

ANTH 316-502
INTRODUCTION TO NAUTICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

FALL 2015

MW 4:10 – 5:25 pm

CHEN 102

Instructor: José Luis Casabán, PhD Candidate
Nautical Archaeology Program
Department of Anthropology

Office location: Room 308 D, Anthropology Building

Office Hours: MW, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. or by appointment

Email: jlcasaban@tamu.edu

Phone: 979-574-0585

Prerequisites : None

Course Description

This course focuses on the study of ships construction and how their development has affected the history of humankind. The Earth is nearly three-quarters covered by water, and communication between different geographical areas separated by oceans, seas and rivers will not have been possible without watercrafts. They have allowed not only the effective transportation of people and goods but also the spread of ideas between the different civilizations affecting the course of history. It is impossible to imagine a history of Egypt, Greece, Rome, the Vikings, the exploration and colonization of the New World, and even the United States, without ships and boats. All of them depended on ships.

Course Objectives

- Provide an introduction to the history and theoretical basis of nautical archaeology as a discipline
- Examine the chronological and technological developments of the different types of ships and their operational aspects
- Evaluate the relationship between shipbuilding and economic, social, and technological developments.

Course Structure

The course is based on two 75 minutes lectures per week for 15 weeks (1 semester). The different topics will be illustrated with PowerPoints and occasional supplementary videos. Short readings will be occasionally provided to encourage classroom discussions. Questions and comments are strongly recommended, as is the taking of detailed notes.

Resource Materials

There are **no assigned books** for this class. However, I intend to provide occasional supplemental reading to encourage classroom discussions. The supplemental reading will be notified on eCampus and provided in pdf format. In addition, there are some suggested books listed below which provide additional information on Nautical Archaeology. These books can be found at Evans Library or Annex.

Bass, George F. 1972. *A History of seafaring based on underwater archaeology*. London: Thames and Hudson. ISBN: 0802703909

Bass, George F. 1988. *Ships and shipwrecks of the Americas*. New York: Thames and Hudson. ISBN: 050005049X

Bass, George F. 2005. *Beneath the seven seas: adventures with the Institute of Nautical Archaeology*. London: Thames and Hudson. ISBN: 0500051364

Steffy, J. Richard 1994. *Wooden Ship Building and the interpretation of shipwrecks*. College Station: Texas A&M University Press. ISBN: 0890965528

Grading

The grading is based on three non-cumulative tests, each of which counts for a 33.3% of the final grade. Each exam consists of 50 multiple-choice questions. Extra credit assignments will **NOT** be offered. Any subject covered in class or in the supplemental reading can be included in the exams.

Grading will be assigned as follows:

- 90% to 100% - A
- 80% to 89% - B
- 70% to 79% - C
- 60% to 69% - D
- <60% - F

For each examination, you are required to bring a gray scantron form (8.5" x 11"), lead pens and erasers, and a current TAMU student ID with your picture on it. You are responsible for being prepared for each exam.

Attendance

The exams and quizzes questions will be based on the topics covered in class and occasional supplemental reading. For that reason, class attendance is highly recommended. Copies of the PowerPoints will **NOT** be provided. Absence from classes and exams will **ONLY** be accepted for students who have legitimate excuses as defined in the Texas A&M University Handbook for Regulations (<http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>).

Make-up Exam policy

If the absence is excused, the instructor will provide the student an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other work that contributes to the final grade or provide a satisfactory alternative by a date agreed upon by the student and instructor. If the instructor has a regularly schedules make up exam, students are expected to attend unless they have a university approved excuse. The make-up work must be completed in a timeframe not to exceed 30 calendar days from the last day of the initial absence. See Student Rule 7 for details (<http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>).

Course Topics

I. Introduction to Nautical Archaeology.

Week 1	August 31	Introduction
	September 2	Nautical archaeology: Definition, techniques, and technology I.
Week 2	September 7	Nautical archaeology: Definition and techniques, and technology II.

