Adams, William Hampton
2003  Dating Historical Sites: The Importance of Understanding Time Lag in the Acquisition, Curation, Use, and Disposal of Artifacts. *Historical Archaeology* 37(2):38-64. *XXX*

Mallios, Seth

South, Stanley
Turnbaugh, William and Sarah Peabody Turnbaugh

**Week 5 (Sept 21): Assemblages and Patterning**

South, Stanley

South, Stanley

Cabak, Melanie, Mark D. Groover, and Scott J. Wagers
1995 Health Care and the Wayman A.M.E. Church. *Historical Archaeology* 29(2):55-76. XXX

Otto, John Solomon

Wheaton, Thomas R. and Patrick H. Garrow

**Week 6 (Sept 28): Economies and Economics**

Miller, George L.

Miller, George L.

Mullins, Paul

Wall, Diane Dizerega
Cook, Lauren J., Rebecca Yamin, and John P. McCarthy  
1996  Shopping as Meaningful Action: Toward a Redefinition of Consumption in Historical Archaeology. *Historical Archaeology* 30(4):50-65.  XXX

Adams, William Hampton and Sarah Jane Boling  

**Week 7 (Oct 5) Visible Artifacts, Invisible People**

Bullen, Adelaide K. And Ripley P. Bullen  

Fairbanks, Charles  

Praetzellis, Adrian and Mary Praetzellis  

Heath, Barbara J. and Amber Bennett  

Seifert, Donna  

Starzmann, Maria Theresia  

Casella, Eleanor Conlin  

**Week 8: (Oct 12) The Strengths and Weakness of Single Artifact Narratives:**

Davidson, James M.  
Warner, Mark S. and Robert A. Genheimer  

Sudderth, W. E. and Linda J. Darnell Hulvershorn  

Torbenson, Michael, Robert H. Kelly, Jonathon Erlen, Lorna Cropcho, Michael Moraca, Bonnie Beiler, K. N. Rao, and Mohanmed Virji  

Schablitsky, Julie  

**Week 9 (Oct 19): Multivalent Artifacts**  

Stine, Linda France, Melanie A. Cabak, and Mark D. Groover  

Davidson, James M., and Karen E. McIlvoy  

Russell, Aaron E.  

Marshall, Yvonne and Alexandra Maas  

Gazin-Schwartz, Amy  

Adams, William Hampton  
Cabak, Melanie and Stephen Loring

Burley, David V.

**Week 10 (Oct 26): Artifact Workshop   Historic Bottles**

Firebaugh, Gail S.

**Week 11 (March 19): Artifact Workshop   Historic Ceramics**

Kwas, Mary L.

**Week 12 (Nov 2) Artifact Workshop: Small Finds -- Buttons, Buckles, Safety Pins**

**Week 13 (Nov 9): 19th/early 20th Century Material Culture of Death**

Bell, Edward L.
1990  The historical archaeology of mortuary behavior: Coffin hardware from Uxbridge, Massachusetts. *Historical Archaeology* 24(3):54-78. **XXX**

Cannon, Aubrey

Little, Barbara J., Kim M. Lamphear, and Douglas W. Owsley

Davidson, James M.
Week 14 (Nov 16): 19th/early 20th Century Material Culture of Death Part 2

Workshop on Coffins, Caskets, and etc.

Week 15 (Nov 23): Thanksgiving No Class

Week 16 (Nov 30): Presentations/Discussions of Individual Projects and Papers

Semester Ends: Wednesday — December 6, 2017)