This course meets approximately 4 hours per week for 4 credits.

Dr. Loren Davis, Waldo 216
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office hours: Tuesdays 9:00-10:00

Course description:
The issue of the Peopling of the Americas is perhaps the most compelling and controversial topic of New World archaeology. This course provides a survey of the topic from the perspectives of Pleistocene paleoenvironments, human biology, technology, cultural adaptations, routes of migration, and site-level evidence of early human occupation in North, Central, and South America. Methodological and site level case studies will be presented to round out readings and topical lectures. Special attention is placed on understanding relevant debates surrounding this issue.
PREREQS: 6 credits of anthropology

Course Outcomes:
As a result of participation in this course, students are expected to be able to:
• describe the environmental context of the Pleistocene New World
• critically evaluate archaeological claims for antiquity
• articulate key points in current debates related to the Peopling of the Americas
• describe technological adaptations to Late Pleistocene environments
• demonstrate knowledge of specific Pleistocene-age sites

In addition, graduate students are expected to be able to:
• articulate the strengths and weaknesses of current debates
• describe the research contributions of key archaeologists
• critically evaluate archaeological claims of antiquity

Evaluation:
Grading for the course will be based on class participation and student performance on three exams and a group project. The distribution of grading is as follows:

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Examinations will be in held class and may include essay, short answer, matching, and multiple choice questions. The final exam will be cumulative, covering all aspects of the course. Class participation will be measured during discussion sections (Fridays) through submitted questions and in-class activity. To earn full class participation credit, students must attend and turn in a thoughtful question to each of the discussion sections (each worth 1% of the participation grade). The class project will involve the construction of annotated bibliographies about First Americans research from different states. Detailed instructions for the class project and the ANTH 533 term papers will be handed out in the third week of class.
**Course Readings:** We will read from two texts (available in the bookstore) and several articles (to be provided, digitally) throughout the term. Our textbooks are:

David Meltzer 2009, *First Peoples in a New World*.

**Weekly Topics and Exam Schedule**

Week 1: Introduction to course and problem of the First Americans; Current models; Rules of engagement and the nature of First Americanist debates.

Week 2: Quaternary environments, deterministic/possibilistic arguments, hypothetical routes.

Week 3: Clovis archaeology and the discovery of deep time; The Clovis First model.

Week 4: Overkill Hypothesis, then and now. Western Stemmed Tradition and Far Western Clovis. **Quiz on Wednesday, October 13.**

Week 5: Pacific Coastal Migration, Ice Free Corridor, and other settlement models.

Week 6: Early coastal adaptations. **Midterm exam, Friday, October 29.**

Week 7: Monte Verde and Pre-Clovis.

Week 8: Early Contenders: North America.

Week 9: Early Contenders: Central and South America.

Week 10: Genetics, Synthesis and Arguments Revisited.

**Final exam in class, Thursday, December 9, 12:00.**

**Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities**
Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at http://ds.oregonstate.edu. DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

**Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct** (i.e., cheating policies): http://studentlife.oregonstate.edu/studentconduct/offenses-0