

SOUTHEASTERN U.S. PREHISTORY

TERM PAPER

Please write a term paper—for grad students, 15-20 pages long, and for undergraduates, 10-15 pages long—on a topic of your choice in Southeastern archaeology. One approach towards developing a term paper topic is to focus on a broad anthropological theme—trade and exchange, iconography and symbolic imagery monumental architecture, warfare, technological innovation, political economy, household archaeology, the transition from foraging to farming, transitions between mobile and sedentary settlement patterns. Another approach is to develop a topic focused on one or some of the major sites in the Southeast—Moundville, Etowah, Cahokia, Spiro, Windover, Watson Brake, Poverty Point. A combination of these approaches—or something else entirely—is certainly acceptable.

A brief (one paragraph or more) statement about your term paper topic is due on **10/1/08**; please send your statement as an email attachment to crodrning@tulane.edu, or bring a printout of it to class. Please include at least four bibliographic references relevant to that topic. Your references may include books, journal articles, and chapters in edited volumes, but *not* web pages. You are welcome to narrow your paper topic, broaden it, or change your topic entirely. You may consult with me and also with each other about your term papers, but your paper should, of course, reflect your own thoughts and your own argument.

A draft of at least four pages of your term paper—along with at least seven bibliographic references—is due on **10/31/08**; please send your paper as an email attachment to crodrning@tulane.edu, or bring a printout of it to class. The final draft of your term paper (typed and double spaced, one inch margins, page numbers of each page, an unnumbered title page at the beginning, and a references cited section at the end) is due in class on **11/24/08**; please send your paper as an email attachment or bring a printout of it to class. Your final term paper bibliography should include *at least ten* references cited in your paper. Your references may include books, journal articles, and chapters in edited volumes, but *not* web pages. Term paper presentations will begin on **12/1/08**; the schedule of presentations will be set when we are close to that date.

With respect to finding references relevant to your term paper topic, please consult the readings you are doing for the course—and the bibliographies of those articles—and browse the papers that are posted to our “course documents” section on Blackboard. Other valuable resources for library research include online databases such as Anthropology Plus and World Cat, as well as the many journals available online (<http://library.tulane.edu/>). Another helpful resource for background information is the Southeast volume in the *Smithsonian Institution Handbook of North American Indians* series (<http://anthropology.si.edu/handbook.htm>).

There are many scholarly journals with papers relevant to Southeastern archaeology. Journals that are most likely to have papers of interest include *American Antiquity*, *Southeastern Archaeology*, *World Archaeology*, *Current Anthropology*, the *Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology*, and the *Journal of Archaeological Research*. There are also numerous edited volumes and single-authored or co-authored books published by university presses of Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, and Nebraska, and by publishers such as Cambridge University Press, Academic Press, Plenum, Kluwer, and the Smithsonian Institution Press.

Please follow the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) style guide in formatting your term paper bibliography. A copy of the SAA style guide is available on Blackboard (<http://blackboard.tulane.edu/>) and on the SAA web page (<http://www.saa.org/>). Examples of bibliographic entries for several different types of publications are the following. Arrange them alphabetically in your references cited section at the end of your term paper, and refer to them at appropriate places in the text of your term paper in parentheses, as in the following examples.

EXAMPLES OF CITATIONS IN THE TEXT OF YOUR PAPER

Several authors have related participation in trade and exchange networks to status and wealth distinctions within Mississippian chiefdoms (Brown et al. 1990; King 2003), and others have emphasized the role of craft production and the circulation of prestige goods as fundamental to the social, political, and economic organization of Mississippian societies (Pauketat 1997; Pauketat and Emerson 1991; Trubitt 2000; Wilson 2002).

Sassaman (2005) argues that the Poverty Point earthworks are part of a much wider Late Archaic ritual landscape, but Gibson (2007) argues that the cultural system associated with Poverty Point encompassed only a relatively small region within the Lower Mississippi River Valley.

REFERENCES CITED

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