Archaeology of Island Southeast Asia and the Pacific
ARCHY 325/525

Position Paper Guidelines

Question
What is the best explanation for the initial appearance of pottery and the bones of domesticated animals at archaeological sites in Taiwan, ISEA, Near Oceania and the Lapita area of Remote Oceania between 4500 and 3500 years ago?

Some Possible Positions
1. This is evidence of an intrusive migration of peoples from Taiwan who bring knowledge of pottery and animal husbandry with them, replacing pre-existing populations in ISEA and Near Oceania (*Fast* or *Express Train* hypothesis).

2. This is evidence of a slow diffusion of people originating in Taiwan (*Slow Train* hypothesis) or Wallacea (*Slow Boat* hypothesis) who also mix with pre-existing populations in ISEA and Near Oceania and adopt some of their technology along the way.

3. This is evidence of the development of a seagoing/farming culture by pre-existing people in ISEA who had some interaction with mainland SEA and Taiwan, and who eventually expanded their occupation into Remote Oceania (variations include the *Nusantao*, *Voyaging Corridor* and *Entangled Bank* hypotheses)

4. another position from published literature

5. another position of your own invention

Supporting your position
You should state your position in the first paragraph of your paper. You should then try to account for as much of the archaeological evidence as possible (dates of sites, geographical patterns, assemblages of artifacts or faunal/botanical remains, etc). You may also bring in linguistic evidence, DNA (of modern or ancient people, animals or plants) or other relevant data. However, your paper should rely primarily on the archaeological data. Citing other experts' opinions is not sufficient; the paper should be YOUR representation of the primary archaeological data.

Your paper must
--be between 1,000 and 1,200 words long, no more, no fewer (about 4-5 double spaced pages);
--cite at least four published sources, which can include assigned readings from the class, and/or others;
--use any citation format you wish as long as it is consistent throughout your paper.

Grading
First drafts of your paper will be reviewed by your peers in class and by me afterwards.

Your paper grade (which accounts for 25% of your course grade) will be based on the final version of your paper using the following rubric:

· Persuasiveness (logical coherence of your position and fit with the data): 10 points
· Clarity of writing (convincing language, clear structure, grammar and spelling, easy to read and understand): 10 points
· Integration of peer/instructor comments into your final draft AND quality of your reviews of other's papers: 5 points

Note
If you miss the peer review session on October 27, you automatically lose 5 points, along with extremely helpful suggestions for improving your first draft. You may get those points back IF you organize your own peer review (of your paper by at least 2 others and of at least 2 other papers by you), but this is entirely your responsibility to organize and you must provide me with documentation to get credit.

Due Dates
First draft due **Wednesday October 29,** bring hard copy to class for peer review read-around

Comments from peers and instructor returned to you on **Monday November 3**.

Final version due **Monday November 10**, bring hard copy to class; staple revised paper together with your marked-up first draft