Anthropology 426  Fall 2019  Who Owns the Past?  MW  2:00-3:15 SAB G28
Professor Bettina Arnold
Office and Hours: SAB 229 (Archaeology Lab) T 11:00-1:00 or by appointment.
Tel: 229-4583 or e-mail: barnold@uwm.edu

REQUIRED TEXTS:

REQUIRED Readings on Canvas
Selections from various sources, including:

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course covers the social and political ramifications of the study, interpretation, presentation and conservation of the archaeological past and the institutions involved in those processes, including museums, scholars, members of affiliated ethnic groups and the media. Issues related to the tension between the preservation and conservation of archaeological sites and museum collections and various politically and economically motivated social forces are examined through case studies drawn from both past and present. Recognizing and understanding the complexities involved in these issues are critical skills for anyone living and working in an increasingly politicized and polarized global environment. Why preserve the archaeological past, and in what form? Should prehistoric relics be narrowly conceived or treated in the broader context of all cultural relics? How has the archaeological past been used and abused for political purposes in different historical and cultural contexts? In what ways have administrative policies and ethnocentric attitudes towards indigenous peoples alienated indigenes from anthropologists? How do museums, collections, the restitution of cultural property and the illicit traffic in relics contribute to this situation? What is being done to encourage communication between opposing interested parties in the ongoing struggle for control of the past? Students will read and discuss case studies ranging from the earliest known examples of the curation of ancient objects to the most recent 21st century instances of the looting and appropriation of cultural patrimony.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
At the end of this course students should be able to:
- Identify the various stake holders and their respective positions on the way the archaeological past is recovered, perceived and valued
- Understand the symbiosis between the study of the archaeological past and the politics of contemporary societies
- Comprehend current debates regarding the definition and handling of cultural patrimony
• 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 twice a week for a total of 2.5 hours x 16 weeks = 40 hours of in-class time. You should expect to spend at least 6 hours per week (some weeks less, some more) over the course of the semester on required readings and writing the summaries and short paper (undergraduates) x 16 weeks = 96 hours for a total of at least 136 hours. This is an estimate and may vary depending on how well you are able to read and absorb information and whether you attend the class regularly.

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<td>2.5 hours in class x 16 weeks</td>
<td>40 hours</td>
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<td>6 hours outside of class x 16 weeks</td>
<td>96 hours</td>
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<td>136 hours per semester</td>
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Grade Distribution

Undergraduates:
1. Two short (5-10 page) papers (cite at least 4 non-textbook/e-Reader sources!): 60%
2. Summarize three articles from the weekly readings (minimum two pages): 30%
   $\sqrt{} = .5$ pt; $\checkmark = 1$ pt; $\checkmark + = 2$ pts (2 points possible per summary)
3. Attendance and participation: 10%
4. Extra Credit: Three points possible for attendance at three archaeology-related talks (see https://uwm.edu/anthropology/category/events/ for list of on-campus lectures this semester).

Graduate Students:
1. Two 5-10 page papers: 40%
2. Revise/expand one of the two short papers into a 20+ page final paper: 40%
3. In-class PPT Presentation: Sources drawn from the Additional Readings for that topic: 20%
4. Attendance and participation: Attendance and participation are a given.

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<td>Attendance</td>
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<td>Paper #2</td>
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<td>Article Summaries</td>
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Grade Scale
Final grades will be based on the percentage of total possible points earned throughout the semester. Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:
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<td>93-100%</td>
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<td>90-92%</td>
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<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
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<td>83-86%</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>77-79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
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**GENERAL POLICIES:**

**Penalty for late assignments:** One point per day. If you will be unable to turn in an assignment on time because of special circumstances, you must talk to me in person at least two days before the due date.

Cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. The following web page provides more information about your rights and responsibilities as a student: www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/SyllabusLinks.pdf. Please contact me as soon as possible if you require any special accommodations in order to complete the requirements for this course.

**TOPICS AND DUE DATES:**

- **Weeks 1-3:**  **Fantastic Archaeology: Life on the Fringe**
  Text: Feder *Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries* (whole text)

- **Weeks 4-6:**  **The Politics of the Past**
  Text: Vitelli *Archaeological Ethics* Chapters 9-13
  **Graduate Student Presentations begin October 7!**

- **Weeks 7-10:**  **Bones of Contention: Reburial and Repatriation**
  Text: Chatters *Kennewick Man* (whole text)
  Vitelli *Archaeological Ethics* Chapters 14, 16, 18-21
  **1ST SHORT PAPER DUE: October 21** (in class)
  “Wisconsin's First People” from Making Archaeology Public Videos on Vimeo.
  [https://vimeo.com/213013405](https://vimeo.com/213013405)

- **Weeks 11-13:**  **Looting, Collecting and Legislation**
  Text: Renfrew *Loot, Legitimacy and Ownership* (whole text)
  Vitelli *Archaeological Ethics* Chapters 1-8, 15, 17
  **2ND SHORT PAPER DUE: November 18**

- **Weeks 14-15:**  **Presenting the Past: Archaeology and the Public**
  Text: Vitelli *Archaeological Ethics* Chapters 21-23

  **Graduate Students: FINAL PAPER DRAFTS DUE: November 25 (in class)**
  **FINAL PAPERS DUE: Wednesday December 11 in class!!**