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Ancient Middle America Week 8



[<https://canvas.umn.edu/>](https://canvas.umn.edu/)

Ancient Cultures of Middle America Week 8

## Classic Stage



**It's Slow Going Right Now . . .**

**First of all let me again apologize for a delay in getting some of your work looked at and responded to. Right now I have 1800+ pages of galley proofs to three volumes to proofread for the publisher of the Paul Buffalo Biography project. That is something that simply cannot be delayed at this time, but it also means that other projects are moving along more slowly than usual. After spring break schedules should be back to normal—promise.**



# 1. Midterm Exam

If you took the exam, the results will soon be in your  canvas Gradebook, if they are not already.

Prof's "grading" exams is a lot like an ump in Major League Baseball calling balls and strikes. The Major League rules are clear

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3618/magrades.html#strikezone>> as are the stated criteria for written projects and exams [http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/comp3160/criteria\\_for\\_grading.html](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/comp3160/criteria_for_grading.html)>.

But, in the end, they are both human judgments.

The biggest difference between a Major League Umpire calling balls and strikes and a professor calling a grade is that you get ejected from the baseball game if you argue balls and strikes (see Section 9.02 Official Baseball Rules [http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/official\\_info/official\\_rules/foreword.jsp](http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/official_info/official_rules/foreword.jsp)) is that one *should* really question the prof if they didn't like the call, and that is especially true for midterm exams as one can often learn quite a bit that is helpful on the final by looking over and discussing a midterm exam.

Maybe a better analogy would be judging Olympic Figure Skating, or Gymnastics, or Ski Jumping, Diving and the like . . . <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3618/magrades.html#gymnastics>>.



If your style is to look at charts, the grading "chart" is at

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

So if, for whatever reason, you didn't like "the call," e-mail or stop in: <mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu>.

**Please pay attention to what the numbers mean** in terms of the final course letter grade:

Numerical Example:

$$18/20 + 93/100 + 372/400 = 483/520$$

= **92.9%**

= **A**

(the highest grade the UM system allows)

## EXTRA CREDIT

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](http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3618/mavideo_schedule.html)

- **Details on the extra credit** are on-line at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anth3618/maextrac.html>.
  - **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](#)

## 2. The Classic Stage

**This will be a Classic week. On Tuesday we'll** we'll get on with the **Classic**. We'll have a look at the **Classic Stage** criteria and then start having a look at what's happening in the Ancient Middle American Classic.

As mentioned last week, **when you think of the Classic, think of the flagship sites of Teotihuacán** in the Central Highlands of Mexico (home of . . . well, home of the Teotihuacáanos) **and Tikál** in Guatemala (considered by most to be the flagship site of the Lowland Maya). 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 Tikál.



[Teotihuacán](#), [Mesoamerican Photo Archives](#)

-- ©David R. Hixson

Tuesday we'll have a look at the short video  
***Teotihuacán: The City of the Gods***

(27 min., 2002, UM DULUTH Library Multimedia F1219.1.T27 .T44 2001 DVD).



Quetzalcoatl



[Tikal, Guatemala](#),

-- [Wikipedia](#)

If time allows, we'll also have a look at the modern-day people of and around the former Aztec town of **Tepeapulco (Hidalgo)** just to the northeast of the site of Teotihuacán.

If you haven't already heard from me about your class **Project Proposal**, you will soon. In the meantime, if you have questions about your proposal, please e-mail [troufs@d.umn.edu](mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu).

## This Week's Assignments and Events

... are listed on your "Calendar".



## This Week's "Calendar"

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  Week 8                 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  MA 8 Readings                 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  Mardi Gras 2019   9:01a MA 8 Video: Teotihuacán: The City of the Gods (27 min.)                 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  Ash Wednesday 2019                 </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  9a MA 13 The Classic Stage (cont.)                 </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  MA 7 Pick Subject for Case Study on a Middle American Personality                 </div>

They are also listed on the “Syllabus” section of your  canvas folder, if you prefer to have them in another form (see below).

## And the “Syllabus” version is found here:



## In the “Syllabus” mode the assignments look like this:

Sun Mar 3, 2019	 Week 8
Mon Mar 4, 2019	 MA 8 Readings
Tue Mar 5, 2019	 Mardi Gras 2019  MA 8 Video: Teotihuacán: The City of the Gods (27 min.)
Wed Mar 6, 2019	 Ash Wednesday 2019
Thu Mar 7, 2019	 MA 13 The Classic Stage (cont.)
Sat Mar 9, 2019	 MA 7 Pick Subject for Case Study on a Middle American Personality

If you have any **questions** right now, please do not hesitate to post them on the  **canvas** Course “Chat”, or e-mail [troufs@d.umn.edu](mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu), or stop by Cina 215 before or after class.

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

<<http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/>>