



\*this course fulfills a Social Science General Education Requirement

Fall 2017

Lecture Times:

Tuesdays (7) 1:55 pm – 2:45 pm

Thursdays (7-8) 1:55 pm – 3:50 pm

Lecture Location:

Turlington L011

Section 6354

Ginessa J. Mahar, Instructor (gjmahar@ufl.edu)

Office Hours: Tuesday 11:50 am – 1: 50 pm; Thursday 12:50 pm – 1: 50 pm

Office Location: Turlington B355

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Office Hours: Wednesday 1 – 4 pm

Office Location: Turlington B355

*Anthropology demands the open-mindedness with which one must look and listen, record in astonishment and wonder that which one would not have been able to guess.*

-Margaret Mead

*The purpose of anthropology is to make the world safe for human differences.*

-Ruth Benedict

## Course Description

Anthropology is the study of human diversity through all time and across all space.

Anthropology differs from other fields of social science in its emphasis on comparative or cross-cultural perspectives on human biology, society, and culture. Also setting anthropology apart from related disciplines is its holistic, unified perspective on the human condition. In this regard anthropology appears boundless, spanning topics such as social organization, religion, technology, economics, symbolism, gender, reproduction, politics, genetics, biomechanics, subsistence, settlement patterns, migration, warfare, health and disease, growth and development, material culture, art, music, storytelling, and more. You have to open your mind, as famed anthropologist Margaret Mead insisted, to appreciate the breadth of the human condition.

Anthropology provides the concepts and perspectives to help you achieve this goal. No matter what walk of life you pursue, anthropology provides relevant guideposts for your journey.

Although the field of anthropology encompasses an immense range of subjects, it is usually divided into four subfields: sociocultural anthropology, physical or biological anthropology, archaeology, and linguistic anthropology. In this course, you will be introduced to each of the subfields, gaining an appreciation not only for the breadth of anthropological inquiry, but also for the interrelationships among its diverse perspectives. By focusing on concepts of human culture—the symbolic, material, and energetic means by which humans adapt to their environments—you will learn about the diversity of contemporary human societies in all of their social and biological dimensions; examine the long-term processes and conditions (such as globalization) that contributed to this diversity; and investigate methods for obtaining information about ancient peoples from the mute shreds of material culture they left behind.

We often think of anthropologists as strange, eccentric scientists who sacrifice the comforts of modern life to be among “primitive” people in exotic places. We might also conjure-up the image of a bearded old man in pith helmet and khakis when contemplating the work of archaeologists. While these stereotypes indeed describe many of the anthropologists of yesteryear, today's practitioners are usually found in much more familiar, even mundane settings. Contemporary anthropologists have been busy investigating modern topics such as transnationalism, neoliberal reforms, terrorism, climate change, emergent pathogens, multilingual America, sexual and racial discrimination, materials recycling, and world hunger. In this course we will examine many of these contemporary issues to see how an anthropological perspective promotes solutions to human problems that are both methodologically scientific and philosophically humanitarian. As anthropologist Ruth Benedict insinuates in the quote above, greater appreciation for human diversity helps to make the world a better place for all humans.

On a more practical note, ANT 2000 is a *Social Science General Education* course. Moreover, it is one of only six social sciences courses to fulfill the new General Education State Core. Florida State Statue 1007.25 was revised in recent years to improve articulation of General Education with other curriculum. The revised bill applies to students entering the university system in 2015–2016 and thereafter. It mandates that 15 of your 36 required General Education credits be chosen from a set of 23 courses in five categories. ANT 2000 is one of those select courses. In fulfilling core requirements in Social Sciences, “students will demonstrate the ability to examine behavioral, social, and cultural issues from a variety of points of view. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavioral, social, and cultural issues, past and present, local and global” (<http://gened.aa.ufl.edu/state-gen-ed-core.aspx>). Specific objectives for ANT 2000 follow below.

### **Course Outcomes**

Through lectures, readings, films, assignments, and discussions, you will develop the basic skills and knowledge to

1. Identify, describe, and explain variation in human biology.
2. Identify, describe, and explain variation in human culture.

