

# LOST TRIBES AND SUNKEN CONTINENTS

**ANT 2149 FALL 2015**

**Instructor: Dr. Michael Moseley**

**Time:** Monday, Periods 10-E1 (5:10-8:10 PM)

**Location:** TUR L011

**Teaching Assistant:** Scott Macrae, **Email:** smacrae@ufl.edu

**TA Office Hours:** Room B352, Hours: Monday 2-5:00 PM

**The syllabus is subject to change.**

**Updates to the syllabus and other important information can be found on the E-Learning course website.**

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*Was God an Astronaut? Did Space Travelers establish Ancient Civilization?  
Were the Mound Builders of North America descendants of the Lost Tribes of Israel?  
Are Aztec and Inca pyramids related to those of Dynastic Egypt?*

This course is a critical examination of why society asks such questions, and how archaeologists go about answering them. The focus is upon long distance contact and diffusion between alien people and cultures, why contact is fancifully perceived, how it in fact occurs, and what evidence survives.

## **Lecture topics include:**

- The Nature of Scientific Inquiry
- Why Lost Tribes, Sunken Continents, and Chariots of the Gods
- Invention of the "Indian"
- Critical Thinking and the Scientific Method
- Assessing Diffusion and Contact
- The Moundbuilder Myth
- Pyramid Builders
- The Bearded Gods
- Eskimo and Norsemen
- Great Zimbabwe
- Conquests and Colonization
- Castaways and Gods from Outer Space

## **Required texts:**

The course packet and all texts are available at Orange and Blue Textbooks.

- 1) **Frauds, Myths and Mysteries** (6th, 7th, or 8th edition) – Kenneth Feder
- 2) **Archaeology: A Very Short Introduction** (any edition) – Paul Bahn
- 3) **Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court** (any edition) – Mark Twain \*
- 4) **Typee** (any edition) – Herman Melville \*
- 5) **Course Packet**

**\*Note:** These two titles should be read with less attention to detail than should the other required material.

**Requirements:**

- 1) Read Texts, Course Packet, & Reserve Readings
- 2) Weekly Quizzes
- 3) Two Mid-Term Examinations
- 4) One Final Examination

**Grading:**

- |                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 1) Weekly Quizzes     | 10%        |
| 2) Two Mid-Term exams | 50%        |
| 3) Final exam         | <u>40%</u> |
|                       | 100%       |

## **Lost Tribes and Sunken Continents:**

### ***Schedule of Lectures and Readings***

This schedule is subject to change.

You should prepare for class each week by reading the assigned material listed for that day (e.g. read the assignment listed under August 25th **before** class on the 25th).

**\*Note:** The Feder Chapters and page numbers listed here only correspond to the 8th edition. If you have an earlier edition, please refer to the chapter titles (they are the same for every edition).

**Lectures and Reading Material for Exam I:****August 24**

Lecture: *Introduction – Scientific Inquiry*

Film: Ancient Aliens Pilot episode: “Chariots, Gods & Beyond” (Quiz 1)

Readings:

Feder – Chapter 1, "Science and Pseudoscience"

Bahn – Chapters 1-3

**August 31**

Lecture: *Why Lost Tribes, Sunken Continents, and Chariots of the Gods?*

Film: First Contact (Quiz 2)

Readings:

Feder – Chapter 2, "Epistemology: How Know What You Know" AND  
Chapter 8, “Lost: One Continent”

Course Packet – “Why Lost Tribes” (Moseley)

Video: "Stuff" <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvgN5gCuLac>

**September 7 - No Classes (Labor Day)****September 14**

Lecture: *Invention of the “Indian”*

Film: The Magnificent Voyage of Christopher Columbus (Quiz 3)

Readings:

Feder – Chapter 5, "Who Discovered America?"

Bahn – Chapters 4-5

Course Packet – “White Man’s Indian” (Berkhofer)

## **September 21**

Lecture: *Critical Thinking and the Scientific Method/Diffusion*

Film: Judgment Day: Intelligent Design on Trial (Quiz 4)

Readings:

Feder – Chapter 3, "Anatomy of an Archaeological Hoax"

Bahn – Chapters 6-10

Course Packet – "A Field Guide to Critical Thinking" (Lett)

"The Persistent Popularity of the Paranormal" (Lett)

"Assessing Diffusion" (Moseley)

"Strangers in the Forest" (Osborne)

## **September 28**

Lecture: *The Moundbuilder Myth*

Film: The Lost Civilizations of North America (Quiz 5)

YouTube: Glenn Beck

Readings:

Feder – Chapter 7, "The Myth of the Moundbuilders"

Course Packet – "Fort Ancient: Citadel or Coliseum?" (Essenpreis & Moseley)

"The Moundbuilder Myth" (Moseley)

Twain – Begin Reading Connecticut Yankee\*

## **October 5 – MIDTERM EXAM I**

Directions: access e-Learning – Assessments – Exam I. You have 75 minutes from start time to complete 50 multiple-choice questions. You may begin at 5:10 pm.

