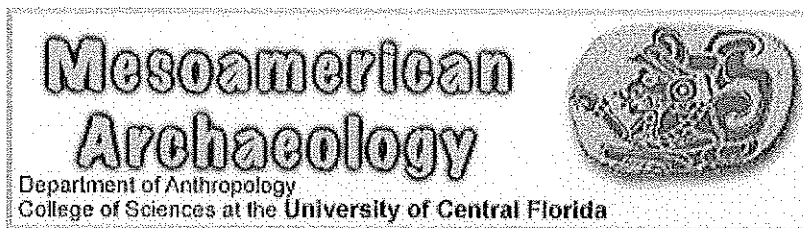


# Printable View of: Syllabus

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ANT 3163 - Mesoamerican Archaeology  
Amanda Groff

## Syllabus

### Instructor Contact:

<b>Instructor</b>	Amanda Groff
<b>Office</b>	Phillips Hall 309
<b>Office Hours</b>	M and W 9-10am or call 3-2227 Virtual Contact at AIM: profgroff
<b>Phone</b>	407-823-2227
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:agroff@mail.ucf.edu">agroff@mail.ucf.edu</a>

### Course Information:

<b>Course Name</b>	ANT 3163 - Mesoamerican Archaeology
<b>Credit Hours</b>	3 Credit Hours
<b>Semester/Year</b>	Summer A 2009
<b>Location</b>	Monday and Wednesday 10am-11:50pm CL1 308

### Goals and Themes:

Sometimes this course has been called "The Aztecs, the Maya, and Their Predecessors." It is designed to provide an introduction to the prehistory of the peoples of Mesoamerica (comprising all of Guatemala and Belize and parts of Mexico, El Salvador, and Honduras). It seeks to provide a

definition of their common cultural background and to examine the archaeological record concerning the origins of these various societies to their rise into complex indigenous civilizations; these civilizations were finally dismantled following contact with the Spanish in the sixteenth century. Emphasis will be placed on the nature of the archaeological interpretation of these native American cultures and on the diachronic and dynamic relationships between highland Mexican and lowland Maya groups.

## Course Requirements:

All students are expected to read the appropriate chapters in the course text and any other assigned readings by the beginning of the week that they are listed in the syllabus (unless otherwise informed).

There will be two in-class examinations on the subject matter, the final one to take place during the last scheduled class period. Make-up exams will not be given after the original exam has been returned to the class (usually the exams are returned in the next scheduled class).

Each student is also expected to post 10 article reviews in the class discussions. The articles may all be found as pdfs under 'Readings' on the course home page. Each posted article reviews should start with the last name of the author followed by the date of publication; the review should summarize the major points of the article and then note why the article is important and how the article fits into (or modifies) broader Mesoamerican prehistory. One of the readings posted by each student should come from each of the subcategories included in the readings reserve on the web; these categories are:

1. Background to the Maya
2. Preclassic Maya
3. Classic Maya
4. Postclassic Maya
5. Maya Hieroglyphs , Cosmology, and Iconography
6. Issues in Maya Archaeology
7. Maya Continuities
8. Preclassic Mexico;
9. Classic Mexico

## 10. Postclassic Mexico.

Please have the postings completed by the assigned due date.

### FORMAT FOR WEB POSTINGS:

1. Author's Last Name, Date, (Title)
2. Summary of major point(s) of the article (and recommendation of reading importance, if appropriate)
3. How article fits into Mesoamerica (temporally, spatially, thematically, or theoretically)
4. Postitive and negative aspects of the article

Please feel free to skim, read, and post other articles as well. You may also comment on other student's article reviews should you wish. The ten required postings will be equivalent to 1 test grade. The overall course grade will be dependent on the two tests, the postings, and classroom participation.

### **Exams – 200 points total**

- There will be two exams this semester each worth 100 points.
- They will consist of Multiple Choice and Fill-in-the-Blank questions.
- The final exam will be given: Wednesday June 24th from 10am-11:50pm in the regular classroom. The final exam will not be cumulative.

### **Discussion Posts – 100 points total**

- You will be responsible for completing discussion posts by Friday
- Late or sloppy postings will result in a loss of points.
- Style and Grammar are always important.
- Each posting is worth 10 points.
- The WebCT is an excellent tool for communication. It is imperative that you regularly check for messages from your instructor concerning chapter readings, classroom updates, changes, or cancellations. This will be your responsibility.

### **Classroom Participation – 40 points**

- Points will be earned through full participation in questions and answers, group discussions and written comments.

- You must be present to earn the points – there are no make-ups. Each class is worth 5 points
- Participation in class discussions is expected.
- Ground Rules for Class Discussions:
  - It is important that each individual respect the convictions of the other members of the class.
  - Each person will be given the opportunity to complete a thought before someone else begins to speak, there will be no cross-talk, whispering to neighbors or gesturing while someone else is trying to speak.
  - Keep discussions relevant to the material being discussed in the class.

### **Grading:**

Grades will be posted on the class Webcourses site. The +/- system will be used in this course. These percentages correspond to the following letter grades:

A = 93 - 100

A- = 90 - 92

B+ = 87- 89

B = 84 - 86

B- = 80 - 83

C+ = 77 - 79

C = 74 - 76

C- = 70 - 73

D+ = 67 – 69

D = 64 – 66

D- = 60-63

F = <60

### **Texts:**

(available in the UCF Bookstore):

Coe, Michael D.  
2005 *The Ancient Maya*, 7th Edition, Thames & Hudson, London.

Coe, Michael D. and Rex Koontz  
2002 *Mexico*, 6th Edition, Thames & Hudson, London.

### Academic Dishonesty:

Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated in any form. Violations of student academic behavior standards are outlined in The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook. See <http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu> for further details.

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