3. Identify, describe, and explain the interplay between biology and culture among humans.
4. Identify and describe processes of change among humans and resulting patterns of biological and cultural variation.
5. Identify and describe ethnocentrism in popular perspectives on human variation and identify how the cultural relativism of an anthropological perspective provides alternatives to ethnocentric thinking.
6. Identify and describe anthropological contributions to contemporary issues, such as globalization, health, social justice, migration, warfare, racism, gender, sexuality, and other dimensions of variation among contemporary societies.

In addition to course outcomes, each of the 12 modules of this course is structured by detailed objectives or outcomes that are specific to the subject of that module. Descriptions of module objectives are published on the Canvas e-learning site for the course.

### **General Education Outcomes**

*Content, Communication, and Critical Thinking* are the three criteria of outcomes applied to General Education courses. Descriptions for each outcome can be found in the links on the e-learning site. Your mastery of each of these outcomes is measured from your best performance in exams, quizzes, assignments, and discussion boards. However, point values assigned to outcomes *do not* factor into your grades for any of the assessments, or your final grade for the course. Outcomes are tracked apart from course grades to enable us to gauge how well this course serves the purpose of General Education. Course Outcomes are also used to track mastery of the objectives specific to ANT 2000. You will see outcomes scored for every graded assessment returned to you, but the set of outcomes for any given assessment will vary depending on what it is we are assessing.

*Content:* Students will demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methods, and theories used in Anthropology. Students will acquire a thorough introduction to anthropology, an appreciation of human diversity, a better understanding of the past and how it impacts the present, and an active and more open-minded outlook of our globalized world. Achievement of this learning outcome will be assessed through quizzes, examinations, individual assignments, and group discussion.

*Communication:* Students will communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline. Achievement of this learning outcome will be assessed through individual assignments and group discussions.

*Critical thinking:* Students will analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline-specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems. Achievement of this learning outcome will be assessed through individual assignments and group discussions.

### **Required Book**

Haviland, William A., Harald E. L. Prins, Dana Walrath, Bunny McBride

2016 *The Essence of Anthropology*. 4th edition. Cengage Learning, Boston.

This is the fourth edition of a textbook that was first published in 2007. Textbooks are generally updated every three or so years. It is fine if you use an earlier edition of this book, but **we do not recommend the first edition**. It was structured differently than the next three, and much of the paleoanthropology in it has been superseded by new discoveries and research.

The fourth edition is currently available at a discount (half price), follow the following link to take advantage of this deal.

<http://services.cengagebrain.com/course/site.html?id=2367294>

In addition to the textbook, which we will read in its entirety, you have readings and links to other resources that are posted on the e-learning site. The schedule for all readings and assignments is also provided online, as are due dates for all graded assignments, which are repeated in the Course Outline below. Please note that we do not cover the Haviland et al. textbook in the order in which it is presented; consult the e-learning schedule for details.

### **Assessments and Grading**

We will assess your performance in this course through four measures: exams, quizzes, individual assignments, and participation in on-line discussion boards and in class. You have three **Exams**, one at the end of each of three Units, and each worth 10% of your final grade, or 30% total. These are objective exams of 40 questions each that you take online during the week following each Unit, when you have no other assignments. Exams are non-accumulative and will be offered Thursday during our class time, you are not required to attend class on Exam days. You will have 50 minutes to complete the exam once you begin. Review sessions will be held in class and include a study guide, see the schedule below for further details.

You have a **Quiz** to take for each of the 12 Modules of this course, four for each Unit. Quizzes account for 20% of your final grade; they too are non-accumulative and will consist of five questions each. Questions for each quiz are drawn from a bank of 20 questions, which are combined for each Unit (four modules each) to construct your exams. Quizzes will be based on the readings for the week, which heavily rely on your assigned textbook. Quizzes open Friday evenings, the week before the Quiz is due. Quizzes are due each Tuesday before class at 1:55pm.

Twelve **Individual Assignments** are worth a total of 30% of your final grade. These are generally short writing assignments in response to additional readings or a video posted on the e-learning site, and occasionally a news item or website that you locate on your own. Grading rubrics for each assignment are posted on the e-learning site.

Finally, you are asked to participate in 12 **Discussion Boards** that will account for 20% of your final grade. For each discussion, you are asked to post one comment of ~150 words. Discussion posts are due by 11:59 pm each Wednesday evening. Discussion replies will be a part of class on Thursdays. Your instructor will choose a small selection of posts to be discussed together in class. Each discussion is worth 10 possible points, 5 points for the initial post in e-learning and

another 5 for the in-class portion of the reply. You must attend class and participate in the discussion on Thursday to receive the second half of the credit for each discussion board.

