ST-Archaeological Computing

Archaeology 333

Section: D100

Term: 2000 Fall

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Day course
Burnaby campus

Discussion Topics: Course description:

The Department of Archaeology will offer a new course in the fall term of 2000 (2000-3), Archaeological Computing. The course will be open to graduate students and senior undergraduates/honors students. The class will meet for three hours, one day per week and will have the following structure. One hour classroom work (lecture/seminar/workshop format) and two hours lab. Lab sessions will take place in Academic Computing Service instructional labs.

General content and configuration:

The purpose of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to become familiar with software packages that are useful in doing archaeological/anthropological research and data analysis. The exact structure of the course will depend on the level of enrollment. Generally it is expected that teams of students will be assigned specific software packages for which they will prepare and conduct a workshop on structure and operation of the package, and a lab session instructing other class members on use of the software. The course content will include a number of sessions on multivariate statistical analysis.

Below is a tentative list of the kinds of software that will be covered (not necessarily in the order listed.) The list will not be finalized until it is certain exactly which software packages will be available for instructional use.

1. Database - probably Microsoft Access
2. Spreadsheet - probably Excel
3. Graphics
4. Presentation software - probably PowerPoint
5. Mapping
6. GIS
7. HTML - WEB page construction
8. Statistics - SYSTAT

Grading: Course requirements will be minimal, comprising attendance and preparation of a workshop/seminar. Students are invited to take this opportunity to work on their research/thesis data in the course. No term papers will be required.

Required Texts: none

Recommended Texts: none

Materials/Supplies: none

Prerequisite/Corequisite: At least 60 credit hours.

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Notes: This course will count as a Group IV course for undergraduates.

Deferred grades will be given ONLY on the basis of authenticated medical disability.