

Researching Anthropology, ANG6930, Fall 2015
Wednesdays 10:40-11:30, Library West 211
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While most anthropology methods courses attempt to teach you how to do research in “the field” (yeah, like it can be taught), this course addresses how to do research in “the library.” The university library is a treasure trove of information and portals to sources of information both on and off campus. But what good is information if you do not know it exists nor how to access it? In this course we will look at how to tap into these resources, how to search for materials, and how to assess the quality of the source. In addition we will look at some software and discuss the uses and the logic of databases to store and retrieve the information you have found, and to help find information “out there.” Finally, with nearly every anthropology student coming back from the field with hundreds, if not thousands of images (film used to be too expensive for this to be an issue), we will look at Adobe’s Lightroom*, which is both a DAM program (digital assets management) and a place to process your digital files (like printing with your negatives in a darkroom). For those of you who use Photoshop for this task, just wait! This course is “sub-discipline free”, that is, although I am a cultural anthropologist, what we will be learning is relevant for all the sub-disciplines in anthropology and related social sciences. At the end of the semester students should be able to more clearly define a research topic, identify key words and concepts that can be searched for, and successfully navigate the databases and other resources available to them here on the UF campus (and off-campus). In addition the student should have an understanding of the thought and architecture of databases. This understanding will aid the student in successfully conducting complex literature searches.

* Do NOT download the free trial of this program until later in the semester, it is only good for 30-days (the educational price is only \$90 if you wish to buy it).

Textbooks and Required Readings

There are no textbooks required for this course. Readings will be made available.

Attendance, Exams, and Grading

Papers/Writing: There will be 5 short assignments worth 8% each = 40% of final grade and one bibliographic project worth 30% of the final grade.

Attendance & Participation: Attendance is mandatory. One unexcused absence is allowed. Any other absence must be cleared in advance when possible, or must have a written note after the absence if necessary (signed by a doctor, etc.). Since we only meet once a week, this will be 30% of final grade. Please see the official UF grading policies:

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

Each unexcused absence will lower your grade one step (i.e. from A to A- to B+, etc.). By participation I expect you will *not* be surfing the web, will arrive on time, have assignments and

be ready to discuss them and ask questions. Please see the official UF policy on absences: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Policies on make-up work: All late work must come with a valid excuse, or it will be marked down according to how late it is (one step lower for each school day it is late, from A to A- to B+, etc.).

Academic Honesty: All work must be done by the student. Violations will lead to the Department's and the University's procedures for dealing with academic dishonesty. All students are expected to honor their commitment to the [University's Honor Code](#) and the student conduct code.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

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. Please make any requests by the second week of class.

UF Counseling Services

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals that interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. [University Counseling and Wellness Center](#), 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575, personal and career counseling
2. [Sexual Assault Recovery Services](#) (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual counseling
3. [Career Resource Center](#), Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling
4. [Reading & Writing Center](#), Broward Hall, 392-0791, writing assistance, study skills, test preparation

Online Course Evaluation

“Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.”

August:

8/26 Week 1:

Introductory remarks. View portions of Luis Buñuel's *Las Hurdes*.

2 assignments:

- 1) Find three reviews of the film. One should contradict one of the others. Note the search steps you took and where you finally found the reference (keywords, the database or search engine). Use Google to find *one* of the reviews, use databases from my subject guide for the others, the library catalogue, Summon One Search, or Google Scholar. No Wikipedia, no YouTube, no IMDB (or other similar sites).

Write a full bibliography for each reference,

Finally, sum up the reviews and thoughts on the search itself. This could be one healthy paragraph.

- 2) Write a 3-5 sentence abstract of a research project to concentrate on in this class. It could be one for another class, for your thesis, or make one up!

E-mail me written copies of both assignments (can be all on same page) by Monday morning, 9a.m.

9/2 week 2:

Discuss Assignments. What is a reliable source? What is truth?

Basic research resources, anthropology libguide, library's homepage, basic strategies.

**** Assignment – Answer the question below. Save the string of steps you took to get the answer, what was your final source?*** Put these in a word document with a few lines about your observations on your search. E-mail answers to me by Monday 9am.

- 1) What was Franz Boas' dissertation on, in what discipline, from what university?
- 2) Rework abstract.

* You may actually have to go to the stacks and get a book(!).

September:

9/9 week 3:

More on the libguide and strategies. Refworks.

**** Assignment** - Search on three different databases/search engines (within the library's resources). Use the same search parameters for all three searches. Note your search terms, which database, and the first 10 references on each search. Put them in a Word Doc (copy & paste, or screen shot), summarize your results, and e-mail them to me by Monday 9am.

