

Office: C-10 Cooper; Hours: M: 1:15-3:15; WF: 10-11:30; (other times by appt.)

Ph: 395-5708/2682 (Home: 637-5810); e-mail: cedwards@brockport.edu

I. Synopsis:

For better or worse, mummies have captured our imaginations: Through well-designed NOVA productions, or less accurately, through the popular media. Most people are unaware, however, of the terrific diversity of natural and anthropogenic (artificial) mummified remains found around the world. This course focuses on the recent applications of forensic, pathological, archaeological and cultural methods used to uncover the natural, social and cultural events surrounding the lives--and deaths--of these mummified remains.

II. Format:

As a 400/500 level course, expect this course to be demanding both on your energy and your intellect. As much as possible, I would like to maintain a seminar format for the course. Although I will be helping you with much of the essentials, you will also be playing active roles in the course, through class discussions, reading presentations, project presentations, etc. As mentioned below, the course content and readings can be very technical and demanding. It is essential, therefore, that you be actively involved in every aspect of this course. If you are not prepared to do so, I suggest you not take this course.

III. The following themes will be integrated throughout the course.

- The history of mummy studies.
- Bioarchaeology: Reconstructing life experiences through the study of human remains.
- Paleopathology: Diagnosing health and illness from human remains.
- Short term and long term social, cultural and environmental processes in mummy-rich regions.
- Applications of modern technology in mummy studies.

IV. Text: Study guides for assigned readings will be posted on ANGEL.

- Aiden Cockburn, *et al.*—*Mummies, Disease and Ancient Cultures*
- Your Right to Know & Academic Policies Handbook. Don't end up flunking this course or getting tossed out of school because you "didn't know..." You can download it at <http://www.brockport.edu/publications/yrtk/>
- Other Readings will be placed on reserve.

V. Assignments, Exams, Project, Grading:

• **Assignments:** Throughout the semester you will be given reading and other assignments with specific due dates. Some assignments are generic (Everyone does them). Others—especially those relating to the project—are individualized. Each assignment will have a due date. You are expected to complete the assignment by that date and to come to class prepared to discuss the outcomes of the assignment. If you have having trouble with an assignment, let me know and I will try to help you. If, however, you are not adequately prepared (in my judgment) for a particular class, you will be sent away and an

absence will be recorded for that day.

- **EXAMS (60%):** There are three exams that cover the readings and lectures. You will get detailed study guides with sample questions.
- **Project (30%):** You will be working on a multi-step course project throughout the semester. This will involve (1) identifying a research theme, (2) developing an annotated bibliography, (3) preparing case studies relevant to your theme and presenting them in class and (4) using the accumulated materials to prepare a final research paper or comparable project. You must complete each step of the project on time to pass the course.
- **Class Participation (10%).**
- **Individual Meetings:** Periodically we will meet one-on-one to discuss specific assignments, projects, etc. These are an important, and required, part of the course.

VI. ANGEL

- **Course materials,** assignments, guides, handouts, etc., will be posted on ANGEL: Look for the link SPRING 2006 - ANT482/582 // Sci of Mummies // All sections
- **Assignments:** Assignments will be posted on ANGEL. These may include exercises, virtual mini-labs, etc.
- **Study guides:** Each week a study guide covering the relevant readings and class materials will be posted. These will help you focus your readings and link them with the class content.
- **Handouts:** Periodically, handouts will be posted. These handouts relate to the materials covered in class. They may include (1) illustrations, diagrams, charts, etc, referred to in class, (2) in-class exercises that we will be working on in class, (3) guides to movies and videos covered in class, and (3) preparatory exercises. Important: You must download and print these handouts and bring them to class on the assigned dates.

VII. Policies: Warning—Bad cop zone ahead!

- **Attendance:** As part of this course will be in seminar format, you must be prepared to play an active role on a week-by-week basis. In addition, lectures and presentations are based on case studies that cannot be easily looked up elsewhere. You are allowed two (2) personal days without penalty. However, to qualify, you must notify me as soon as possible ahead of time that you will be absent, or immediately thereafter in dire emergencies. If you do not notify me, the absence will count as an *unexcused* absence, with the appropriate penalty. One letter grade will be deducted from the final grade for each unexcused absence. Under rare circumstances, additional absences will be excused only for documented major emergencies beyond your control—the validity of which will be determined by me—and provided that you make up the missed material. If you anticipate difficulty attending classes don't take this course.
- **Writing:** As college students you should use appropriate spelling, grammar, syntax, word usage, verb form, paragraphing and punctuation. If you lack these skills you should get outside help from the Student Learning Center in B-10 Cooper.
- **Study time:** This is a demanding course. Devote at least six

hours/week to course work outside of class, plus additional time before examinations and in completing written projects.