II. Ships and Seafaring in the Bronze Age Mediterranean.

	September 9	Predynastic Egyptian ships and seafaring.
Week 3	September 14	The Royal Ship of Khufu, Egypt.
	September 16	Boats in the desert: Dashur boats, Egypt.
Week 4	September 21	Volcanoes and frescoes: The wall paintings of Thera, Santorini (Greece).
	September 23	The beginning of nautical archaeology: Cape Gelidonya, Turkey
Week 5	September 28	Royal trade in the Eastern Mediterranean: Uluburun shipwreck, Turkey.
	September 30	FIRST EXAMINATION

III. Ships and Seafaring during the Archaic and Classical Periods.

Week 6	October 5	Lashed boats in the Mediterranean
	October 7	Almonds, pirates, and amphorae: Kyrenia, Cyprus.
Week 7	October 12	Ma'agan Michael, Israel.
	October 14	Early Mediterranean warships: The Greek trireme.
Week 8	October 19	How do we stop the ship? Ancient anchors.

IV. Roman ships and Seafaring.

	October 21	Roman harbors: <i>Portus</i> and Trajan's harbor, Italy.
Week 9	October 26	Roman merchantmen: The Madrague de Giens, France.

V. Medieval Ships and Seafaring in the Mediterranean.

	October 28	George's ship, priest and marine captain: Yassiada , Turkey.
Week 10	November 2	The million piece glass puzzle: Serçe Limani , Turkey.

November 4 **SECOND EXAMINATION**

VI. Scandinavian and Northern European Ships and Seafaring.

Week 11	November 9	Early Scandinavian ships.
	November 11	Early Viking ships.
Week 12	November 16	Skuldelev Ships, Denmark.
	November 18	Cogs and hulks .

VII. Post-Medieval Ships and Seafaring

Week 13	November 23	An English tragedy: The <i>Mary Rose</i>, England.
	November 25	The king's new ship: The <i>Vasa</i>, Sweden.

VIII. Ships and Shipwrecks in North America.

Week 14	November 30	Treasure hunting vs. Archaeology: <i>Atocha</i> and <i>Margarita</i> , Florida.
	December 2	A French drama in Texas: La Salle's <i>Belle</i> .

IX. Deep-Submergence Archaeology.

Week 15	December 7	Ships from the depths: The last frontier of nautical archaeology.
	December 9	Review, questions, and final exam preparation.
	December 14	FINAL EXAMINATION 3:30 – 5:30 p.m

The Americans with Disabilities (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Cain Hall, Room B118, or call 845-1637. For additional information visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity Statement

Aggie Code of Honor: “An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal or tolerate those who do.” Any question about this? The Honor Council Rules and Procedures can be found on the website of the Aggie Honor System Office: <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/>

TAMU Plagiarism Policy

The handouts used in this course are copyrighted. By “handouts”, I mean all materials generated for this class, which include but are not limited to the syllabus, quizzes, exams, lab problems, in class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets. Because, these materials are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts.

According to the Texas A&M University Definitions of Academic Misconduct, plagiarism is the appropriation of another person’s ideas, processes, results or words without giving appropriate credit (<http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/>). You should credit your use of anyone else’s words, graphic images, or ideas using standard citation styles. If I should discover that you have failed to properly credit sources or have used a paper written by someone else, I will recommend that you receive an F in this course. The Aggie Honor System Office processes for adjudication and appeals can be found at <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/>.

Diversity Statement

Respect for cultural and human biological diversity are core concepts of Anthropology. In this course, each voice in the classroom has something of value to contribute to class discussion. Please respect the different experiences, beliefs and values expressed by your fellow students and instructor, and refrain from derogatory comments about other individuals, cultures, groups, or viewpoints. The Anthropology Department supports the Texas A&M University commitment to

Diversity, and welcomes individuals of all ages, backgrounds, citizenships, disabilities, education, ethnicities, family statuses, genders, gender identities, geographical locations, languages, military experience, political views, races, religions, sexual orientations, socioeconomic statuses, and work experiences (See <http://diversity.tamu.edu/>).