



ANTHROPOLOGY 395

PALEOINDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Winter Session, 2008 (January 3-18)

Mon-Fri, 1:00-4:10, Social Science Building 356

Doug MacDonald, Assistant Professor

Office: Social Science 216, 406-243-5814, douglas.macdonald@mso.umt.edu

Office hours: Monday thru Friday, 12-1

Course Description

Paleoindian Archaeology (Anth 395) will guide students to a better understanding of the earliest peopling of the Americas more than 11,000 years ago. Our class will look at the archaeological data (as well as linguistics, skeletal, genetic, and other data) to determine from where and when the earliest Americans arrived on our continent. We'll look at archaeological sites from such diverse places as Montana, Siberia, Japan, France, and Chile, among others, that will provide us with possible answers to one of the most intriguing questions in contemporary American archaeology today: how, when, and from where did people first arrive in the Americas? Class lectures will be supplemented with videos on the topics. Regular class discussions will be encouraged to discuss the various issues of Paleoindian origins.

Course Requirements

Students will take 2 in-class exams (both worth 100 points each) and prepare a 5-page paper (50 points) with an accompanying class presentation (25 points). The exams will be open-note and open-book. The term paper will involve an analysis & overview of a major Paleoindian archaeological site. Attendance will be taken randomly over the course of the session for an additional 25 points. There are, thus, 300 total points available in the class, with grading based on a standard percentage of 100 (e.g., 270 points is 90% and is an A-).

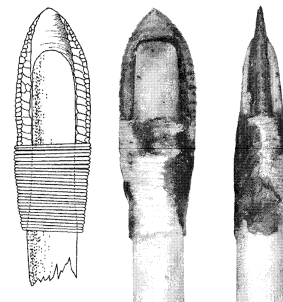
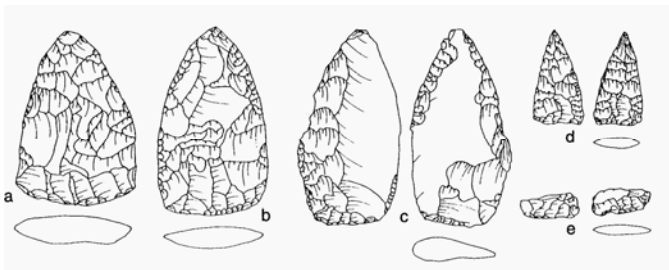
Books

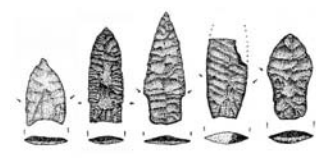
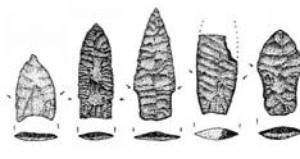
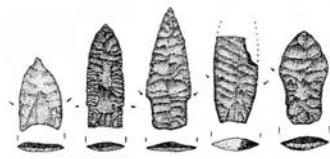
1) *The First Americans (TFA)* edited by Nina Jablonski

2) *The Great Journey (TGJ)* by Brian Fagan

Optional book: *Ice Age Hunters of the Rockies*, edited by Dennis Stanford and Jane Day

Assorted short readings and/or information sheets will also be placed on Blackboard for students. These will typically be optional readings to supplement class lectures.





Day 1: Wednesday, January 2

Topics: Introduction to Paleoindian Archaeology (Class Overview)
Readings: None

Day 2: Thursday, January 3

Topics: Where did they come from? Part 1: the biological, DNA, and linguistic data
Readings: TFA (Chapter 1); TGJ (update of the 2004 edition); *Recommended: TFA (Skim Chapters 5, 6, 10, 11)*

Day 3: Friday, January 4

Topics: Where did they come from? Part 2: the Old World and Australian Connections
Readings: TFA (Chapters 4, 9); TGJ (Chapters 4-5)

Day 4: Monday, January 7

Topics: What were they like?
Readings: TFA (Chapters 3, 5); TGJ (Chapter 9)

Day 5: Tuesday, January 8

*****EXAM #1 (100 POINTS)*****

Day 6: Wednesday, January 9

Topics: The Archaeological Evidence I: Alaska & Beringia & the Ice-Free Corridor
Readings: TFA (Chapters 2, 6); TGJ (Chapter 6-7)

Day 7: Thursday, January 10

Topics: The Archaeological Evidence II: "Pre-Clovis" Sites in Canada & the Lower 48
Readings: TFA (160, 170-179); TGJ (145-163)

Day 8: Friday, January 11

Topics: The Archaeological Evidence III: South America (John Douglas, guest visitor)
Readings: TFA (179-201); TGJ (Chapter 7 163-176; Chapter 8)

Day 9: Monday, January 14

*****EXAM #2 (100 POINTS)*****

Day 10: Tuesday, January 15

Topics: Clovis in the Americas
Readings: TFA (159-170; Chapter 7: 224-235; Skim Chapter 9); TGJ (Chapter 9)

Day 11: Wednesday, January 16

Topics: After Clovis in North America: the Bison Hunters
Readings: TGJ (Chapter 10)

Days 12-13: Thursday-Friday, January 17-18

Topics: After Clovis in North America (continued, if necessary)
*****Student Presentations*****