## Grading Scale

Letter grades are assigned based on the total percent of all assessments according to the following scale:

A	93% or above	C	73-76.99%
A-	90-92.99%	C-	70-72.99%
B+	87-89.99%	D+	67-69.99%
B	83-86.99%	D	63-66.99%
B-	80-82.99%	D-	60-62.99%
C+	77-79.99%	E	below 60%

Current grade status is available under the “Grades” section of the e-learning site. For more information see the undergraduate catalogue for grading policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## Course Outline and Schedule

ANT 2000 is divided into three Units of four Modules each. For each Module, you have lectures to attend, book chapters to read, occasional videos to watch, and additional readings for assignments and discussion boards. Most of the course is presented to you in the Canvas platform of e-learning, which lists all requirements and deadlines by Units and Modules, as well as abundant information that is useful for succeeding in this course. Canvas is your interface for downloading material, taking quizzes and exams, posting group discussions, uploading assignments, directing questions to your instructor and TA, and checking your grades.

Unless otherwise indicated, due dates and other relevant dates for each Module are scaled to the respective week, which starts on Monday at midnight (that is, Sunday night at 12:00 am EST) and runs through Friday at 11:59 pm EST. Quizzes, Discussion Boards, and Individual Assignments for each Module will open at the end of the prior week (Friday 11:59 pm) and close at the end of the following week (Friday 11:59 pm). Quizzes are due by class time on Tuesdays (1:55 pm). Discussion Boards require that you make your original post no later than Wednesday at 11:59 pm for that week as we will be discussing replies the next day in class. Individual Assignments are due each Friday by 11:59 pm. Exams open on exam days at 1:55 pm and close at 4:40 pm, you will have 50 minutes to complete the exam once you begin. Your third exam is on a Tuesday and as such the exam start time has been extended to accommodate individual schedules, however once started you will have only 50 minutes to complete the exam. Specific dates and times follow in the schedule below.

**NOTE:** Comprehension of the syllabus and class policies is essential. **An online syllabus/course policies quiz will be made available during the first and second weeks of the semester.** This quiz does not count towards your grade, but you will not be able to proceed with the course until you pass this quiz. The quiz can be taken repeatedly until you have passed.

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## UNIT 1

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### **Module 1, August 21-25: What is Anthropology? What is Culture?**

\*NOTE: to accommodate anyone who adds this course during the Drop-Add period, all assessments with due dates for Module 1 are pushed back until the second week.

DUE DATES:     **Quiz 1:** Tuesday August 29, 1:55 pm  
                  **Individual Assignment:** Friday September 1, 11:59 pm

### **Module 2, August 28-September 1: Biological Basis for Human Variation/Living Primates**

DUE DATES:     **Quiz 2:** Tuesday August 29, 1:55 pm  
                  **Discussion Post:** Wednesday August 30, 11:59 pm  
                  **Individual Assignment:** Friday September 1, 11:59 pm

### **Module 3, September 4-8: Human Evolution**

DUE DATES:     **Quiz 3:** Tuesday September 5, 1:55 pm  
                  **Discussion Post:** Wednesday September 6, 11:59 pm  
                  **Individual Assignment:** Friday September 8, 11:59 pm

### **Module 4, September 11-15: Hunter-Gatherers and the Origins of Agriculture**

DUE DATES:     **Quiz 4:** Tuesday September 12, 1:55 pm  
                  **Discussion Post:** Wednesday September 13, 11:59 pm  
                  **Individual Assignment:** Friday September 15, 11:59 pm

### **Modules 1-4, Catch-up, Review, and Exam 1, September 18-22**

DUE DATES:     **Exam Review Sheet:** Tuesday September 19, 1:55 pm  
                  **Exam (online):** Thursday September 21, Class Time (1:55-3:50 pm)

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## UNIT 2

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### **Module 5, September 25-29: Cities, States, and Civilization**

DUE DATES:     **Quiz 5:** Tuesday September 26, 1:55 pm  
                  **Discussion Post:** Wednesday September 27, 11:59 pm  
                  **Individual Assignment:** Friday September 29, 11:59 pm

### **Module 6, October 2-6: Modern Human Diversity and Race**

\*NOTE: Due to Homecoming, the Individual Assignment is due one day early on this week (Thursday).