## **Lectures and Reading Material for Exam II:**

\* Read materials marked with an \* with attention to the concepts demonstrated in the book rather than to the details of the story.

\*\* Read materials marked with \*\* critically -- Do they follow the Scientific Method?

## **October 12**

Lecture: *Pyramids and Mummies*

Film: Ancient Aliens: "Secrets of the Pyramids" (Quiz 6)

Engineering an Empire: Ancient Egypt (Quiz 6)

Readings:

Feder – Chapter 10, "Mysterious Egypt" AND

Chapter 13 pages 330-340, "Real Mysteries of a Veritable Past" (Maya section)

Twain – Complete Reading of Connecticut Yankee\*

## **October 19**

Lecture: *Diffusion and The Bearded Gods*

Film: Mystery of Easter Island (Quiz 7)

Readings:

Course Packet – "The Bearded Gods Speak" (Heyerdahl)\*\*

"Symbolic Archaeology on Easter Island" (Van Tilberg)

**October 26**

Lecture: *Eskimo and Norsemen*

Film: Nanook of the North (Quiz 8)

Readings:

Feder – Chapter 6, "Who's Next?"

Course Packet – "History of Norse Greenland" (Kleivan)  
"1491" (Mann)

**November 2**

Lecture: *Mummies, Conquests, and Colonization*

Film: Conquistadors (Quiz 9)

Readings:

Course Packet – "Tiwanaku and Its Hinterland" (Kolata)

Melville – Begin Reading Typee\*

**November 9**

Lecture: *Disasters, 2012 and Other Doomsday Forecasts*

Film: Chasing El Niño (Quiz 10)

Ancient Aliens: "Aliens and Mega-Disasters" (Quiz 10)

Readings:

Course Packet – "Peru's Five Hundred Year Earthquake" (Oliver-Smith)

**November 16 – MIDTERM EXAM II****Lecture and Reading Material for the Final Exam (*Final Exam is Cumulative*):**

\* Read materials marked with an \* with attention to the concepts demonstrated in the book rather than to the details of the story.

**November 23**

Lecture: TBA

**November 30 – All extra credit due in class.**

Lecture: *Castaways & Gods from Outer Space*

Film: The Lost Tribe: Tasaday Readings:

Feder – Chapter 9, "Prehistoric ET" AND

Chapter 13 pages 340-352, "Real Mysteries..." (Stonehenge section)

Packet – "Stonehenge Astronomy: Anatomy of a Modern Myth" (Chippendale)

"The Nazca Lines: Patterns in the Desert" (Aveni)

Melville – Complete Reading of Typee\*

**December 14, 12:30-2:30 PM – FINAL EXAM**

## Policies and Procedures:

- **LATENESS:** Arriving late to class is disruptive to the professor and your fellow classmates. Please be on time.
- **ABSENCES:** Only excused absences (medical emergency, illness, etc.) are permitted. A valid official form (such as a doctor's note) must be presented in order for the absence to be considered excused. If you know you are going to be absent *for a valid reason*, please attempt to notify the T.A. in advance.
- **CELL PHONES:** Please silence your cell phone before coming to class. No calls, apps, or texting!
- **LAPTOPS:** Note taking on a laptop is permitted as long as the laptop is used for class purposes only. If you are caught using your laptop for activities unrelated to this course, you will be asked not to bring your laptop to class any more.
- **TALKING:** Please do not distract your fellow students by talking during class.
- **FOOD:** Please no food or drink in class.
- **ACCOMMODATIONS:** Students with documented disabilities should notify the Professor or T.A. as soon as possible or contact the DRC at 392-8565.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Cheating is a serious offense and will be dealt with by the UF Student Honor Court. Be aware that cheating includes collaboration on work, such as an online quiz or test, which is supposed to be completed by the individual student.