

Syllabus of Readings

Track C (this track) of MMW requires use of the class web site, located at:

<http://dkjordan.net/mmw09/mmw.html>

Occasional pages will ask you for a log-in (“_____”) and a password (also “_____”). The web site will be updated every day or two and grow substantially larger as the quarter progresses, so I do not recommend trying to print it out.

This paper syllabus lists only the required readings and the dates by which they should be read. Additions or deletions will be clearly marked on the on-line version, which also contains links to the on-line version of the Sourcebook, optional material, lecture notes, announcements, study aids, and information about registration, schedules, sections, tracks, books, requirements, exams, grading procedures, office hours, &c.

Segment I

In this portion of the course we examine the development of the capacities, limitations, and inclinations that are “hard wired” by our biology. Theoretical topics include intellectual models and classification, evolution, adaptation, and the art of making a best guess. Since nearly all pre-modern human societies have lived by foraging, we examine archaeological evidence of earliest *Homo sapiens* foragers, then turn our attention to the ethnographic analysis of two groups of XXth century foragers, the BaMbuti of the Congo, and the Eskimo of Quebec (the latter represented only by a film).

Week 0: Friday, September 25, 2009

Lecture: Overview, Policies, & Logistics

Week I: Monday, September 28, 2009

Required Web Reading: Class Policies, Procedures, & General Logistics (on class web site)

Sourcebook: Look over Table of Contents, Overview of MMW, and
Introduction [2 pp]

Zimmer ch 1 pp 8-23 [15 pp] The Clues (Genes and Fossils)

Sourcebook §1-C: Theory: Models [4 pp]

Sourcebook §2-A: Materials in Support of *Intimate Guide* (reference)

(Use the study guide (§2-A-1) and glossary (§2-A-2) for each chapter in Zimmer as you read it.)

Atlas pp 26-28 (Africa) (reference)

Lecture: Classification & Evolution

Week I: Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Zimmer ch 2 pp 24-43 [19 pp] A Budding Branch (DNA) & Study Guide

Sourcebook §2-A-3,4,5: Review materials in Support of *Intimate Guide* (Tables 3-5) (reference)

Sourcebook §1-H: Theory: The Idea of Evolution [7 pp]

Lecture: Australopithecines & Bipedalism

Week I: Friday, October 2, 2009

Sourcebook §1-B: Theory: Lumping & Splitting [3 pp]

Zimmer ch 3 pp 44-59 [15 pp] The Walk Begins (Australopithecus) & Study Guide

Zimmer ch 4 pp 60-77 [17 pp] The Toolmakers (Homo habilis) & Study Guide

Atlas pp 26-25 (Eurasia) (reference)

Web Source §II-1: Birth & Bipedalism (linked to web syllabus)

Lecture: Homo erectus/ergaster

Week II, Monday, October 5, 2009

Zimmer ch 5 pp 78-99 [21 pp] *Becoming Human (Homo erectus, heidelbergensis)* & Study Guide
Zimmer ch 6 pp 100-119 [19 pp] *Sapiens (Mitochondrial Eve)* & Study Guide
Sourcebook §2-B: Mitochondrial Eve [5 pp]
Lecture: Neanderthals

Week II, Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Zimmer ch 7 pp 120-143 [23 pp] *The Last Wave (Upper Paleolithic)* & Study Guide
Sourcebook §2-A-6: Table of European Prehistory [2 pp] (reference)
Sourcebook §1-A: Theory: Two Kinds of Definitions [4 pp]
Sourcebook §1-D: Theory: Imagining Prehistoric Behavior [6 pp]
Film: Neanderthal

Week II, Friday, October 9, 2009

Zimmer ch 8 pp 144-164 [20 pp] *Where Do We Go From Here? (Modern Variation)* & Study Guide
Web Source §II-2: Rensberger: *Racial Odyssey* [10 pp] (linked to web syllabus)
Lecture: The Upper Paleolithic (Hunting)

Week III, Monday, October 12, 2009

Turnbull Forward pp 7-8 & maps 1-3 [6 pp]
Turnbull Pronunciation & Glossary pp 281-287 [6 pp] (reference)
Turnbull ch 1-3 pp 11-72 [61 pp]
Sourcebook §5-A: List of Characters [3 pp] (reference)
Sourcebook §5-B: The Bantu Expansion [3 pp]
Lecture: The Upper Paleolithic (Art)

Week III, Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Turnbull ch 4-6 pp 73-125 [52 pp]
Film: *Nanook of the North*

Week III, Friday, October 16, 2009

Turnbull ch 7-9 pp 126-183 [57 pp]
Lecture: Foraging Peoples in Ethnographic Perspective

Week IV, Monday, October 19, 2009

Turnbull ch 10-12 pp 184-230 [46 pp]
Lecture: Foraging Peoples, Kinship, & Age Grades

Week IV, Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Turnbull ch 13-15 pp 231-279 [48 pp]
Lecture: Foraging Peoples' Politics and Religion

Week IV, Friday, October 23, 2009: First Midterm

You are required to take the midterm examination.

