

Tracy NEMETH, ANTHRO 3908, Aug. 3/79

The flintknapping course, offered by Don Crabtree this year at the University of Lethbridge, I found, was truly interesting and the best course I have taken yet during my 3 years at the U. of L. I found that this course has helped me an incredible amount as far as archaeology is concerned. Having previously this summer taken a field school course from Rob Bonnichsen in the Pryor Mountains, I find that this course has filled in a lot about artifacts, (poruts) their making, and their use, that field school didn't allow time for.

Rob Bonnichsen just introduced me to flintknapping. Before this time, I didn't even know what the word meant! I found, through his demonstrations, a completely different area in archaeology that I had never even fathomed was taking place in the archaeological spectrum of today. During the fieldschool, I managed to play around with flintknapping a little and I found it incredibly fascinating.

I am really pleased that I was allowed to take this course, as I didn't get my registration in, and in fact, had completely missed it during the final exam shuffle. I found Don Crabtree, during this course period to be one of the nicest and friendliest teachers I've ever had. He wouldn't hesitate at any time to help us and his knowledge of this art is mind boggling. I don't think I would have wanted to take this course from anyone but him because of his great skill and knowledge and I admire his stamina in the face of all of his medical problems.

Ca. 29-7.19.1

As for suggestions for this course, I would like to see it continue for other students to take. Anyone interested in archaeology or anthropology shouldn't be without a course like this. Although I realize Don will not be able to teach it, I do think that it is advantageous to get other flintknappers in from other universities to teach this art. I also wouldn't mind taking an advanced course in flintknapping, or some independent studies that could be taken for a more indepth study of the cause.

I especially would like to see a room set aside for the anthropology students here at U. of L. for flintknapping. I think that only practice will make perfect, and as there seems to be a great interest in this course (from the amount of applications made) I think it would prove advantageous in the long run.

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