



Ancient Lives: An Introduction to Archaeology and Prehistory

By Brian M. Fagan



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Theory and Methods in Archaeology and Prehistory

Written for complete beginners in a narrative style, *Ancient Lives* is aimed at introductory courses in archaeology and prehistory that cover archaeological methods and theory, as well as world prehistory.

The first half of *Ancient Lives* covers the basic principles, methods, and theoretical approaches of archaeology. The second half is devoted to a summary of the major developments of human prehistory: the origins of humankind and the archaic world, the origins and spread of modern humans, the emergence of food production, and the beginnings of civilization.

Learning Goals

Upon completing this book, readers should be able to:

Understand the basic principles of archaeology

Summarize the major developments of human prehistory

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Brian Fagan is a leading archaeological writer and internationally recognized authority on world prehistory. He studied archaeology and anthropology at Pembroke College and Cambridge University. He then spent seven years in sub-Saharan Africa working in museums, monument conservation, and excavating early farming sites in Zambia and East Africa. He was a pioneer of multidisciplinary African history in the 1960s. From 1967 to 2003, he was professor of anthropology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he specialized in lecturing and writing about archaeology to wide audiences. He is now Emeritus Professor of Anthropology.

Brian Fagan has written six best-selling textbooks (all published by Prentice Hall): *Ancient Lives: An Introduction to Archaeology and Prehistory*; *In the Beginning, Archaeology: A Brief Introduction*; *World Prehistory*; *Ancient Civilizations* (with Chris Scarre); and this volume—which are used around the world. His general books include *The Rape of the Nile*, a classic history of Egyptology; *The Adventure of Archaeology*; *Time Detectives*; *Ancient North America*; *The Little Ice Age*; *Before California: An Archaeologist Looks at Our Earliest Inhabitants*; and *The Long Summer*. He was also General Editor of the *Oxford Companion to Archaeology*. In addition, he has published several scholarly monographs on African archaeology and numerous specialized articles in national and international journals. An expert on multimedia teaching, he has received the Society for American Archaeology's first Public Education Award for his indefatigable efforts on behalf of archaeology and education.

Brian Fagan's other interests include bicycling, sailing, kayaking, and good food. He is married and lives in Santa Barbara with his wife and daughter, four cats (who supervise his writing), and last but not least, a minimum of four rabbits.

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