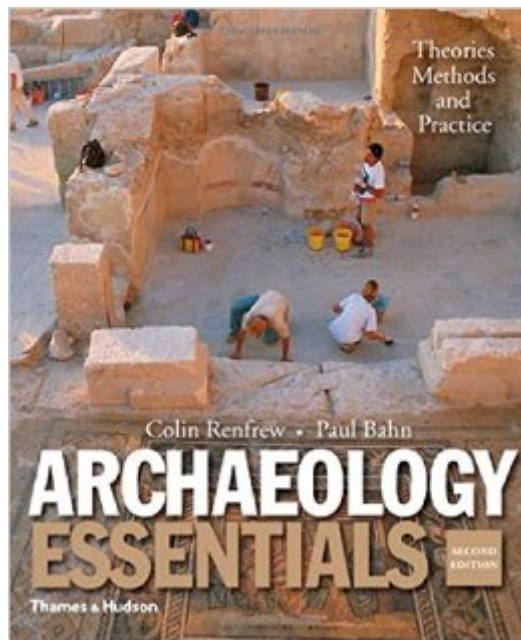


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Archaeology Essentials: Theories, Methods, And Practice (Second Edition)



Synopsis

An updated edition of the concise version of the best-selling introduction to archaeology. This new brief version of the best-selling textbook was carefully rewritten to provide a readable and compact introduction to archaeology for those new to the field. No other book of this length can match its range of essential information and explanation. The vocabulary and the use of technical terms have been carefully reviewed. The amount of detail has been considerably reduced, and coverage of difficult or cutting-edge topics is made more accessible for students in courses that treat such subjects briefly. In particular, the coverage of archaeological theory and science has been substantially rewritten to provide a convenient overview without overwhelming the student. 220 black-and-white illustrations

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I rented this textbook as a optional resource for a Coursera class on Archeology and it was a great investment for a novice, such as myself. I'll definitely be exercising the option to purchase the book at the end of my rental. It's easy to understand, while not being condescending. Great starter reference!

Even though I found this subject to be EXTREMELY boring, the book was very easy to read and understand. This is pretty much the abridged version of Renfrew and Bahn's Archaeology book (the maroon one, which is scary lengthy and thick). Renfrew and Bahn really make sure you understand the MANY different schools of thought in Archaeology. Renfrew and Bahn talk more about Cultural

Resource Management (CRM) towards the end, which I thought was disappointing since CRM is now somewhere close to 90% of Archaeology jobs. I guess CRM wasn't as important for the longest time in the subject's history; but, still, it's important now. My favourite chapter would have to be Cognitive Archaeology. I know this probably sounds crazy to you, but yes, there are ways for Archaeologists to seek an understanding of the cognitive processes of an individual of an ancient society. It seems clear that Renfrew and Bahn are both highly skilled at methodology, which they discuss throughout the book. Although Renfrew is hella famous for his work anyway, he also pulls in accounts of many archaeological finds throughout the century apart from his own, which is pretty important if you ask me. To help you understand the contents and to test yourself, there are on-line resources included with the textbook for FREE at [...] which really helped me review what I read. The online quizzes help you determine your problem areas--if you get something wrong, it will show you the page where it comes from so you can reread it.

This text is a brilliant overview of archaeology, including excavation methods, dating techniques, the development of archaeology and much much more. A must for those interested in archaeology, those beginning their study in archaeology, and even for amateur archaeologists. Well written and thought provoking, this is so much better than those dry dusty old text books. I read the whole thing right through, and enjoyed it thoroughly.

If you're taking or teaching an Archaeology class, this book is the way to go. It was easy to read, well-organized, and easy to locate important information. Great resource for any beginning archaeologist.

Used this for an intermediate archaeology course, but am reviewing this a few semesters later as my study in the field has deepened. This is a great intro book, and covers a lot of content, but on a fairly superficial level. This would be great for an enthusiast, or non-anthro major, but would prove to be fairly redundant for anyone past the intermediate stage. We as a class ended up ditching the book half way through the semester. Of course, your courses might be different, but all of the information that could possibly be covered in your course can be found online with more detail.

I purchased this textbook to use with a MOOC as recommended reading. Textbooks are more difficult to read than fiction or most types of non-fiction, this book is no different. While it is chock full of info, it is a drudge to get through. Better used as a reference book than casual reading.

very basic text book on archaeology good for a beginner covers methods use in the field and lab today was a text book at my college also good sale back value at bookstore unlike most books were you get very little

"Archaeology Essentials" is an excellent book for the beginner archaeologist. Readers are introduced to all the terminology using simple words. Renfrew and Bahn describe the methods and definitions used by archaeologists in a very easy-to-read fashion. Furthermore, they cause their readers to contemplate the sociological, spiritual, and educational aspects and truths of archaeology. The authors leave it open for the readers to interpret as they wish, while at the same time giving the readers purposeful, well-written questions. At the end of this book, the beginner archaeologist or archaeology student is knowledgeable and also ready for asking questions and exploring the world of archaeology further. The book has a good balance of text and images. Its format is easy to understand. It includes chapter summary, "Further Reading" lists, and a glossary. As a student of archaeology, I can say that I approve highly of this book. Furthermore, I can say that anthropology and archaeology are closely related. This point is significant because, this book was recommended to me by my archaeology professor and was also approved by Dr. Bob Anderson of the Anthropology Department at my college. Bob Anderson is an achieved anthropologist who has worked with and met the likes of esteemed anthropologists Margaret Meade, George Bateson, and Jay Ruby. (Look them up!)

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