



## ANTHROPOLOGY 4360 Ancient Civilizations of the Americas-MAYA

### ***Spring Semester 2023***

Location CAS 104

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

9:00 AM- 10:05 AM

Dr. Thomas H. Guderjan

Office: CAS 154B

903-566-7418; [tguderjan@uttyler.edu](mailto:tguderjan@uttyler.edu)



### **Office Hours**

*By appointment. You can email for an appointment at any time.*

**Course Overview:** This course will describe the historical development of Precolumbian civilizations in the Americas. In addition, this course will provide understanding of how we know what we know of the past (epistemology). There is no prerequisite for the course. However, the course is preparatory the summer 2022 Archaeological Field School.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

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| 1) Analyze the complex societies that preceded our own in the Americas.                              |
| 2) Synthesize how scholarly efforts have created a growing awareness of these ancient civilizations. |
| 3) Evaluate knowledge of an ancient civilization and compare it to our own.                          |

### **Textbook**

There is no required text for this class. However Ancient Maya, by Arthur Demarest, published by Cambridge University Press (2004) is highly recommended and available on Amazon for \$20-30.

### **Assignments and weights/percentage values**

Each Tuesday, beginning in Week 3, students will submit 1-2 page summaries and responses to the material presented in class with particular attention to the readings posted on CANVAS. For each class meeting there will be 1-2 readings posted on CANVAS. There will be 12 weeks when these are required, but the student's best 10 will be used for grading purposes.



The primary product of the course will be a 20 page (12 point, double space, Times New Roman, or equivalent) research paper. Early in the class, each student will choose their topic and submit a less than 1 page summary of their chosen topic. Topics will be selected with the instructor's assistance and approval. Later, students will submit a list of references to be used in the paper, again with the instructor's assistance and approval. Each activity will be valued at 5% of the overall grade for the course.

Students will also be responsible for a 20 minute class presentation of their research during Week 14. The Research Paper will be due before the end of Finals Week.

Peer-Assessment: This is intended as a small and interactive class and students are expected to contribute to the discussions and in-class activities. Student engagement will be judged by peers (other students) at the end of the semester. A rubric will be provided for this purpose.

1. Weekly summaries and responses (10x5%)	50%
2. Topic for research paper	5%
3. References for Research paper	5%
4. Research Paper	25%
5. Presentation of Research	5%
6. Peer- Assessments	10%

TOTAL 100%

#### Grading Scale

A	90% or greater
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	below 60%

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend every class session. There will be important information being discussed in class that you will need to ensure your success in this course. So, unless you are ill or have a family situation that precludes your attendance (but please let me know if you will not be in class), you are expected to be in class. It is important you read the reading assignments prior to class and arrive ready to discuss the material. Again, I recognize extenuating circumstances arise that can make it difficult to attend each and every class session. In other words, life happens! If a serious family emergency occurs, please let me know as soon as the event occurs or within 24 hours.



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UT Tyler does have a [Class Attendance policy](#) in the catalog.

**University Required Statements ALWAYS READ THE SMALL PRINT! Please read carefully the following pages of this syllabus which contains university-wide policies on student's rights and responsibilities, disability services, emergency procedures, etc.**

#### **UT Tyler Honor Code**

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do. You should know that there is a \$20 bill under an eraser by the whiteboard in this room. The first person to get it owns it.

**Classroom distractions:** Cell phones, text messages and any other contact with persons outside of the classroom is a distraction to other students (as well as the instructor) and will not be tolerated.

#### **Students Rights and Responsibilities**

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

#### **Campus Carry**

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

#### **UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University**

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free).

#### **Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. There is a \$20 bill under the chalk eraser in the front of the room. It belongs to the first person to get up and get it. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions waivers

#### **Financial Aid State-Mandated Course Drop Policy**

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for



exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

### **Disability/Accessibility Services**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

### **Student Absence due to Religious Observance**

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

### **Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities**

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

### **Social Security and FERPA Statement**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

### **Emergency Exits and Evacuation**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

### **Student Standards of Academic Conduct**

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

#### **"Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:**

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an



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- unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
  - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
  - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
- iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
- iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.
- v. If you have read this syllabus, please email your professor (see page one for the correct email address) a picture of a dog by the census date and you will receive a five point bonus on the first exam.

### **Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories**

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home and may join the class remotely. Students who have difficulty adhering to the Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also encouraged to join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu).

### **Recording of Class Sessions**

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.

### **UT Tyler Resources for Students**

- [UT Tyler Writing Center](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu) 903.565.5995, [writingcenter@uttyler.edu](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu)
- [UT Tyler Tutoring Center](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu) 903.565.5964, [tutoring@uttyler.edu](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu)
- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](mailto:counselingandwellness@uttyler.edu) 903.566.7254, [counselingandwellness@uttyler.edu](mailto:counselingandwellness@uttyler.edu)
- [UT Tyler Food Bank](https://www.uttyler.edu/service/food-pantry.php): Located in Library 223, this is a free service to all enrolled UTT students. See <https://www.uttyler.edu/service/food-pantry.php>
- UT Tyler Clinic: 903.939.7870 <https://www.uttyler.edu/clinic/>
- UT Tyler COVID Testing Clinic: <https://www.uttyler.edu/coronavirus/>



**Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates**

*This is a tentative course schedule*

Week of January 9	“Introduction” and “Origins”
Week of January 16	“Olmecs” and Aguada Fenix
Week of January 23	Maya Regions and Languages
Week of January 30	“Maya Political Geography” “Maya Kingship”
Week of February 6	“The Great Maya Cities” <b>Student Activity: Topic for Research Paper Due</b>
Week of February 13	More Great Cities
Week of February 20	What is a Maya City?
Week of February 27	Production, Distribution and Economics Lessons from LiDAR
Week of March 6	Maya Trade, Traders, Collapse and Reorganization and Pirates.
Week of March 13	SPRING BREAK
Week of March 20	The Maya Collapse
Week of March 27	Central Mexico: Teotihuacan and Tula
Week of April 3	Oaxaca: Monte Alban and regional integration <b>Student Activity: References for Research Paper Due</b>
Week of April 10	Tenochtitlan and the Mexica, Conquest
Week of April 17	<b>Student Presentations</b>
Week of April 24	Finals Week <b>Student Activity: Research Paper Due</b>