

ANTH 57: APPLIED ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD METHODS

Foothill College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Effective Term:	Summer 2025
Units:	1
Hours:	1 lecture per week (12 total per quarter)
Degree & Credit Status:	Degree-Applicable Credit Course
Foothill GE:	Non-GE
Transferable:	CSU
Grade Type:	Letter Grade (Request for Pass/No Pass)
Repeatability:	Not Repeatable

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will have an awareness of the value of applied archaeology for solving problems in the world around them.
- Students will have experienced the process of collaborative research in the social sciences.
- Students will recognize when to utilize distinct methods of applied archaeology for data collection and analysis.

Description

Applied anthropology focuses on the use of anthropological theories, perspectives, and data-gathering methods in real-world contexts of practice or problem-solving. This 1-unit course provides students with the opportunity to learn and apply field methods from the sub-discipline of applied archaeology to problems found in their own communities. Students will learn how to identify a research topic, write a proposal and project plan with specific milestones and deliverables, carry out research with the most appropriate field methodologies of applied research, and produce a "product" at the end of the course. Projects for this course will be in one of the major arenas of applied archaeology, including: cultural resource management (CRM), historic preservation, museum studies, preservation law and ethics. Students will utilize field methodologies unique to applied archaeology.

Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Articulate how and why applied anthropology is a legitimate area of anthropological inquiry.
2. Cite examples of applied archaeology in one or more of the major areas of study and application, including: cultural resource management (CRM), historic preservation, museum studies, preservation law and ethics.
3. Demonstrate an awareness of the field methodologies of applied anthropology, including research design, and the basic skills of successful anthropologists working in the public and private sectors.

4. Discuss the role and benefits of applied archaeology in solving contemporary social issues at home and abroad.

Course Content

1. Overview of the 4 fields of anthropology, and applied anthropology as the 5th field.
2. Arenas and examples of applied archaeology.
3. Development and implementation of a research design.
4. Background research and reconnaissance.
5. Developing an analytical framework.
6. Data collection techniques.
7. Preliminary statistical analysis of social science data.
8. Interpretation of data and self-reflexivity.
9. Report preparation and presentation to concerned stakeholders.
10. Sustainable development.
11. Local and global implications of applied anthropology.

Lab Content

Not applicable.

Special Facilities and/or Equipment

When taught as an online/hybrid distance learning section, students and faculty need ongoing and continuous internet and email access.

Method(s) of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

Multiple choice and/or essay exams
 Individual and/or group oral presentations
 Research papers and/or written reports
 Worksheets to supplement data collection and analysis
 Preparation of field notes or journal
 Participation in small group and all class discussions

Method(s) of Instruction

Methods of Instruction may include but are not limited to the following:

Short lectures
 Discussion
 Field exercises
 Classroom exercises
 Oral presentations
 Guided preparation of reports
 Field trips

Representative Text(s) and Other Materials

Parker, Mary Pritchard, and Elvio Angeloni. *Annual Editions: Archaeology*. 12th ed. 2017.

Although this text is older than the suggested "5 years or newer" standard, it is still appropriate for undergraduate coursework in this area of study.

Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments

1. Reading, analysis, and reflection of case studies in applied archaeology
2. Preparation of research proposals
3. Data collection using applied archaeology research methods
4. Analysis of data
5. Preparation of written reports and oral presentations

Discipline(s)

Anthropology