

THE ANCIENT CITY
Anthropology 3510
Fall 2019

Week 8 Readings: Some Discussion Questions

1. Why are palaces, cities, and states almost "unthinkable" for many North American archaeologists?
2. Is Lekson convincing that North American palaces, cities, and states are reasonable to "think"? Why? What's the most compelling evidence for palaces in the American Southwest? (there are a number of different categories).
3. What does urbanism look like at Cahokia and Chaco (e.g., planning principles)? What are the similarities and differences? What governance structures appear to be associated with the evidence for urbanism?
4. How does Mound 72 at Cahokia and Room 33 at Pueblo Bonito relate to urban governance?
5. Why did urbanism take root at Cahokia and Chaco? What causal factors appear to have been involved?
6. How does the urban experience (layout, lifeways, history, etc.) compare between North America and what we've studied on other continents?