Segment II

This portion of the course begins with the development of the capacity to produce food rather than merely find it, archaeologically known as the Neolithic. This both allowed and required whole new ways of organizing life. It also introduced massive malnutrition and disease, and in this segment we consider the intertwined fortunes of humans and diseases they suffer from.

The discussion turns to ethnographic and historical examples of two rather egalitarian Neolithic-like gardening societies: the traditional Hopi and the Kawelka (represented only by a film). As the Neolithic gave way to the Bronze Age and the Iron

Age, when we see striking growth of hierarchy in human society. In this segment we use the Vikings of far northern Europe as an example of a chiefdom, or more exactly a field of chiefdoms. Theoretical topics include the role of values in sustaining peaceful human relations and the importance of trade in the emergence of archaic states.

Week V, Monday, October 26, 2009

Sourcebook §3-A: The Neolithic 1: "Agricultural Revolution" [16 pages]
Sourcebook §3-B: The Neolithic 2: Beyond Wheat [8 pages]
Sourcebook §3-C: The Neolithic 3: Living the Revolution [12 pages]
Lecture: Being Neolithic
or Lecture: Neolithic & Metal Age Villages

Week V, Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Sourcebook §3-D: After the Neolithic: The Metal Ages [15 pages]
Web Source §II-3: Ancient Metallurgy
Atlas pp 24-25 (Southwest Asia) (reference)
Lecture: Metal
and/or Film: In Search of the Lost Wax Method

Week V, Friday, October 30, 2009

Sourcebook §6-A: Hopi Social Order [18 pp]
Atlas p 8 (Southwestern USA) (reference)
Sourcebook §1-G: Theory: Conflicting Loyalties [4 pp]
Sourcebook §12-A Glossary (reference)
Lecture: Being Hopi
and/or Film: Maxidiwac

Week VI, Monday, November 2, 2009

Sourcebook §4-A: How Writing Works [13 pp]
Film: Ongka's Big Moka

Week VI, Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Sourcebook §3-E: Epidemic Disease [18 pp]
Lecture: Epidemic Disease & the Neolithic
Atlas pp 34-35 (China) (reference)

Week VI, Friday, November 6, 2009

Sourcebook §7-A: The Vikings [16 pp]
Lecture: Chiefdoms, Nomadism, & Raiding

Week VII, Monday, November 9, 2009 (Second Midterm)

You are required to take the midterm examination.

Week VII, Wednesday, November 11, 2009 (Veterans Day Holiday)

Segment III

This portion of the course moves to archaic states as they become larger entities. First we look at an alliance of archaic Greek states, using the opportunity to see how a famous work of world literature, the *Iliad*, works as a source for history. The relevance of environmental factors becomes focal, however. Next we contrast three large-scale polities: The Nyoro kingdom of Uganda was a very hierarchal, feudal system. The Aztec empire was built on tribute relations, with loose integration and the use of terror as a political instrument. It was ultimately unsuccessful in creating a stable political organization. We contrast the impressive stability of early Egypt. Theoretically important

in this section are concepts of socialization, mystification, and sumptuation, as well as the role of myth in sustaining hierarchy.

Week VII, Friday, November 13, 2009

Sourcebook §8-A:Regions in Greece (reference)
Sourcebook §8-B: Background to the Iliad [43 pp]
Atlas pp 30-31 (Eastern Mediterranean) (reference)
Lecture: Implications of Literacy

Week VIII, Monday, November 16, 2009

The Iliad, books 1-8, pp 33-95 [63 pp]
Lecture: Who's Homer?

Week VIII, Wednesday, November 18, 2009

The Iliad, books 9-17, pp 97-148 [52 pp]
Lecture: What Really Happened?

Week VIII, Friday, November 20, 2009

The Iliad, books 18-24, pp 149-208 [60 pp]
Lecture: The Shadow of Greek Myth

Week IX, Monday, November 23, 2009

Sourcebook §9-A: Mystification in an African Kingdom [28 pp]
Atlas p 41 (Eastern Africa) (reference)
Sourcebook §1-F: Theory: Sumptuation [3 pp]
Lecture: TBA

Week IX, Wednesday, November 25, 2009

Sourcebook §1-E: Theory: The Question "Why?" [3 pp].
Sourcebook §10-A The Aztecs: A Tributary Empire [55 pp]
Film: Aztecs: Inside the Hidden Empire
Atlas pp 16-19 (Mexico) (reference)

Week IX, Friday, November 27, 2009 (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Week X, Monday, November 30, 2009

Sourcebook §10-B An Aztec Portfolio [43 pp]
Lecture: An Aztec Manuscript

Week X, Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Sourcebook §11-A: Egyptian Origins [36 pp]
Atlas p 29 (Northern Africa) (reference)
Sourcebook §11-B: The Palette of Narmer. [5 pp]
Lecture: Egypt

Week X, Friday, December 4, 2009

Reading : Everything All Over Yet Again
Lecture: Theories of Pristine States
or Lecture: MMW Models Rehearsed

Week XI (Exam Week)

Wednesday, December 9, 2009, 3-6 pm: Final Examination

You are required to take the final examination.