About 10,000 years ago, human groups in several areas of the world began to undergo a series of major transformations. Small groups of hunters and gatherers settled into the world's first farming villages. From these villages arose larger settlements, and eventually complex urban civilizations like our own. How and why did these changes take place? Why did ancient civilizations evolve in repeated cycles of expansion and collapse? What do the similarities and differences in the development of early civilizations tell us about the nature of culture change, of civilization, power and the state, and of human society itself?

This course reviews the origins of agriculture, urban life and state level societies. Theories, processes and the archaeological evidence for changes in human economic and social organization are discussed. The essential relationship between economy, environment and society provides the subtext for the more detailed presentation of the case studies. Readings compare Old World and New World developments. The geographic areas in which primary states developed and have been intensively studied archaeologically are the Near East (Anatolia, Mesopotamia, Egypt, and the Indus Valley), Mesoamerica and South America. These regions are the focus of the course, with some discussion of the emergence of state level societies in other areas (such as East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa). Comparing Old and New World cultural responses to different environmental and geographic contexts focuses attention on the way in which the evolution of social complexity occurs, rather than on the memorization of facts and dates alone. The course provides a context for understanding the process of cultural evolution in the past as well as in today's world by exploring why we are the way we are, and how we got here.

COURSE FORMAT: The course combines PPT lectures and discussion. Questions during lectures are encouraged (if they are germane to the topic!). Attendance is part of your final grade, so be sure not to let your presence in class slip as the semester progresses!

COURSE OBJECTIVES & STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
At the end of this course students should be able to:

- Compare and contrast the ways in which state level societies arose in very different environments worldwide and how that archaeological past is recovered, perceived and valued
- Understand the symbiosis between the study of the archaeological past and the concerns of contemporary societies
- Comprehend the link between social complexity and the development of political institutions based on archaeological evidence from primary states in both hemispheres
Critically analyze and be able to deconstruct arguments related to the presentation and interpretation of the archaeological past.

EVALUATION AND GRADING:

Workload Statement (Undergraduates): This class meets once a week for a total of 3 hours x 16 weeks = 48 hours of class time. You should expect to spend 96 hours over the course of the semester on required readings and preparing for the three quizzes and two exams (undergraduates). The class should take no more than 144 hours of your time, but this estimate may vary depending on how well you are able to read and absorb information and whether you attend the class regularly.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 hours in class x 16 weeks</td>
<td>48 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 hours outside of class x 16 weeks</td>
<td>96 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>144 hours per semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Undergraduates:
Exams consist of objective questions as well as a choice of take-home essay questions based on lectures and readings. The final exam is not cumulative but is longer than the midterm. There are three quizzes (10% each), two of which are map quizzes, so be sure you are able to associate significant sites in space as well as time. Study guides are provided in Canvas but these are not comprehensive. Take-home essay questions are posted on Canvas. Two essays (20 pts each) are due on the day of the objective exam (60 pts). All essays must be typed and must follow the format provided!

Graduate Students
You will be expected to produce a 15-20 page final paper, typed, double-spaced with references in American Antiquity format, in addition to taking the objective portions of the midterm and final exams. Please make an appointment to see me about choosing a paper topic before the Midterm Exam!

Extra Credit: Students may earn up to 3 extra credit points by attending talks sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America, Anthropology Department Colloquium and the Wisconsin Archaeological Society (http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/anthropology/events).

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>63-66%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>60-62%</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>&lt; 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
READING ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAM DATES

Weeks 1 and 2  History and Process
Ancient Civilizations Chapter 1
Canvas: All posted readings

Week 3  Origins of Agriculture: Near East and Asia
Ancient Civilizations Ch. 6 through “Millet & Rice” & “Symbolism”
Canvas: Readings for Near East

Week 4  Origins of Agriculture: Mesoamerica and South America
Ancient Civilizations Ch. 15 thru “Preclassic: The Olmec”; Ch. 17 thru
“Initial Period”
Canvas: Readings for Meso/South America [Map Quiz #1 Sept 24!]

Weeks 5 and 6  Theories of the Rise of the State
Ancient Civilizations Chapter 2
Canvas: All readings

Weeks 7 and 8  Evolution of Complex Societies: Mesopotamia
Ancient Civilizations Chapter 3; Chapter 7
Canvas: All readings [Transition to FP Quiz Oct 15!]

Week 8  MIDTERM EXAM October 22!! Essays due IN CLASS on day of Midterm!

Weeks 9 and 10  Evolution of Complex Societies: Egypt, Indus Valley
Ancient Civilizations Chapters 4 and 5
Canvas: Week 8 readings on Egypt; Week 9 readings on Indus Valley

Week 11  Increasing Social Complexity: Near East, Asia, Africa
Ancient Civilizations Ch. 6 from “Elite Traditions”; Chs. 8, 12, 13, 14
Canvas: All readings

Weeks 12 and 13  Evolution of Complex Societies: Mesoamerica and South America
Ancient Civilizations Ch. 15 from “Pre-Classic Maya”; Ch. 16
Canvas: Week 12 readings on Mesoamerica; Week 13 readings on S. America [Map Quiz #2 Nov 26!]

Weeks 14 and 15  Increasing Social Complexity: Mesoamerica and South America
Ancient Civilizations Chapter 17; Chapter 18
Canvas: Week 14 readings on Mesoamerica; Week 15 readings on S. America

FINAL EXAM Tuesday December 17 5:30-8:10pm! Take-home essays due on evening of exam.