**Archaeology Final Paper**

**Archaeological Discovery Project**

In this assignment, students will choose a site (or a specific archaeological discovery) and write about it. This assignment is to be submitted into Canvas. The Archaeological Discovery Project must be ***at least*** 1600 words in length (more is perfectly fine). Students will select a site/discovery from a list, however, they may also choose a different topic upon approval from the instructor.

The Archaeological Discovery Project should address the following questions/issues

* What is the site/discovery?
* What is the context in which it was found/excavated/etc.?
* Why is it important?
* What did the discovery contribute to our overall understanding of the past and culture (either specifically – within the region or time period – or broadly)

This translates (roughly) into:

* introduce the site/discovery
* discuss the history of the discovery/excavation
* discuss why the site/discovery is important/meaningful.

In addition, the students must reference at least two of the topics that were discussed throughout the course such as: Taphonomy, Bioarcheology, Political Structure, Floral/Faunal Analysis, Site Structure, etc.

If students think that it is important to add more sections, they should absolutely do so.

Some guidelines/things to think about with the Archaeological Discovery Project:

* Some of the required features of APA/MLA style and formatting conflict with the fact that the articles are found online and not on sheets of paper.  So, there are some features (like title page, page numbers, etc.) that simply don’t work with the online format – don’t worry at all about including those.  When it comes to citation, you are going to have to go either with end notes or inline parenthetical citation (with a works cited/bibliography list at the end) – you can use footnotes just make sure your citations are consistent.
* Meeting the minimum word count is a requirement of the assignment.  If students don’t meet that minimum word count, they will be docked significantly.
* APA or MLA style and formatting (taking into account what was said above) is a requirement for the assignment. Students may choose either format, however they must adhere to one of them for paper format and citations.   Students who don’t meet this requirement will be docked significantly.
* Students must have at least 5 sources/references (this doesn’t count any cited images). More sources are, of course, perfectly fine. The sources can be digital or physical. However, they have to be scholarly in nature.  If you are confused as to what constitutes “scholarly in nature,” ask. Here is a really good source for determining the quality of an online source: <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html>
* All images must be referenced as properly.  Try to use Creative Commons licensed works. Here is a hint to find creative commons licensed images – use the [CC Search](http://search.creativecommons.org/) engine. Also, for specific archaeological images that are creative commons licensed, you should look at the [ISAW Ancient World Image Bank](http://isaw.nyu.edu/ancient-world-image-bank).
* Wikipedia (and similar sites like dictionary.com, Encyclopedia Britannic etc.) are absolutely acceptable sources. Remember, Wikipedia is a great place to start, but it shouldn’t be something you cite as a source on a piece of work or include in the 5 required sources.
* Check out digital archaeology repositories such as [tDAR](http://www.tdar.org/) and [ADS](http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/). You might also want to check out [Open Context](http://opencontext.org/) – which is a publication platform for primary archaeological data.
* Additional requirements: The paper must be double spaced, 12-point font with 1 inch margins. There must be a bibliography/citation page included as well.
* If there are any additional questions, reach out to the instructor for clarification.