

Richard PEARSON, ANTHRO 3908, Aug. 3/79

This course will be particularly useful for me in general teaching - Introductory Archaeology (2nd year level) and in general lectures. The public relates particularly well to stone tool making; I know I will be able to explain technology much better, and will be able to give some simple demonstrations. In connection with general lectures which I give on East Asian prehistory, the new perspectives I have gained will be invaluable. We have a number of graduate students working in lithics, (since BC is aceramic) and I will be able to comment upon their work much more effectively (I do not supervise such dissertations).

In my specialty, Eastern Asia, the materials I have learned here are invaluable--while there is a small group of specialists in Paleolithic work in Japan and Korea, few of the general archaeologists have had this kind of experience.

We have been fortunate in having a particular format for this course--the audiovisual; --also the one week duration. It would have been very difficult for me to take a course of more than a week. However, we have been able to cover many points, by working all day and evenings. The films were also invaluable. I think that this course should be maintained in future, and that other universities may borrow this idea.

Other courses in materials would be useful, but might be too complicated logistically--I'm thinking of a course in metals which could be given by Ursula Franklin. It would involve particular lab facilities which would be complicated.

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It would be useful to have more lithic materials to practice percussion - but I'm not sure that it is absolutely necessary - since we seem to have just about enough.

The assistant, Jim Woods, has been invaluable. As a group built up, it might be good to have one more experienced person, -- but not essential.

I think that this kind of course is invaluable in giving one new perspectives in both teaching and research--particularly in areas such as Oceania, where the level of sophistication in lithics is not as high as Europe or Western North America.

I have heard about Don Crabtree and his wonderful teaching for 15 years -- I am so glad that I have had this chance to work with him for this week--. It is one of the highlights of recent years for me.

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