

Duluth Campus

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Ancient Cultures of Middle America Week 8

Classic Period II

This will be a Classic week.

As mentioned last week, when you think of **The Classic**, think of the flagship sites of **Teotihuacán** in the Central Highlands of Mexico and **Tikal** in Guatemala. There are hundreds of others, literally, and keeping track of the hundreds of others is a little easier if you do it with reference to what was happening at Teotihuacán and Tikal.

Thursday we'll have a look at episode 2 of the *Spirits of the Jaguar series*, "**Forests of the Maya**" (60 min., 1997, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia F1430 .S65 2006 DVD).



Spirits of the Jaguar

"**Forests of the Maya**" shows "how the Maya developed from simple hunters and farmers into the greatest civilization of the Americas. Then, some 1,100 years ago, they mysteriously and suddenly abandoned their great jungle cities."

You'll see and hear interesting facts about the Maya, like how, at their height, 1200 years ago, the Mayan astronomers could predict an accurate calendar within one day / 6000 years—much better than the historical calendars of the Western World.

"**Forests of the Maya**" again talks about **caves**—a recurring theme in films on Ancient Mesoamerica, as caves are of great importance in Mesoamerica, caves being the entry to the underworld, one of the "**Three Worlds**" of the Maya.

And this week we'll explore the "Three Worlds" of the Maya, of which the caves play an important role.

And when you're watching "*Forests of the Maya*" and the rest of the films this semester, don't miss "the gorilla." Remember? . . .

Selective Attention Test

<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJG698U2Mvo>>

The Monkey Business Illusion



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGQmdoK_ZfY>

For this week our course developer, has prepared an on-line survey of the class. Please help us by filling it out honestly, and promptly. Your views are very important in the future development of this course.

Student Survey Feedback

<<https://ay14.moodle.umn.edu/mod/feedback/view.php?id=592452>>

As usual, be sure to check the activities of the week on your **Moodle** HomePage. . . . This week we'll focus on Maya rituals . . .

-  Response to the film "Forests of the Maya" (Due by the end of Week 9—Friday, 31 October 2014; Your Name Will Be Logged) Feedback
-  Forum: Maya Rituals and Decline in Big Game (Due by End of Week 9, Friday, 31 October 2014)

REM EXTRA CREDIT

As mentioned last week, if you didn't do quite as well as you might have liked on the Midterm Exam, or if you did better than you even hoped on the Midterm exam but want to "bank" some insurance points for your final course grade, think about doing one (or even two—one of each) of the optional extra credit papers.

There are **two Extra Credit options: (A) a Term Paper Option**, and/or **(B) a Review Option** of a lecture or a related film (*other* than one of the films we see in class). For the review option you may also *compare* two or more films. (Remember from Week 1, one of the main features of anthropology is that it is *comparative*?) Some of the films that qualify for the Film Review Option are listed as "Recommended" and "Good Supplementary" films on the Video Schedule at . . .


<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3618/mavideo_schedule.html#title>

- **Details on the extra credit** are on-line at <<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3618/maextrac.html#title>>.
 - **Term Paper Extra Credit Option**
<<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3618/maextrac.html#EC-paper>>

○ **Lecture / Film Review Extra Credit Option**

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3618/maextrac.html#EC-lecture>

Helpful information on writing Extra Credit Reports can be found at





(the Purdue Online Writing Lab)
<<http://owl.english.purdue.edu>>

APA Sample Papers
Sample APA Paper: [Definitions of Online Communication](#)
Sample APA Paper: [Adolescent Depression](#)

MLA Sample Papers
MLA Undergraduate Sample Paper: [Andrew Carnegie](#)
MLA Sample Papers: [Nineteenth Century Farming Handbooks](#)

Try sharing your ideas with others in class. Discuss them on-line . . .

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-  Wiki for Project Collaboration
-  Live chat for Project Collaboration
-  Wiki for Project Collaboration
- QUICKMAIL (see sidebar)

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

This week’s **(1) Topics, (2) Reading Assignments Listings, and (3) Activities** are detailed in the Week 8 Block of your **Moodle** folder.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to stop in after class, or post them on **Moodle**, or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu. And that goes especially for questions about your Case Study and the Midterm Exam. Better yet, post them in the **Moodle** Student Collaboration Space.

All things considered, it will be a Classic week.

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs