Environment & Cultural Behavior  
ANT 4403, Section 11F0 - Spring 2014  
Class Meeting Times: Mon 12:50-1:40 & Wed 12:50-2:45  
Meeting Locations: Monday TUR 2350 & Wednesday CHE 0237

Instructor: Donald Underwood  
Office: TUR B329  
Office Hours: Mon 11:00am-12:30pm  
Wed 11:00am-12:30pm  
Email: donaldunderwood@ufl.edu

This course examines cultural behavior in specific historical and environmental contexts and cross-culturally. The course will be divided into two parts. The first half of the course is designed to introduce the subject of environmental anthropology. Major concepts and methods will be introduced, and we will discuss case studies of human-environment interactions in various ecological habitats. The second half of the course introduces a number of environmental transformations that are occurring today and cultural responses to those changes. Case studies in this section will cover topics of climate change, sea level rise, species extinction, technological and environmental disasters and natural resource management. This course outlines an anthropological perspective on environmental change and highlights anthropology’s application to biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation.

Goals and Outcomes:  
Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:
  • Describe what environmental anthropology is, what environmental anthropologists do, and how they do it  
  • Discuss the major theoretical and methodological developments in environmental anthropology  
  • Understand economic and political drivers of climate change and species extinction  
  • Develop an understanding and appreciation human adaptations to the environment and cultural connections with nonhuman species  
  • Discuss how the anthropological perspective is useful in biodiversity conservation and climate change research and mitigation efforts

Required Texts:  
- Susan Crate and Mark Nuttall, eds. *Anthropology and Climate Change: From Encounters to Actions*, 2009.  
Course Website:
In this course we will be using e-Learning as the primary for communication, assignments and exams. Additional readings, videos and announcements will be made available through e-Learning. To log on, please visit the e-learning website (https://lss.at.ufl.edu/) and select e-Learning Login. You will be responsible for any announcements or additional materials posted on the site, so please check it regularly.

Grading: Grades will be determined by participation, two exams and a research project. The point breakdown is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Project</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>400</td>
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</tbody>
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Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

- 100-93.0% A
- 92.9-90.0% A-
- 89.9-87.0% B+
- 86.9-83.0% B
- 82.9-80.0% B-
- 79.9-77.0% C+
- Below 60% E

To figure your grade, simply divide the total points you have earned by the total possible points and multiply by 100. This will give you the percentage. For instance, if you earn 350 points during the semester, divide that by 400, giving you 87.5% -- or a “B+.”

Participation: Participation is a key component of this course. Students are expected to read all assigned readings before class and demonstrate an understanding of the material in class discussion. Students must share their perspective(s) and ideas during discussion. Attendance does not suffice to gain the entire participation grade, although it constitutes half of the participation points. Participation will be monitored by noting students’ names when they participate meaningfully in class.

Exams: Students will have two exams that are not comprehensive. Each exam consists of two parts: essay and short answer. Students will have one week to complete their exam via e-Learning. Students who choose to take the exam on an off-campus computer must do so at their own risk. If students have any issues with the e-Learning system, call 392-HELP and ask for a case number so I may track your difficulties.

Essays: Three essay questions will be provided through e-Learning on exam day and remain open for one week (specific dates are on the weekly schedule below). Students must answer two of the provided essay questions. Each essay question will merit a MINIMUM response of approximately 500 words (approximately 2 pages, double-spaced).
Short Answer: Ten short answer questions will accompany the essay questions. These will be
drawn directly from the readings and class discussions.

**Research Project:** Each student will select a research topic related to environmental anthropology and **present a research poster** during the last week of classes. The research poster will focus on the research question(s) and research results. The research project is an opportunity for students to further explore an environmental topic that interests them. Students are expected to use concepts and theories from environmental anthropology to explore the topic or question(s) of their choosing. For a successful project, students should explicitly demonstrate how the field of anthropology could be applied to understand and perhaps improve our understanding of the topic. Students are encouraged to discuss their projects with the instructor. More details will be provided for each stage of the project’s development. UT Austin has an excellent website with suggestions on designing research posters: [https://www.utexas.edu/ugs/our/poster](https://www.utexas.edu/ugs/our/poster)

Posters should be a standard size of 36” X 48”. On-campus poster printing is available, and information is available here: [http://print.at.ufl.edu/printingquestions.shtml](http://print.at.ufl.edu/printingquestions.shtml)

Students will develop their research project over the course of the semester:

- 150-200 word research proposal due February 12th by 4:30pm. The proposal should include key questions or issues the project will explore, describe the topic and explain the importance of the topic (25 points).
- 300-350 word abstract and bibliography due March 12th by 4:30pm. Students should have at least 10 scholarly references (e.g. peer reviewed journal articles) (25 points).
- Electronic draft of research poster due April 2nd by 4:30pm (50 points).
- Final poster presentations April 21st and 23rd (50 points).