DUE DATES:     **Quiz 6:** Tuesday October 3, 1:55 pm

**Discussion Post:** Wednesday October 4, 11:59 pm  
**Individual Assignment:** Thursday October 5, 11:59 pm

**Module 7, October 9-13: Gender, Marriage, and Family**

DUE DATES: **Quiz 7:** Tuesday October 10, 1:55 pm  
**Discussion Post:** Wednesday October 11, 11:59 pm  
**Individual Assignment:** Friday October 13, 11:59 pm

**Module 8, October 16-20: Kinship and Non-Kin Groups**

DUE DATES: **Quiz 8:** Tuesday October 17, 1:55 pm  
**Discussion Post:** Wednesday October 18, 11:59 pm  
**Individual Assignment:** Friday October 20, 11:59 pm

**Modules 5-8, Catch-up, Review, and Exam 2, October 23-27**

DUE DATES: **Exam Review Sheet:** Tuesday October 24, 1:55 pm  
**Exam (online):** Thursday October 26, Class Time (1:55-3:50 pm)

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**UNIT 3**

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**Module 9, October 30-November 3: Nonwestern Economics, Politics, and Warfare**

DUE DATES: **Quiz 9:** Tuesday October 31, 1:55 pm  
**Discussion Post:** Wednesday November 1, 11:59 pm  
**Individual Assignment:** Friday November 3, 11:59 pm

**Module 10, November 6-10: Religion, Secularism, and Magic**

\*Note: Due to Veterans Day, the Individual Assignment is due one day early on this week (Thursday).

DUE DATES: **Quiz 10:** Tuesday November 7, 1:55 pm  
**Discussion Post:** Wednesday November 8, 11:59 pm  
**Individual Assignment:** Thursday November 9, 11:59 pm

**Module 11, November 13-17: Language and Culture**

DUE DATES: **Quiz 11:** Tuesday November 14, 1:55 pm  
**Discussion Post:** Wednesday November 15, 11:59 pm  
**Individual Assignment:** Friday November 17, 11:59 pm

**Module 12, November 20-24: Applied Anthropology Part I**

\*NOTE: No class on November 23, Thanksgiving Holiday

DUE DATES: **Quiz 12:** Tuesday November 21, 1:55 pm

## Module 12a, November 27-December 1: Applied Anthropology Part II & Exam Review

DUE DATES:     **Discussion Post:** Wednesday November 29, 11:59 pm  
                  **Exam Review Sheet:** Thursday November 30, 1:55 pm  
                  **Individual Assignment:** Friday December 1, 11:59 pm

### Final Week, December 4-6

DUE DATES:     **Exam (online):**  
                                  Opens: Tuesday December 5, 12:00 am  
                                  Closes: Tuesday December 5, 11:59 pm  
\*NOTE: Once begun, you will have 50 min. to complete the exam

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### “Attendance” and Make-Up Policy

In addition to attending weekly lectures, you are expected to review all material posted on the course e-learning site (i.e., lectures, articles, videos, etc.), as scheduled, and to read your textbook in the order posted. You are also expected to complete all quizzes, individual assignments, discussion posts, and exams as scheduled above.

Students unable to complete assignments due to **documented, excused absences** or extenuating circumstances must contact the course instructor no less than **48 hours before a planned absence** (e.g., university event, religious holiday) and no more than **48 hours after an unplanned absence** (e.g., illness). Make-up opportunities will be offered for absences for which documentation is provided.

Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog:  
<http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

### University Honesty Policy

Plagiarism and cheating in any form are subject to university policy as outlined by the Dean of Students (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>). UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, “*We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”*”

The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/studentconduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. You are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with your instructor or TA for this course.

## **Student Accommodations**

Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>), who will then provide the necessary documentation for the course instructor. Please do this no later than one week after the first day of class.

If you are experiencing personal problems that are interfering with your studies, you are encouraged to take advantage of the available university resources:

- UF Counseling and Wellness Center: 3190 Radio Road, (352)392-1575
- Student Mental Health: Student Health Care Center, (352)392-1171
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services: Student Health Care Center, (352)392-1161
- Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

## **Course Evaluations**

Student feedback is greatly appreciated and taken seriously. Course evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester. You will be notified via email when the online evaluation page is open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.