



Bronze Jar, Ban Don Ta Phet, Thailand

SOUTHEAST ASIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Anthropology 440/540 (Topics in Old World Prehistory)
OVERVIEW, STRUCTURE AND NOTES
Winter 2015

Syllabus

William S. Ayres
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Winter 2015 ANTH 440/540
University of Oregon

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Office Hours: TR 10:30-12:00 and by appointment

Class Meetings: TR 8:30-9:50, 360 CON

Texts/Readings:

Ayres, William S. 2013 Southeast Asian Archaeology (see overview on Blackboard).
Materials in Blackboard or handouts.

Bellwood, P. 1997/2007 *Prehistory of the Indo-Malaysian Archipelago*. 2nd ed.
Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii. [available free on-line through Australian
National University press, 2007, at: http://epress.anu.edu.au/pima_citation.html].

Higham, Charles. 2002 *Early Cultures of Mainland Southeast Asia*. Chicago: Art Media
Resources, Ltd.

See also: Higham, C. 1996. *The Bronze Age of Southeast Asia*. Cambridge:
Cambridge University Press. DS523.H55; and *The Archaeology of Mainland
Southeast Asia*.

Optional readings from Library reserve noted below (required for ANTH 540).

Content: The early archaeology of the Southeast Asian region is reviewed in this class by examining prehistoric and early historic cultural sequences for the region extending from South China to Indonesia and from Burma to the Philippines and Papua (Irian Jaya). A consideration of basic archaeological method and theory provides a background for discussion of cultural forms representing hunter-gatherers to early civilization. The relationship of contemporary and historically-known peoples to the archaeological record of the region's early settlement and the documentation of this through material culture represent a starting point for the class. In addition, the question of how Southeast Asian peoples view their past will be investigated. The oldest materials, of Stone Age hunters and gatherers, are to be examined first and then a regional framework for studying the foundations of early historic civilization will be formulated. Critical to the latter is an assessment of early evidence for agricultural production in the region. Final topics center on the development of urbanism, public architecture, trade networks, and early states.

Learning Objectives and Course Outcomes:

Typically for an upper-division archaeology course, a class in Introduction to Archaeology is expected as background, so that you are familiar with the basics of archaeology as well as world prehistory in general. Prior knowledge of Southeast Asia or the archaeology of other world areas may, in some cases, serve this same purpose.

As well, in this class, we will be reviewing some of the basic concepts in archaeology in the context of sites and artifacts from this Asian region. After successful completion of this course, students are expected to have an understanding of the following key issues:

- The basic concepts and aims of area prehistory studies within archaeology and the Asian region, and, more broadly, anthropology's role in such studies.
- The major trends in how Southeast Asia, representing a major world area and a set of distinctive cultural groups, have been archaeologically studied by outsiders and by those resident in the area.
- The environmental context of early Southeast Asian settlement, including biogeography and natural environmental factors affecting continental and insular regions.
- The archaeological study of cultural diversity within the region, and an understanding of human migration patterns.
- How the emergence of civilization can be traced within Southeast Asia.
- Contemporary factors related to conservation of the archaeological and cultural remains and the impact of these materials on traditional island society and cultural heritage.

Course Outcomes (some specifics):

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- *. identify key archaeological sites in Thailand related to Thai origins;
- *. describe the ceramic attributes of early cord-marked pottery;
- *. know the differences among Southeast Asian stone tool types;
- *. to document the initial Austronesian colonization in Island SE Asia;
- *. explain the differences between Austronesian and other major language groups in the region with regard to origins and distribution;
- *. identify the key elements of food cultivation practices;
- *. distinguish Mainland from Island SE Asia;
- *. calculate from radiocarbon dates the time of initial appearance of Hoabinhian technology;
- *. formulate a model of early coastal marine-terrestrial subsistence;
- *. evaluate the arguments for the earliest human presence in SE Asia;
- *. discuss the arguments for and against extensive influence from China in the region;;
- *. explain the relationships of megalithic architecture to evolving social systems.

Basis for Evaluation:

Quizzes (2, 18%) and homework (10%), midterm (28%) and final exam (28%). There is no formal term paper, but you will have a research and writing project (15%) due at the end of the term that reviews, in approximately 5 pages, the archaeological record for a specific site, site complex, or region. NO paper will be accepted unless the topic has been approved. More detailed information about reading assignments will be provided on a weekly basis and materials will be available in class or on Blackboard. Exam format will be both objective and essay. Also, class participation is important and so attendance is expected; more than 3 unexcused absences will result in a grade

reduction. The syllabus with reading assignments and other details will be available from the instructor, William Ayres, and the Blackboard web page.

