ADVANCED SOUTHWEST ARCHAOELOGY
THE PALEOINDIAN AND ARCHAIC PERIODS

PURPOSE

To present members with an opportunity to acquire an in-depth understanding of the Paleoindian and Archaic periods as their occupations are viewed broadly across North America with a focus on the Southwest.

OBJECTIVES

After studying the manifestation of the Paleoindian and Archaic periods in the Southwest, the student is to have an in-depth understanding of the current thinking regarding:

A. Arrival of the first Americans and their adaptation to various environments. Paleoenvironmental considerations.

B. Archaeology of the Paleoindian and Archaic periods in the Southwest and important sites for defining and dating the occupations. Synthesis of the Archaic tradition within the Southwest. Manifestation of the Paleoindian and Archaic occupations of the Southwest in the archaeological record, including recognition of Paleoindian and Archaic artifacts and features in situ and recognition of Archaic rock art.

C. Subsistence, economy, and settlement strategies of the Paleoindian and Archaic periods in the Southwest.

D. Transition from Paleoindian to Archaic, and from Archaic to major cultural traditions including Hohokam, Anasazi, Mogollon, Patayan, and Sinagua, or Salado, in the Southwest.

E. Introduction of agriculture in the Southwest considering horticulture and early cultigens.

F. Lithic technologies of the Paleoindian and Archaic periods in the Southwest.

FORMAT

Twenty-five hours of classwork are required to present the class. Ten classes of two and one-half hours each are recommended.

PREREQUISITES

Prehistory of the Southwest as presented by the AAS or the equivalent which has been approved by the Department of Certification. The approach used is (1) a broad overview of the Paleoindian occupation of North America, narrowing to western North America, and focusing on the Southwest; (2) the transition to and occupation of the Southwest during the Archaic period; and the subsequent transition to the major Southwestern archaeological cultural traditions (Anasazi, Hohokam, Mogollon, and Patayan). The time frame of Advanced Southwest
Archaeology: Paleoindian and Archaic Periods extends from the entry of man into North America to approximately A.D. 500.
EXAMINATION

At the start of the third class, each student shall select a research topic for approval by the instructor. The report may be presented either orally or in written form, or both. Written reports may be considered for publication in The Petroglyph.

COURSE OUTLINE

1st Class The First Americans: A brief overview of the development of humankind will precede the examination of the arrival of the first Americans. Issues discussed will include the routes man followed to reach the Americas and the synchronous and diachronic distribution of man across North, Central, and South America. The environments encountered and the adaptive strategies to these environments will be examined. Competing theories related to the issue of arrival, both time and the route, of the first Americans will be examined.

2nd Class Sites and Complexes: Archaeological evidence that established the existence of Paleoindians in the Southwest will be examined and an overview of Paleoindian complexes and site variability will be presented. Sites and complexes discussed will include Folsom and its intellectual consequences for American archaeology; Blackwater Draw near Clovis, New Mexico, which established the Clovis Horizon; Sandia Cave; San Dieguito; Ventana Cave; and the San Pedro River valley sites in southeastern Arizona (Murry Springs, Lehner, Double Adobe, and Naco). Other complexes such as Plainview, Agate Basin, Firstview, Cody, Jay, and other sites, including current research, may be discussed as time permits.

3rd Class Artifacts, Chronology, Environment, Economy, and Settlement: Paleoindian artifacts, lithic, and bone, as well as diagnostic lithic technology will be discussed, and demonstrated if feasible. The Paleoindian Chronology will be discussed, along with the question of whether Clovis people were the first Americans. Current arguments will be explored and current research will be reviewed. Paleoenvironmental reconstructions and their importance to Paleoindian study will be examined. Paleoindian hunting strategies, economy, and settlement will also be discussed.

4th Class End of the Paleoindian Period and Transition to the Archaic: The extinction of the megafauna and the end of the Paleoindian period across the Americas and in the Southwest will be examined. The subsequent transition to the Archaic period and the attendant changes in economy and settlement will be discussed.
5th Class  **Archaic Culture: Sites and Complexes:** The archaeological evidence that established the existence of the Archaic culture in the Southwest will be examined and an overview of Archaic complexes will be presented. Complexes discussed will include Pinto Basin (San Dieguito-Pinto tradition, including Amargosa), Cochise (Chiricahua and San Pedro traditions), as well as Hueco and Coahuila. The Oshara tradition concept (Jay, Bajada, San Jose, Armijo, En Medio, and Trujillo phases) and the Picosa concept (Pinto Basin, Cochise, and San Jose) will be addressed. Archaic sites to be discussed include those in the ancient lake basins of Southern California and Southwestern Arizona (San Dieguito-Pinto); Ventana Cave, San Pedro River Valley, Cienega Creek, and Wet Leggett (Cochise); southeastern New Mexico, Coahuila and eastern Chihuahua in Mexico, and west Texas (Hueco and Coahuila); and Colorado Plateau and Rio Grande Valley (Oshara).

6th & 7th Classes  **Artifacts, Chronology, Environment, Ecology, Economy, and Settlement Strategies:** Archaic artifacts as well as diagnostic lithic technology, both chipped and ground stone, will be examined. The Archaic Chronology will be discussed, including Archaic subsistence adaptations in general. The importance of Paleoenvironmental reconstructions to the Archaic period, as well as ecological issues will be discussed. Archaic period economy and settlement strategies will be examined.

8th & 9th Classes  **Horticulture and the Evidence of Early Cultigens in the Southwest** A brief overview of the development of agriculture in Mesoamerica will be presented. A review of the general models proposed for the transition to food production and their relevance to the Southwest will be addressed. The development of horticulture and the introduction of corn and other cultigens in later Archaic time will be examined. The acceptance of agriculture and the transition from the Archaic period to the major cultural traditions (e.g., Hohokam, Anasazi, Mogollon, Patayan, Sinagua, or Salado) in the Southwest will be discussed.

10th Class  **Conclusion** Student reports and presentation of individual ideas developed during the course.
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