This week we begin to have a look at ancient civilizations and the revolution that made that all possible—Food Production (sometimes also known as “The Neolithic Revolution”).

About 10,000 years ago humans began producing food, and things haven’t been the same since. Spencer Wells—you remember him from the National Geographic Genographic Project—recently wrote an excellent and important book about it . . .
Week 14 we’ll have our own in-class evaluation. Our IT folks have also sent (or will shortly send) you one on-line. Please complete both of them carefully and thoughtfully as they are very important to this class, and to the Department and College. Your responses are very useful and helpful to us, and to the operations of the Department and University. We look to you for suggestions for improvement in the future, and various administrators look to and at the results for program and performance evaluations and for the future planning of course offerings. Course evaluations are one of the few places where you can have a real influence on how the University operates in the future!

And, for the most part, it was agriculture that made civilization—living in cities—possible.

The word civilization comes the Latin cīvitās, referring to people who constituted a city-state—the citizenry of a town or city. Civilisation in the 18th century was contrasted with wild—sauvage in French—setting up the well-known comparison “civilized” and “savage” which really meant living in the wild—that is, hunting/gathering/foraging—vs. living in the city.

And, as I mentioned, that changed almost everything—at least for the city folks.

We’ll have a look at the “Agricultural Revolution,” known as “The Neolithic Revolution” in the Near East, and we’ll have a look at a couple of the early city-state civilizations, with the video "Wisdom of the Stones: Life in the Neolithic Age" (Part 1 of Secrets of the Stone Age Series).
"In this program, anthropologist Richard Rudgley strives to roll back the limits of history to include the remarkable achievements of the Neolithic Age. Engineering skills, as demonstrated by the temple of Hagar Qim and the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum, in Malta; indications of well-developed religious systems; evidence of acupuncture techniques; examples of bookkeeping via clay tokens; and proof of an intricate social structure through the digs at Çatal Höyük and Asikli Höyük, in Turkey, reveal the depth and the genius of the Neolithic peoples. Architect Richard England, writing specialist Denise Schmandt Besserat, and others support Rudgley’s thesis with expert analysis."

Of course the most famous Neolithic person is "Ötzi" “The Iceman”  
<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/video/Ice_Man.html#title1>. We’ll see the most recent film on Ötzi—Iceman Murder Mystery (NOVA October, 2011)—emphasized his life as a person living in the transitional times going from hunting/gathering/foraging to early agriculture, based on the most recent analysis of the contents of his stomach . . .

“He’s been dead for more than 5,000 years and poked, prodded, and probed by scientists for the last 20. Yet Ötzi the Iceman, the famous mumified corpse pulled from a glacier in the Italian Alps, continues to keep many secrets. Now, through an autopsy like none other, scientists will attempt to unravel mysteries about this ancient mummy, revealing not only the details of Ötzi’s death but also an entire way of life. How did people live during Ötzi’s time, the Copper Age? What did they eat? What diseases did they cope with? Join NOVA as we defrost the ultimate time capsule—the 5,000-year-old man.”

If you want, you can watch the video

**Iceman Murder Mystery**

[online](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/video/Ice_Man.html#title1) (NOVA October, 2011)

**Iceman Murder Mystery HomePage**

In the **moodle Forum** this week we’ll also have a look at Ötzi . . .

- **Forum: What's Really New with Ötzi The Iceman? (Due by Friday, 14 December 2012)**
As usual, if you have any questions, please let me know: mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu. Or, better yet, post them on your Discussion and Project forum boards. Share your ideas. Discuss them on-line with the others in class.

- Live chat for Project Collaboration
- General Student Discussion Area

The above items will be found at the top of your Moodle® folder under “Student Collaboration Space.”

Your Topics and Reading Assignments Listings for Week 14 will look something like the information below.

