

Syllabus and Course Outline

I. Course Title: Prehistoric Lithic Description and Analysis

II. Course Prefix and Number: EDU 589

III Credit: 1.0 Graduate credit

IV. Dates/Times:

V. Instructor: Kevin Black, Colorado Historical Society and Colorado Archaeological Society for the Museum of Western Colorado.

VI. Location: See Master Schedule

VII. Course Description:

The lithics course introduces individuals to the technology of stone tool manufacture, the identification of tool classes, and basic lithic analysis. It is important that individuals learn to recognize this kind of material, as it's often the best indication of the presence of an archaeological site.

VIII. Course Objectives:

Students will:

- A. Identify rock types and discuss documented cultural uses
 - 1. Igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rock
 - 2. Stone Tool sources in Colorado

- B. Investigate early evidence of lithic technology

- C. Examine flaked stone tool manufacture and use
 - 1. Manufacture stages of bifacial tools
 - 2. Core types and percussion flaking
 - 3. Flake types and attributes
 - 4. Wear patterns and indications of use
 - 5. Blanks and preforms
 - 6. Pressure flaking and types of retouch

- D. Examine ground and pecked stone artifacts
 - 1. Tools and materials used in manufacture
 - 2. Techniques of manufacture
 - 3. Wear patterns and indications of use

- E. Discuss lithics in site interpretation
 - 1. Characteristics to note on survey
 - 2. Pattern analysis

- F. Investigate stone tool typology
 - 1. Defining classes and types of tools
 - 2. Artifact attributes useful in analysis

- G. Identify common tool classes in Colorado
 - 1. Ground and pecked stone tools
 - 2. Carved stone tools
 - 3. Flaked stone tools

IX. Texts, Readings, Instructional Resources:

There are no required texts, but a syllabus, handouts, a glossary, and a comprehensive reading list are provided by the instructor. These materials, together with audiovisual materials and artifacts are used as a basis for instructing the class.

X. Relevant Colorado Content Standards:

XI. Course Requirements and Grading Policy:

1. Attendance: Roll, which is required by the Colorado Historical Society, is taken each day of the course. Attendance is required for college credit.

2. Grading Policy: All Courses are Pass/Fail.

The 13 PAAC classes, of which this is one, are intensive and comprehensive in content. In order to gain credit toward PAAC certification, participants are required to take a final exam and pass it with a grade of at least 70%. Those who do not pass the final exam can attempt to take a

second (different) make-up exam which must be passed at a level of at least 70%. Those failing the second exam must repeat the course in its entirety and pass another exam to receive credit.

Most final exams have 40-60 questions and include various forms of assessment including: term definitions; multiple-choice; true-false; short answer; and a single essay question. Detailed information on all CHS/CAS-PAAC courses can be found on the web site:
www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/paac/paacindex.htm.

3. Grade Distribution

70-100: Pass

Below 70: Fail

Note: the extensive bibliography is available upon request.