

ANG 6197 PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeological practice as part of applied anthropology, in the public and private sector, from local to international, are explored in this graduate-level course. Topics covered include:

- Cultural resources management (CRM), by governmental and private agencies, including inventory and monitoring of archaeological and historical resources, hiring and reviewing contract archaeologists, existing within bureaucracies
- Contract archaeology, including writing proposals, business management, research design and field and lab work, conservation and curation of materials and data, report writing, guidelines and project requirements, health and safety
- Legislation and historic preservation, environmental impact statements, preservation organizations and advocacy, prehistoric sites vs. standing architecture, heritage management across continents, the concept of resource significance
- Descendant communities and other stakeholders, avocationalists and collectors, oral histories, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and other legal issues, indigenous knowledge, antiquities legislation and traffic, archaeology and warfare
- Public education in schools, communities, private and public sectors, colleges and universities, cultural tourism
- Museum operation, research vs. management, exhibits and values, curation and collections management, fundraising, art and esthetics vs. archaeology and history vs. popular culture
- Public communications media, including print, broadcast, cinema, fine arts, internet resources and websites, archaeological stereotypes and stakeholders, popular controversy, writing for the public
- Application of archaeological knowledge to modern human problems and issues, from geological, geographic, and other scientific questions to domestic and foreign forensic archaeology to garbology

Students should gain an understanding of these topics and how they relate to professional issues they will face themselves, emphasizing

- * ethical and legal questions
- * political biases
- * the job market
- * conflicting claims on the human past
- * maintenance of professional standards for all archaeology
- * maintenance of the anthropological approach, from the bottom up

Activities conducted by the student in conjunction with this class may include:

- review of a museum exhibit, documentation of its aims, biases, public, professional appeal
- collections management exercise to learn requirements of archaeological curation
- conducting a small archaeological contract from start to finish
- visiting the state archaeology office, collections, and site file
- documenting archaeological requirements and permitting for different states or nations
- debate of outcomes in archaeological ethics dilemmas
- learning from guest speakers who work in various public and private sectors

This course is offered annually in the spring for first-year graduate students in anthropology