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

---

**Week 14 — Food Production: A Biocultural Revolution**

The Neolithic

(Week 14 starts on Thursday)

---

Prehistoric Cultures **Extra Credit** papers are due Friday, 7 December 2012

**AVISO:** Late Extra Credit Papers will not be accepted unless (1) arrangements for an alternate date have been arranged in advance, or (2) medical emergencies or similar extraordinary unexpected circumstances make it unfeasible to turn in the assignment by the announced due date.

---

**Food Production and the Rise of Ancient Civilizations: The Neolithic**

**Food Production: A Biocultural Revolution**

slides: (.pdf) (.pptx)

The First Civilizations

slides: (.pdf) (.pptx)

New World Civilizations

slides: (.pdf) (.pptx)

---

**course evaluation**

(CE Week 14 Monday, 10 December 2012)
CE Week 14 Monday, 10 December 2012 nlt 5:14
CE Week 14 Monday, 10 December 2012 break nlt 6:10-6:20

video:
"Wisdom of the Stones: Life in the Neolithic Age"
part 1 of Secrets of the Stone Age Series
(51 min., 2000, VC 3906, pt. 1)

course viewing guide
Mother Goddess
Hagar Qim, Malta
Malta HomePage

Bronze Age: 2,200 B.C.
Copper Age: 3,300 B.C.
Neolithic: 8,000 - 3,000 B.C.
("Wisdom of the Stones")

CE Week 14 Monday, 10 December 2012 break nlt 6:10-6:20
CE Week 14 Mond
video:
The Iceman Murder Mystery
(60 min., 2011, UM Duluth Library Multimedia GN776.22.I8 I24 2011 DVD)

Ötzi—The Iceman — South Tyrol Museum

Bronze Age: 2,200 B.C.
Copper Age: 3,300 B.C.
Neolithic: 8,000 - 3,000 B.C.
("Wisdom of the Stones")

CE Week 14 Monday, 10 December 2012
[CE usually scheduled for Week 15, but because of Labor Day this semester does not have a Week 15]
"The Collapse"
from the Out of the Past series
(60 min., 1993, VC 2135)
* time permitting

course viewing guide

As you view the videos over the remainder of the semester pay attention to . . .

1. the actual content of the various finds
2. archaeological field methods and techniques
3. laboratory methods and techniques
   o including reconstruction techniques, and . . .
4. archaeological dating techniques
5. theoretical / interpretative approaches
   o including logic of analysis

More information on methods is contained in the text and in the methods slides:

Archaeological Methods and Dating Techniques
WebPage

Some Important Concepts (slides 11B)
Special Skills:

- In the Field ([slides 10A](#))
- In the Lab ([slides 10B](#))
- In the Field and Lab ([slides 10C](#))

Archaeological Dating Methods ([slides 10D](#))

Other Methods of Analysis ([slides 10E](#))

For Week 14 Activities see [moodle](#)

readings from *Understanding Humans, 11th Edition*

Ch. 15, "The First Civilizations," pp. 373-406

assignment:

Review for Final Exam

Final Exam information is available at

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth1602/pceXamsTR.html#final>
Click on the various items for details

Review the materials

in your text

in your class notes
and on the

CE video viewing guides

Useful Information:

UMD Study Strategies

Test Taking Strategies

Learning Styles

Listening Skills

Taking Notes from Lectures

Special Facilities / Arrangements

Basic Information about the text

Writing Essays for Exams

(Purdue University Online Writing Lab)
Sample Exam Questions: Final

extra help with exams

CE Final Exam

The f2012 CE Prehistoric Cultures Final Exam will be Monday, 17 December 2012, 06:00 - 07:55 p.m. in Cina 214 (n.b. not 5:00)

The Live Chat for the CE Prehistoric Cultures Final Exam will be Sunday, 16 December 2012, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Sign in on moodle.

Other Q & A

[60 questions, 300 points]

exam answer sheet

Prehistoric Cultures Extra Credit papers are due Friday, 7 December 2012

AVIS0: Late Extra Credit Papers will not be accepted unless (1) arrangements for an alternate date have been arranged in advance, or (2) medical emergencies or similar extraordinary unexpected circumstances make it unfeasible to turn in the assignment by the announced due date.