ANTHROPOLOGY 138 TS
ARCHAEOLOGY OF EGYPT
SYLLABUS, SUMMER 2010

This course will cover selected topics on the archaeology of ancient Egypt, incorporating the latest archaeological discoveries from sites like the Great Pyramids and Valley of the Kings. We will place the impressive monuments of this great civilization in the context of the rise and development of Egyptian civilization. How did construction of huge pyramids and majestic temples contribute to the power and authority of the Pharaohs? What was the relationship between kings, nobles, and commoners? What was life like along the Nile at the height of Egyptian civilization? Egypt is often looked at as a static, unchanging civilization, but we will see how society and religion evolved to meet new challenges through the 3000 years of Pharaonic history. Throughout there will be an emphasis on material culture as source for the political, social and economic dynamics of ancient Egypt. We will look both at the grand artifacts of kings like Tutankhamen and the simple objects of everyday life found in villages like Deir el-Medina, the community of workmen who built the tombs in the Valley of the Kings.

INSTRUCTOR
Stuart Tyson Smith
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Office Hours: Tuesdays & Wednesdays 4:45-5:35 and by appointment.

TIME & PLACE
Monday through Thursday, 3:30-4:35, HSSB 1173.

WEB SITE:
HTTP://WWW.ANTH.UCSB.EDU/FACULTY/STSMITH/COURSES/138TS.HTML
The course will have a midterm counting for 1/4 of the grade, a comprehensive final exam counting for 1/2 of the grade, and a short project paper counting for 1/4 of the grade. The mid-term will consist of a map section (20%), short description identifications (40%), and essay questions (40%). The final will consist of an image identification section (20%), short description identifications (40%), and essay questions (40%). For each section there will be some choice of what to answer (e.g., identify 10 of 15 place names listed, one of two essay questions, etc.). Exam questions will be drawn from both the readings and lectures. The Final Exam will be comprehensive, although it will focus on the second half of class. Study questions will be handed out before each exam. Make up exams can be scheduled if it is not possible to attend on an exam day. This should be arranged before the exam is given; otherwise a penalty may be assessed (a valid excuse such as illness or a family emergency will never be penalized). In the ten page (minimum, double spaced) project, students will use actual archaeological data from Egypt. The prompts for this project can be downloaded from the course web site. You may start on it at any time, but it will be discussed in detail during the second half of the course.

Readings will be assigned from the following (see Course Schedule for specific assignments):


WEEK 1, JUNE 21-24

Δ "It belongs in a Museum!" Adventurers, antiquarians and the origins of Egyptology.
Readings: Kemp, pp. 1-15; Bard, Chapter 1; Silverman, pp. 6-19.

Δ From Farmers to Pharaohs: The rise of the state in the Proto and Early Dynastic Periods.
Readings: Kemp, pp. 19-110; Bard, Chapters 2-5; Silverman, pp. 20-23, 106-113.

Δ The Pyramid Age: Pyramid building, monumentality and the consolidation of the Pharaonic state in the Old Kingdom.

Δ Crisis in Environment & Kingship: Civil war in the First Intermediate Period and the emergence of the individual in the Middle Kingdom.

WEEK 2, JUNE 28 TO JULY 1

Δ Age of Bureaucrats: State and Empire during the Middle Kingdom.
Readings: Kemp, pp. 163-184; Bard, pp. 167-194; Silverman, pp. 190-191.

Δ "Between an Asiatic and a Nubian": The rise of the Hyksos and Kermans and the subservience of Egypt in the Second Intermediate Period.

Δ Age of Internationalism: Imperial Egypt during the New Kingdom.
Readings: Kemp, Chapter 6; Bard, Chapter 8; Silverman, pp. 32-35.

Δ Hatshepsut, the Queen who became King.

WEEK 3, JULY 5-8

Δ Holiday Monday, July 5th.

Δ Akhenaton, the Heretic Pharaoh. Monotheist or megalomaniac?
Readings: Silverman, pp. 128-129.
“Who cares about Pharaoh now?” The end of the New Kingdom. Fragmentation and foreign rule in the Third Intermediate Period and Late Period.
Readings: Kemp, Chapter 8; Bard, Chapter 9; Silverman, pp. 36-39.

Hellenization, Greco-Roman rule and the end of Egyptian civilization.
Readings: Bard, Chapter 10.

**Week 4, July 12-15**
- Mid-Term Exam (Monday July 14, covers Weeks 1-3).
- "Lord to the Limit": Creation, Mythology & the Gods & Goddesses of Egypt.
- Mansions of God: Temples, religion and legitimization. Art, writing and magic in the state religion and daily life.
  Readings: Kemp, Chapter 3; Silverman, pp. 148-165, 202-232.
  Readings: Silverman, pp. 132-147, 192-201; Smith, "They did take it with them."

**Week 5, July 19-23**
  Readings: Kemp, Chapter 5; Silverman, pp. 58-102.
- Deben, Donkeys and Ships: Trade and the political economy in ancient Egypt.
  Readings: Kemp, Chapter 7; Silverman, pp. 40-57.
- "Wretched Kush": Ethnic politics & the rise and fall of the kingdom of Kush at Kerma, Egypt's first African rival.
  Smith, "Imperialists."
- The Nubians Strike Back! The kingdom of Kush rises again at Napata to take over Egypt and create a lasting civilization mixing Egyptian and Nubian elements.

**Week 6, July 26-29**
- Egypt and the Bible. Egypt’s legacy in Greco-Roman and European thought.
  Readings: Kemp, pp. 387-88; Bard, Chapter 11.
- Egyptomania & the Movies.
  Project papers due beginning of class, July 28
- Review Session
- Final Exam (Thursday, July 31, covers weeks 4-6)