- Getting help when you need it: Small problems can be kept small if caught in time. If you have any difficulty please call me, e-mail me or drop by my office (C-10 Cooper) before you fall behind.
- Withdrawals/Incompletes: See attached Grading Standards and the student handbook: Your Right to Know.
- Academic honesty: Familiarize yourself with College policies on academic honesty/dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is fraud and will be treated accordingly. Any student engaging in academic dishonesty while conducting course-related business risk failing the course and will be referred to the administration for further disciplinary action. See the student handbook: Your Right to Know.
- Behavior: This course is for mature adults only. If you don't fit that description drop the course now. The following will not be tolerated and may result in your being removed from the course

with a grade of E and possible additional disciplinary action by the college: (1) disturbing other members of the class; (2) damaging or illegally removing college or public property (including library materials) while conducting course business; (3) failing to follow laboratory guidelines regarding handling of laboratory materials; (4) violations of other college policies relating to academic honesty.

VIII. Special needs:

Students with documented disabilities may be entitled to specific accommodations. SUNY Brockport's Office for Student with Disabilities makes this determination. Please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at (585) 395-5409 or osdoffic@brockport.edu to inquire about obtaining an official letter to the course instructor detailing any approved accommodations. The student is responsible for providing the course instructor with an official letter. Faculty work as a team with the Office for Students with Disabilities to meet the needs of students with disabilities.

ANT 482/582 Tentative Schedule.

Feb 10 Project Step I (proposal)
Feb 24 Project Step 2
Mar 10 Project Step 3
Mar 24 Project Step 4
Apr 7 Project Step 5

Apr 21 Project Step 6 (preliminary draft)
May 5 Project Step 7 (final draft)
Feb 28 Exam 1
Mar 28 Exam 2
MAY 9 Exam 3

ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT EVALUATION ver 12/30/04

The following standards provide students with clearly defined expectations regarding course performance as well as potential evaluators (graduate schools, employers, etc.) with a basis for interpreting student grades in Anthropology courses at SUNY Brockport. Students may request copies be sent to prospective employers and/or graduate admissions committees.

[Note: The College recognizes +/- grades. The award of + or - within a grade range will reflect the degree to which the student meets the standards within that grade range.]

GUIDELINES FOR THE GRADE OF A: A grade of A represents the highest level of performance. The A student masters virtually all of the concepts and data of the course, is able to integrate these data and concepts and develop new insights (at least for the student) from them. An A paper is virtually flawless in organization, grammar and style. Consistent performance at the A level in different courses indicates that the student should perform well in a variety of demanding situations, such as graduate school, executive positions, professional training programs, etc. (Allowable grades: A, A-)

GUIDELINES FOR THE GRADE OF B: A grade of B represents solid comprehension of course materials and concepts. The B student understands virtually all of the concepts and data of the course and is able to integrate them in a meaningful whole. B papers are soundly and clearly organized with few stylistic or grammatical errors. Consistent performance at the B level reflects the ability to work toward thorough mastery of the subject matter and is a sign of academic reliability. The B student should be able to handle graduate level work and perform effectively in many post-graduate occupations. (Allowable grades: B+, B, B-)

GUIDELINES FOR THE GRADE OF C: A grade of C represents very basic comprehension of the main concepts of the course and their implications. A C level student is able to keep up with the basic requirements of the course. C level papers are reasonably organized, although grammatical and stylistic errors may interfere with communication. Consistent C or C+ level performance indicates the ability to obtain a

respectable liberal arts education and handle the basic expectations of the college graduate. (Allowable grades: C+, C, C-). [Note: Some programs accept only courses that have a minimum grade of C. The grade of C- may not count in such programs.]

GUIDELINES FOR THE GRADE OF D: A grade of D represents passing, but unacceptable work. A D student minimally understands the most basic concepts of the course and uses them correctly, but may not demonstrate sufficient understanding of their implications. Nonetheless, the D student must demonstrate a passing knowledge of the course materials. D level papers demonstrate a basic knowledge of the topic under investigation, although they are marred by one or more of the following: poor writing style, grammatical errors, and ineffective organization. (Allowable grades: D+, D, D-)

GUIDELINES FOR THE GRADE OF E: The grade of E represents an inability to meet minimal criteria for D. No credit is awarded. (Allowable grade: E)

POLICIES REGARDING ACADEMIC HONESTY, INCOMPLETE GRADES, AND WITHDRAWAL FROM A COURSE: These are detailed in *Your Right to Know and Academic Policies Handbook*, available online at www.brockport.edu/publications/ Please familiarize yourself with these policies

EXPECTATIONS REGARDING WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS, PAPERS: Students taking courses at all levels should demonstrate writing competency comparable to successful completion of ENL 112—*College Composition* or the equivalent. Students lacking this competency should be concurrently enrolled in *College Composition* or in a remedial course recommended by the College. Students in upper division courses should be able to formulate problems, utilize available library resources to research them, and write standard term papers. Students experiencing difficulties in these skills are advised to consult with their instructor for assistance and guidance.