**Course Format:**
This course will include both lectures and class discussions. It is **REQUIRED** that you come to class prepared by completing the day’s assigned readings before coming to class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of Jan 6th</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings/Assignments</th>
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| Intro to Environmental Anthropology | 1/6 No Readings  
1/8 Townsend, Chapter 1  
1/8 Kopnina and Shoreman-Ouimet, Introduction | 1/8 Townsend, Chapter 2, 3, 4 and 9  
1/15 Kopnina and Shoreman-Ouimet, Ch. 1 |
| Week of Jan 13th      | Humans and Nature                  | No Class Jan 20th – Holiday  
1/22 Townsend, Chapters, 5, 6 and 7  
1/22 Kopnina and Shoreman-Ouimet, Ch. 2 |
| Week of Jan 27th | Environmental Politics | 1/27 Townsend, Chapters 10-13  
1/29 Kopnina and Shoreman-Ouimet, Ch. 3 |
|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Week of Feb 3rd  | Environmental Justice  | 2/3 Kopnina and Shoreman-Ouimet, Chs. 6 and 7  
2/5 Film: *Crude* |
| Week of Feb 10th | Environmental Conservation | 2/10 Kopnina and Shoreman-Ouimet, Ch. 9  
2/12 Kopnina and Shoreman-Ouimet, Chs. 11 and 12  
**Research Proposal Due February 12th by 4:30pm** |
| Week of Feb 17th | Climate and Culture | 2/17 Townsend Chapter 8 and Kopnina and Shoreman-Ouimet, Ch. 8  
2/19 Crate and Nuttall, Chapters 1 and 2  
**Exam 1 Posted on e-Learning February 19th** |
| Week of Feb 24th | Fielding Climate Change in Cultural Anthropology | 2/24 Crate and Nuttall, Chs. 3 and 9  
2/26 Crate and Nuttall, Chs. 5 and 6  
**Exam 1 Due February 26th by 4:30pm** |
|                  |                        | **Spring Break March 3rd – March 7th** |
| Week of Mar 10th | Climate Change and Knowledge Systems | 3/10 Crate and Nuttall, Chapters 10 and 13  
3/12 Crate and Nuttall, Chapters 11 and 15  
**Abstracts & Bib. Due March 12th by 4:30pm** |
| Week of Mar 17th | Responding to Climate Change | 3/17 Crate and Nuttall, Chapter 16  
3/19 Crate and Nuttall, Chapters 18 and 19 |
| Week of Mar 24th | Experiencing Climate Change and Extinction | 3/24 Crate and Nuttall, Chapter 21  
3/26 Sodikoff, Chapter 1 |
| Week of Mar 31st | Social Construction of Extinction | 3/31 Sodikoff, Chapter 2  
4/2 Sodikoff, Chapter 3 and 4  
**Poster Drafts Due April 2nd by 4:30pm** |
| Week of Apr 7th  | Endangered Species and Endangered Languages | 4/7 Sodikoff, Chapter 5  
4/9 Sodikoff, Chapters 6 and 7 |
| Week of Apr 14th | Past and Present Extinctions | 4/14 Sodikoff, Chapter 8  
4/16 Sodikoff, Chapter 9 and Epilogue |
| Week of Apr 21st |                        | **4/21 and 4/23 Final Poster Presentations** |

**Exam 2 Posted on e-Learning April 23rd**  
**Exam 2 Due April 30th by 4:30pm**
Attendance and Make-up Policies:
Attendance and participation accounts for 12.5% of your final grade, so attendance is expected from all students. Students not in attendance cannot make-up for any missed in-class exercises. Late assignments and exams will not be accepted. The only exception to this rule is if you produce proper documentation afterwards that shows your absence was unavoidable (e.g., doctor’s note if you are ill). Other than this stated exception, this policy is non-negotiable.

Academic Honesty:
Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. As a registered student in this course and at the University of Florida, you have agreed to the following statement: “I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.” If you are caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams you will receive an automatic zero and will be referred to University administration for disciplinary action. If you have any questions please refer to the University’s Honor Code which is available online at: http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html.

Student Conduct:
All students must comply with the Student Conduct Code, which can be found at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentconductcode.php. Any behavior that interferes with either the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to benefit from the instructional program will not be tolerated. Please turn off cell phones and all other electronic devices before class. Laptops may only be used to take notes. Disruptive students will be asked to leave. Texting or talking on cell phones during class is not allowed.

Disability Accommodations:
Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. The Disability Resource office is located in 001 Reid Hall. Further information can be found at www.dso.ufl.edu/drp.