

ANG6905 – SPRING 2013  
ZOOARCHAEOLOGY JOURNAL CLUB

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COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Claudine Vallières

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2-4pm, Thursday 2-3pm

CLASS TIME AND LOCATION: W 4:05-4:55, CBD 0216

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on intensive discussion of current peer-reviewed literature in zooarchaeology and faunal analysis integrated within broader archaeological discussions published within the last four years. Emphasis will be given to articles and book chapters that are innovative in methodology or in their research questions. These topics should be broad enough to be of use to a wide variety of zooarchaeologists (i.e. the methods or research question should be transferable to varied geographical foci and time periods).

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. To broaden your understanding of current trends in zooarchaeology.
2. To enhance your ability to analyze the theory, methods, and significance of peer reviewed articles from the primary literature.
3. To improve your presentation skills and ability to participate in discussion of the primary literature.

### COURSE FORMAT

Each week one student will present and lead a discussion of one peer-reviewed article or book chapter featuring a discussion of zooarchaeological methods or faunal analysis results. The presenter is responsible for selecting an article for discussion, in consultation with me. All students are expected to have read the assigned article and to participate actively in discussion.

### COURSE MATERIALS

There are no assigned texts. Reading materials will be drawn from the literature and shared through the journal club listserv at least one week in advance.

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## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Final grades are based on attendance, presentations, and written critical summaries of assigned journal articles.

1. *Attendance and participation* (50%). Attendance and participation are mandatory and will be recorded each week. You are allowed one unexcused absence without penalty. Each additional unexcused absence will deduct 5% from your final course grade. Excused absences will be dropped and will not affect your grade. An absence is considered to be excused if there is an acceptable reason according to UF policy (<http://tinyurl.com/6k3y9w4>). You are expected to participate actively each week.
  - NOTE: To ensure active participation, it is required that you provide me with a short summary of the article's main arguments, and at least two thoughtful questions or critical discussion points **every week**, either emailed before class or printed up and handed in at the end of class. I will evaluate your participation on the quality of your notes, questions and contributions, not just on how often you speak.
2. *Presentation* (30%) Each student is required to select, present, and lead the discussion of at least one article per semester. Presentations should last no more than 15 minutes to allow ample time for discussion. Focus on identifying the central research questions or hypotheses; summarize the research methods and design; and evaluate the authors' interpretation and argument. In the discussion, draw out strengths, not just weaknesses, of the paper and try to highlight its contribution to the literature.
3. *Critical summaries* (20%). You are required to write a short (~500-word) critical summary of **two** articles per semester. You may select from any of the readings we discuss. Your summary should identify the paper's central research questions, hypotheses or argument; summarize the theory, methods, and findings; and critically evaluate the authors' assumptions, interpretation, and argument. Highlight both strengths and weaknesses, and pose questions for further research or discussion. Critical summaries must be submitted either by email before discussion of the article or submitted printed in class the day of the discussion.

Final grades will be A (90-100), A- (87-89), B+ (84-86), B (80- 83), B- (77-79), C+ (74-76), C (70-73), C- (67-69), D+ (64-66), D (60-63), D- (57-59), E (<57).

For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

<http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

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#### ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

Unless it is specifically connected to assigned collaborative work, all work should be individual. Evidence of collusion (working with someone not connected to the class or assignment), plagiarism (use of someone else's published or unpublished words or design without acknowledgment) or multiple submissions (submitting the same paper in different courses) will lead to the Department's and the University's procedures for dealing with academic dishonesty. All students are expected to honor their commitment to the university's Honor Code (available online at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>).

#### ACCOMMODATION FOR 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 must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. ***Please make any requests by the second week of class.*** Please contact the Disability Resources Center (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) for more information about resources available to students with disabilities.

#### UF COUNSELING SERVICES

Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575; <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>).