ANTH 342

ARCHAEOLOGY OF EGYPT & THE NEAR EAST

CRN: 10371
PROFESSOR STEPHEN DUEPPEN
MW 12:00—1:20 pm

The archaeological sequences of Near Eastern and Egyptian civilizations are some of the best known in the world, and their study has contributed heavily to the development of both the methods and theory of archaeology as a discipline. In this course, we will explore the roots of both developmental trajectories, from the origins of agriculture and emergence of village communities, to the rise of states and empires. In so doing, we will study topics such as the origins of writing, elaboration of temple complexes, the history and use of pyramids and beliefs of the afterlife, and the development of ancient cities. Students will gain a basic understanding of the life of ordinary people and elites in these two regions over the past 12,000 years. This course satisfies the criteria for group status in the social sciences because it covers a representative sample of the major issues, debates, and questions in anthropological archaeology, and it is comparative across both time and space.

SATISFIES SOCIAL SCIENCE & MULTICULTURAL REQUIREMENT!