Topic: How and why do youths engage in political activism? What youths participate? (You can search on one aspect of this.)

Rework Abstract

9/16 week 4:

Finish up on strategy discussion. Databases – Refworks/Endnote Keywords/Controlled vocabulary

Assignment: **** Create a 10 citation database in refworks.** Hand in a bibliography of these references. At least three books, three journal articles, and 2-3 “other” (i.e. newspaper article, DVD, website). All must share at least one keyword, 2-3 keywords should be shared by several, but not all the references. Due in class next Wednesday.

9/23 week 5:

Visit to the Map & Imagery Library, hosted by Carol McAuliffe. Meet at the library: 1st floor of Smathers (Library East).

(note assignment due week 9, maybe get it started).

9/30 week 6:

A visit by Christine Fruin, our copyright and open access expert.

October:

10/7 week 7:

Digital Scholarship & our new Scottt Nygren Digital Scholars Lab: Visit by Dr. Laurie Taylor, our Digital Scholar's Librarian

10/14 week 8:

Visit to Special Collections: archives/manuscripts, hosted by Dr. Dan Reboussin, our African Studies Librarian (and UF Ph.D. graduate in anthropology).

10/21 week 9:

Visit by Chelsea Dinsmore, Head of the UF Institutional Repository and UF Digital Collections.

**** Assignment:** Have 10 sources for your bibliography, show search terms used and where you found them. E-mail to me by Monday 9am.

10/28 week 10:

Visit to the Latin American & Caribbean Collections, hosted by Paul Losch, acting chair of LACC. 3rd floor Smathers Library (Library East).

11/4 week 11:

Lightroom/Photoshop/Bridge

November:

11/11 week 12: Veterans Day – No Class

11/18 week 13: AAA Meetings, no class. See you in Denver! (?)

11/25: week 14:

Thanksgiving – No Class

December:

12/2 week 15:

Lightroom/Photoshop/Bridge – general discussion.

12/9 Week 16: Last Class

**** Final Bibliography due.** - More on Lightroom, if desired.

Library of Congress Subject Headings and Call Numbers

<http://people.wcsu.edu/reitzj/res/lcclass.html#H>

H - Social Sciences

H - Social Sciences (General)

HA - Statistics

HB - Economic Theory

HC - Economic History and Conditions

HD - Land, Agriculture, Industry

HE - Transportation and Communication

HF - Commerce

HG - Finance

HJ - Public Finance

HM - Sociology

HN - Social History

HQ - Social Groups, Family, Marriage, Women

HS - Societies and Clubs

HT - Communities, Cities, Classes, Races

HV - Social Pathology, Criminology, Welfare, Social Services

HX - Communism, Socialism, Anarchism, Utopias

G Geography/Anthropology/Recreation

G-GF Geography

GN Anthropology

GN - Anthropology

GN1-890 Anthropology

49-298 Physical Anthropology

51-59 Anthropometry

62.8-263 Human Variation

269-279 Race (General)

280.7 Man as an Animal, Simian Traits Versus Human Traits

281-289 *Human Evolution*

282-286.7 Fossil Man, Human Paleontology

296 Medical Anthropology

301-673 Cultural Anthropology, Ethnology

357-367 Culture and Cultural Processes

378-395 Collected Ethnographies

397-397.5 Applied Anthropology

406-517 *Cultural Traits, Customs, and Institutions*

406-442 Technology, Material Culture

448-450.7Economic Organization, Economic Anthropology
451-477.7Intellectual Life
478-491.7Social Organization
492-495Political Organization, Political Anthropology
495.4-498Societal Groups, Ethnocentrism, Diplomacy, Warfare, etc.
502-517Psychological Anthropology
537-673*Ethnic Groups and Races*
550-673By Region or Country
700-890Prehistoric Archaeology

GR - Folklore

GR1-950Folklore

72-79Folk Literature (General, including folktales, legends)
81Folk Beliefs, Superstitions
100-390By Region or Country
420-950By Subject
430-487Folklore Relating to Private Life
500-615Supernatural Beings, Demonology, Fairies, Ghosts, Charms, etc.
620-635Cosmic Phenomena
650-690Geographical Topics
700-860Animals, Plants, and Minerals
865-874Transportation, Travel, Commerce, etc.
880Medicine, Folk Medicine
890-910Occupations
931-940Signs and Symbols

G - Geography, Anthropology

G - Geography (General)
GA - Mathematical Geography, Cartography
GB - Physical Geography
GC - Oceanography
GE - Environmental Sciences
GF - Human Ecology
GN - Anthropology, Ethnology, Ethnography
GR - Folklore
GT - Manners and Customs
GV - Sports and Recreation