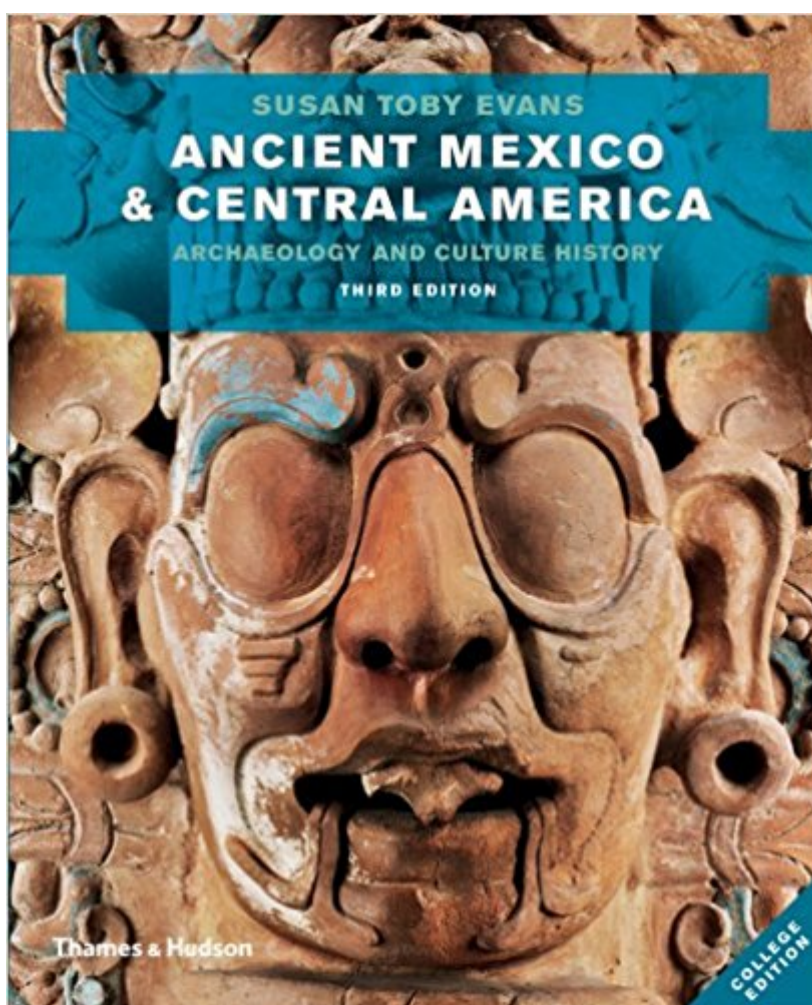


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# Ancient Mexico And Central America: Archaeology And Culture History (Third Edition)



## Synopsis

The definitive textbook on the archaeology and history of Mesoamerica This essential textbook brings to life the cultures of Mexico and Central America in the centuries leading up to and including the Spanish conquest. The first edition won the Society for American Archaeology book award in 2005, and it has become a mainstay in courses throughout the United States and Canada. The third edition includes new box features, thoroughly revised references, and an up-to-date account of the rise and heyday of the Aztecs. 489 illustrations, 81 in color

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A must buy for all those interested in the pre-Columbian world's most dynamic and complex societies, from the ancient Olmec until the Spanish Conquest." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Susan Toby Evans is Professor of Anthropology at Pennsylvania State University and senior editor (with David Webster) of *Archaeology of Ancient Mexico and Central America: An Encyclopedia*.

This is a fantastic general overview of Mesoamerican archaeology: accurate, comprehensive (I mean REALLY comprehensive), clearly written, and brimming with illustrations. I used this book to study for my comprehensive exams in archaeology. I highly recommend it for that purpose, or as a guide to some of the regions that all too often get left out of general-audience books on Mesoamerica: West Mexico, Veracruz and the Huasteca, etc. This is a Thames and Hudson book

and it feels like one--readers familiar with Fagan's "Ancient North America" or Coe's twin volumes, "Mexico" and "The Maya," can expect the same standards of publication and the same quantity of beautifully-reproduced line drawings, maps, and photographs. Toby Evans's book is better than Coe's, though: not only is it a single synthetic volume, but her writing is clearer and she does not use the text to grind axes or name-check her former graduate students. The text benefits from having only a small dose of theory, which when it does show up is mostly of the cultural ecology variety one would expect from an author with Toby Evans's Penn State affiliation. Throughout the book, there are special 1-2 page sections on all kinds of topics: pottery, exchange systems, birth and childhood among the Aztecs, chinampa agriculture, etc. These are especially useful for general readers--somebody planning a trip to Mexico, for instance--looking for some background on the details of life in prehistory, and not just what-happened-when.

This was a really great book for a really great class I took in 2008. I loved this book so much I still have it on my bookshelf today 7 years later. It is printed on excellent quality paper, is very heavy and bulky, but overall a very reliable book as far as construction and sturdiness. I wish more of the pictures were in actual color, and the text at some points can be a bit dull, but it is a history book, only so much interesting you can throw in between facts. Some chapters are captivating while others drag on endlessly. Still a must have for anyone interested in Ancient Mexico & Central America, Anthro/Arch Majors, History buffs.

This book was really fascinating and full of great information. I am an archaeologist and found this book to be super interesting. I also passed it on to a friend who felt the same. I think this book would be great for a course or for someone like me who just wants to enjoy learning. Well written for the laymen too.

The book as a read is great if you like to learn about Mesoamerica and history of how certain civilisations lived and thrived. The book in the condition that I bought it in was great. Couldn't really ask for a better copy and returning it was a breeze

This text is alright. Pictures and graphs are ok, but the timelines are a little difficult to follow sometimes. It would be better if they were organized according to geographical areas then into time periods. I paid extra for express shipping and it took a week, plus a weekend to arrive.

Pretty dry material. Very informative but is presented in a way that is not exactly entertaining.

Very interesting

This textbook is a good textbook for my mesoamerica course. I am not an anthropology major, but I am taking the course as a gen-ed. Sometimes the books wording can be a little obtuse, but overall I think that the way the book explains things is pretty decent.

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