Other Points:

The UO is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic and dating violence and gender-based stalking.

Note: For those needing special assistance with the materials and information presented in class, please see the instructor at the beginning of the term. Documentation of special learning needs is to be established through the Accessible Education Center in Oregon Hall.

Preliminary Reading and Schedule: ANTH 440/540, Winter 2015

(note: PIMA = Bellwood text; ECMSA = Higham text; (BASEA and AMSA = Higham)

WEEK/CLASS	TOPIC
Week 1. 05-11 January (M-Su;TR Classes) -----	
06 Jan	Introduction Ayres on Southern Thailand Archaeology; review syllabus
08 Jan	Geographical Constructs and History of SE Asian Archaeology Bellwood PIMA1997: 1-16 Higham ECMSA 2002: 6-16 Kawi Inscription from Java, in <i>Voices of Southeast Asia</i> 2014, pp 3-9.
Week 2. 12-18 January -----	
13 Jan	Archaeology in Contemporary and Historic Southeast Asia Bellwood PIMA 1997: 69-76; Higham ECMSA 2002: 16-27 Ayres 1995 (on BB)
15 Jan	General Anthropological Comparisons: Paleoanthropological, Linguistic Bellwood PIMA1997: 76-127 (opt 105-112; 124-127).
Week 3. 19-25 January -----	
20 Jan	Archaeologically-known Southeast Asia and its ethnographic links (Islands and Mainland). Theoretical Constructs. Bellwood PIMA 1997: 128-154; Higham ECMSA 2002: 28-45.
22 Jan	Archaeological Methods and the earliest human cultures of the Old Stone Age (Paleolithic). Overview and Case Studies Higham ECMSA 2002:46-56. [See Other: Pope, G.G. et al. 1986; Ikawa-Smith 1977: 1-9 R; Movius 1944 (review, R); Chang 1986 22-54;65-70 R; Movius (in Ikawa-Smith 1977:351-355, R)]
Week 4. 26 Jan-01 Feb -----	
27 Jan	Later Stone Age and Southeast Asian "Mesolithic" type; Subsistence Patterns Bellwood PIMA 1997:155-200 Gorman 1971 The Hoabinhian and After [Case Study: Anderson 1990 (review; R)] Quiz 1
29 Jan	Early Hunter-Gatherer-Food Producer Integration Bellwood PIMA 1997: 201-241; Higham ECMSA 2002:57-81.

Week 5. 02-08 Feb-----

- 03 Feb Neolithic/Early Bronze Age: S. China and Vietnam
Higham ECMSA 2002:82-111.
[Higham AMSA 1989: 169-189; Higham BASEA 1996: 1-16;
17-38, Chang 1986 71-80;95-106 R]
- 05 Feb Neolithic/Early Bronze Age: Thailand and the Mekong
Higham ECMSA 2002: 112-151.
[Higham AMSA 1989: 90-168; White, J. 1984 (in Bayard ed.
26-35, R); Higham 1984 "Prehistoric Rice Cultivation; Bayard 1971 *Non
Nok Tha* (review); Pisit and Bayard 1983 Non Chai; Chang 1977:275-
279; Bayard 1972 R]

Week 6. 9-15 Feb-----

- 10 Feb --**Midterm Exam**--
- 12 Feb Neolithic/Early Bronze Age: Vietnam
Higham ECMSA 2002: 151-167.
[See also, Higham AMSA1989: 190-238 (R)]

Week 7. 16-22 Feb-----

- 17 Feb Neolithic: Island SE Asia
Bellwood PIMA 1997 241-254; 255-267
- 19 Feb Early Metal: Bronze and Iron Technology
Bellwood PIMA 1997: 268-307.
Higham ECMSA 2002:168-223.

Week 8. 23 Feb – 01 Mar-----

- 24 Feb Protohistoric: the Lower Mekong and Thailand
Champa and Dvaravati and Srivijaya Trade and Cities
Higham ECMSA 2002: 224-286.
[See also, Higham AMSA 1989: 239-296, 297-320]
- 26 Feb The Complex at Angkor **Quiz 2**
Higham ECMSA 2002: 286-297; 298-349.
[See also, Higham AMSA 1989: 321-355]

Week 9. 02 - 08 March-----

- 03 Mar Angkor in Broader Context
- 05 Mar Early Historic Archaeology: Thailand-Chinese trade

Week 10. 9-15 March-----

- 10 Mar Summary and Conclusions: States and early Civilization
Bellwood PIMA 1997: 308-314
Higham ECMSA 2002: 350-355.[See also Higham AMSA1989: 356-362]
- 12 Mar The Future of Archaeology in SE Asia

Final Exam: 8:00 Friday, March 20