

**Fall 2012**  
**SOCIAL ARCHAEOLOGY**  
**ANG 6186 section 1B60**

Lecturer: Dr. Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo  
Lecture sessions: Thursday 3PM – 6PM  
Location: TUR 2341  
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**DESCRIPTION:**

The objective of this course is to create a solid foundation in the study of social archaeology by focusing on anthropological theory on social relations. This will be accomplished by understanding the “gift” as a pivotal corner of social relations (exchange of good, exchange of souls, marriage, alliances, cosmological exchange) by looking classical works that help in the proposal of archaeological models on social networks. In this process we will be evaluating the new trends that have driven social anthropology history, by recovering anthropological theory that can help a better understanding of the archaeological record. This approach demands an emphasis on reading works on social anthropology. It is expected that the student learns to produce archaeological models that can be tested with archaeological data. The student will learn to frame questions for a research that can facilitate their dissertation proposal.

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

There will be other assigned readings. Most of them can be downloaded as PDF files from the library service. Sometimes you will have to copy them from the library journals at the main library.

Mauss, Marcel (any edition). *The Gift: Forms And Functions Of Exchange In Archaic Societies*.

Levi-Strauss, Claude (any edition). *The Savage Mind*. University Of Chicago Press.

Godelier, Maurice. 2012. *The Mental And The Material*. Verso.

Godelier, Maurice. 2012. *The Metamorphoses Of Kinship*. Verso.

Helms, Mary. 2010. *Access To Origins: Affines, Ancestors, And Aristocrats*. Texas University Press.

Graeber, David Rolfe. 2012. *Debt: The First 5,000 Years*. Melville House.

**EVALUATION:**

Evaluation will be based on the accumulation of points up to 100 (100 points =100 %).

**Short papers (30 %), presentation of the final research paper (10%), short presentations of extra reading assigned to each student in class and essays (30%) and class participation (30 %).**

**REMEMBER THIS IS A RESEARCH PAPER, NOT A REVIEW PAPER. The short papers should be 8 to 10 pages in length, double-spaced including bibliography. The paper should follow the format guidelines of the journal *American Anthropologist*.**

You are responsible for all of the readings. It always helps to write a review on each article or chapter that you read, and have notes on the topics which are relevant for the discussion, as well as questions on the aspects that you do not understand.

**Disclaimer:** Some adjustments may be made in the schedule and course requirements during the semester. All changes will be announced.

**ATTENDANCE** is required.

### **GRADE SYSTEM:**

**Grading Scale** Grades will be awarded according to the following scale in effect by the university:

|     |      |      |     |      |      |     |      |      |     |     |   |
|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|---|
| A   | A-   | B+   | B   | B-   | C+   | C   | C-   | D+   | D   | D-  | E |
| 4.0 | 3.67 | 3.33 | 3.0 | 2.67 | 2.33 | 2.0 | 1.67 | 1.33 | 1.0 | .67 | 0 |

A complete listing of university policy pertaining to grades may be found at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

### **Readings**

**Week 1, August 23: General presentation.**

**Week 2, August 30: Epistemology: Concepts and Research Program. Why the Gift is important for the study of social archaeology.**

Reading: Mauss, Marcel (any edition). *The Gift: Forms And Functions Of Exchange In Archaic Societies*.

**Week 3, September 6: Systems of Social Classification.**

Reading: Levi-Strauss, Claude (any edition). *The Savage Mind*. University Of Chicago Press. (Chapter 1-4).

**Week 4, September 13: Systems of Social Classification.**

Reading: Levi-Strauss, Claude (any edition). *The Savage Mind*. University Of Chicago Press. (Chapter 5-9).

**Week 5, September 20: The material and the social mind**

Reading: Godelier, Maurice. 2012. *The Mental And The Material*. Verso. (Part I and II).

**Week 6, September 27:**

Reading: Godelier, Maurice. 2012. *The Mental And The Material*. Verso. (Part III and IV)

**Week 7, October 4: Kingship, Descent, Residence, Alliance and Terminologies**

Reading: Godelier, Maurice. 2012. *The Metamorphoses Of Kinship*. Verso. (Chapter 1-5)

**Week 8, October 11: Social bodies, sexes, incest taboo.**

Reading: Godelier, Maurice. 2012. *The Metamorphoses Of Kinship*. Verso. (Chapter 6-13)

**Week 9, October 18: Affines, Ancestors, and Communitas**

Reading: Helms, Mary. 2010. *Access to Origins: Affines, Ancestors, and Aristocrats*. Texas University Press. (Introduction and Part one).

**Week 10, October 25: Affines, Ancestors and Communitas**

Reading: Helms, Mary. 2010. *Access To Origins: Affines, Ancestors, And Aristocrats*. Texas University Press. (Part two and Part three).

**Week 11, November 1: Final discussion, essays in social archaeology**

Reading: Graeber, David Rolfe. 2012. *Debt: The First 5,000 Years*. Melville House. (Chapter 1-6)

**Week 12, November 8: Final discussion, essays in social archaeology**

Reading: Graeber, David Rolfe. 2012. *Debt: The First 5,000 Years*. Melville House. (Chapter 6-12)

*Homecoming November 9-10*

**Week 13, November 15: Final discussion on social archaeology**

**Week 14, November 21-25 holiday**

**Week 15, November 29: Final discussion on social archaeology**

*Thanksgiving November 25-27*

**Week 16, December 6: Reading days.**

Final paper due December 6