

University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
Center for Cognitive Archaeology
ANTH 4355/5355: NEANDERTAL COGNITION

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Course Objective

The purpose of this class is to understand Neandertal cognition through the use of online lectures and supporting material in the form of research articles.

Reading Material

The primary reading material is the online lecture coupled with required readings in the form of several research articles each week. You are expected to review this material as it applies to your weekly lesson. After each chapter, you will be expected to complete an online exam, a series of multiple choice questions.

Required Text

Wynn, T., & Coolidge, F. L. (2012). *How to think like a Neandertal*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Exams

There are 15 multiple-choice tests, a test for each week. Each question counts equally. The exams comprise all (100%) of the undergraduate grade in the course. For graduate credit, the exams count 70% and a 10-page (APA format) term paper, on a pre-approved topic, counts 30%.

Grading Policy, Criteria, and Scale

Your grade will be determined by weekly exams, each of which will cover chapters from the textbook and selected readings. Your final grade will be determined by the number of points that

you receive out of a possible 357 points, noting that the bottom 10% in each category may be awarded a minus, and the top 10% in each category may be awarded a plus:

| Test Topic | Points |
|--|---------------|
| 1 Introduction and History of Study | 40 |
| 2 Neandertal Anatomy & Derived Characteristics | 22 |
| 3 The Neandertal Brain | 20 |
| 4 Hunting and Diet | 30 |
| 5 Hunting and Technology | 30 |
| 6 Technology and Cognition | 20 |
| 7 Social Life | 25 |
| 8 Social Life, Ornaments and Ochre Use | 20 |
| 9 Symbolic Thinking: Burials & the Afterlife | 20 |
| 10 Cannibalism | 20 |
| 11 Language | 20 |
| 12 Humor | 20 |
| 13 Sleep and Dreams | 25 |
| 14 Personality | 25 |
| 15 Final Thoughts | 20 |
| Graduate student term paper | 110 |
| TOTAL | 357 |

As an **undergraduate** student, your final grade will be determined by the number of points that you receive out of a possible 357 points on the quizzes:

- A 321–357 Points
- B 285–320 Points
- C 267–284 Points
- D 249–266 Points
- F 000–248 Points

As a **graduate** student, your final grade will be determined by the number of points that you receive out of a possible 467 (357 points on the quizzes, plus 110 points awarded for the research paper):

- A 420–467 Points
- B 373–419 Points
- C 349–372 Points
- D 325–348 Points
- F 000–324 Points

Extra Credit

Extra credit is not offered in this course.

Graduate Requirements

Graduate students will complete a 10–20 page research paper on a topic approved by the professors by the specified due date.

Due Dates and Deadlines

The syllabus contains the deadline for each unit and specifies the dates by which the test must be completed. For each deadline, you have until 11:59 PM on the deadline day. Remember, these are DEADLINES. You are encouraged to stay well ahead of these deadlines. The sooner you complete the work, the sooner you'll be done with the course.

You must complete each unit by the specific date linked in the table above to the syllabus. Once that date has passed, you can still access the material in the unit, but you can no longer take the test associated with that unit. For example, if Unit 3 must be completed by Thursday, September 16, if you don't take Test 3 by 11:59 PM on September 16, you will receive a 0 for that test.

Drs. Coolidge & Wynn's Expectations of You

During completion of this course, you must abide by the [UCCS Student Conduct Code](#). This code specifies what is considered proper and improper student conduct, including matters such as cheating and inappropriate behavior. Students who do not abide by the code can receive sanctions ranging up to expulsion from the university.

Remember that this is a 3 credit-hour course. Please plan on spending a lot of time working on just this class. This time will include reviewing lesson plans, completing online lectures, reading from your textbook, answering practice problems, verifying your work, and completing test. I suggest that you plan to spend at least 10 hours per week on average.

Of course, the amount of time spent does not guarantee you any particular grade. Your letter grade will reflect the amount of material that you learned, as reflected in your test scores and the overall quality of your contributions to the course.

We will be respectful of you as students. We will not demean you, insult you, or embarrass you. We expect that you will be respectful and civil in the discussion boards as our students. To us, this means that you will not post off-topic or rude comments.

Solving Technical Difficulties

When you're having technical difficulties (pages not loading, connectivity problems, not able to view images, things not working as they should, etc.), please contact the Blackboard Helpdesk toll-free at 877.654.8309 or online at the [UCCS Blackboard Support](#) page. The Blackboard

Helpdesk is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please note this service is separate from the [UCCS IT Helpdesk](#).

Help Understanding Course Material

When you have questions regarding course policies, grading criteria, test administration, etc., please post your question to the Discussion Board or ask your professors via email.