Material Culture Analysis

Archaeology 372

Section: G100

Term: 2010 Spring

Instructor: Dr. Bob Muir

Discussion Topics: This course will provide students with an introduction to the identification, analysis and interpretation of major types of cultural materials commonly recovered from archaeological sites. Emphasis will be placed on developing practical skills and knowledge related to conducting analyses and reporting results of archaeological investigations. The course will provide an overview of a broad range of cultural materials including: stone tools, ceramics, shell and bone artifacts, historical artifacts, and culturally modified trees. In addition, students will be introduced to basic method and theory with respect to: classification and typology, measurement, and descriptive statistics.

The course has a significant laboratory component during which students will obtain "hands-on" experience with artifacts and other archaeological materials. Lab assignments and quizzes comprise a major component of the course grade.

Grading: Lab assignments: 40%

Lab quizzes: 30%

Final exam: 30%

Required Texts: Jane Balme and Alistair Paterson. 2006. Archaeology in Practice: a student guide to archaeological analyses. Blackwell Publishing.

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: ARCH 201

Notes: Students requiring accommodations as a result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities 778.782.3112 or csdo@sfu.ca.

All students are expected to read and understand SFUs policies with regard to academic honesty and student conduct (S10). These policies are available at the following web address: http://www.sfu.ca/policies/Students/index.html

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

February 15-26 Olympic Games break. All classes cancelled. Offices open. TAs will not be available for consultation during this time.

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This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.