

ANT4931: Capstone in Anthropology

Syllabus: Fall 2024

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. J.R. Stepp

TA: Siddharth Satischandran

Online office hours: W 7 am-10 am and by appointment

Course Website: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu> (Links to an external site.)

Course Communications: Please use Canvas to communicate with the Instructor and the TA.

Course Description: Capstone course for anthropology majors focusing on the integration of core knowledge from the subfields of anthropology and their application to historical and contemporary topics. Explores application of anthropological knowledge for both pre-professional development and non-professional careers.

Course Goals: Through lectures, readings, online media, written assignments, discussions, and a paper you will develop the basic skills and knowledge to:

- Describe the historical origins and applications of the sub-fields of anthropology through time
- Explain anthropological perspectives on human evolution and modern population variability
- Analyze modern issues confronting society using anthropological concepts, theories, and constructs
- Demonstrate how the subfields of anthropology provide a unique window to understanding the human condition through time and space

Textbooks and Required Readings:

- There are no assigned textbooks for this course.
- Some readings will be posted on elearning, but you will also be expected to build an annotated bibliography using peer-reviewed literature available through UF libraries.

GRADING

In this capstone course, you can earn up to 400 points as detailed in the table below. Deadlines are noted elsewhere on the syllabus and in the course calendar

Grading Scale (Percentile)

A = 94-100	C = 72-77.00
A- = 90-93.99	C- = 70-71.99
B+ = 88-89.99	D+ = 68-69.99
B = 82-87.99	D = 62-67.99
B- = 80-81.99	D- = 60-61.99
C+ = 78-79.99	E = <60

Grade Point Equivalents

Passing Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	S
Grade Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	.67	0

A grade of C– is not a qualifying grade for the major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit.

Additional information on UF grading policy can be found at this [link \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

Attendance

- Participation in all modules is required.
- Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at this [link \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

Late Work

No late work is accepted unless the student meets one of the approved excused absences and has the required documentation. The course is structured to provide plenty of time between modules to complete the assignments so documented

excuses must account for the vast majority of days from when a module opens to when the assignments are due.

N/etiquette

Certain etiquette is expected when you communicate with your instructor, TA, and peers whether in the classroom or online. These guidelines apply to both online and classroom interactions.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

When communicating, you should always:

- Treat your instructor and TA with respect, even in email or in any other online communication
- Use clear and concise language in emails and other online forms of communication
 - Remember that all college-level communication should have correct spelling and grammar
 - Avoid slang terms such as “wassup?” and texting abbreviations such as “u” instead of “you”
 - Use standard fonts such as Times New Roman and use a size 12 or 14 pt. font
 - Avoid using the caps lock feature AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETED AS YELLING
 - Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons like :) or emojis
 - Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken seriously or offensively
- Be careful with personal information (both yours and others')
- Do not send confidential patient information via e-mail

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

When attending class meetings, you should

- Use your computer, phone, or tablet only for reading course content and for taking notes
- Don't use your electronic devices to take or receive calls, text messages, or view material unrelated to the course
- Direct your questions to the whole class rather than engage in a private discussion with another student
- Always be respectful of the ideas of others

- If you disagree with the opinion or view of a classmate, express your own comments in a way that is respectful
- Be open-minded

EMAIL NETIQUETTE

When you send an email to your instructor, teaching assistant, or classmates, you should:

- Use a descriptive subject line
- Be brief
- Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them
- Avoid HTML in favor of plain text
- Sign your message with your name and return e-mail address
- Think before you send the e-mail to more than one person. Does everyone really need to see your message?
- Be sure you REALLY want everyone to receive your response when you click “reply all”
- Be sure that the message author intended for the information to be passed along before you click the “forward” button

MESSAGE BOARD ETIQUETTE AND GUIDELINES

When posting on the online Discussion Board, you should:

- Make posts that are on topic and within the scope of the course material
- Take your posts seriously and review and edit your posts before sending
- Be as brief as possible while still making a thorough comment
- Always give proper credit when referencing or quoting another source
- Be sure to read all messages in a thread before replying
- Don't repeat someone else's post without adding something of your own to it
- Avoid short, generic replies such as, “I agree.” You should include why you agree or add to the previous point
- Always be respectful of others' opinions even when they differ from your own
- When you disagree with someone, you should express your differing opinion in a respectful, non-critical way
- Do not make personal or insulting remarks
- Be open-minded

SECURITY

Remember that your password is the only thing protecting you from pranks or more serious harm.

- Don't share your password with anyone

- Change your password if you think someone else might know it
- Always logout when you are finished using the system

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

University Honesty Policy

All students must comply with the University of Florida's Student Honor Code at this [link \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

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 specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the Instructor or the TA in this class.

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.

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

Harassment and Discrimination

"Harassment" is defined as conduct that (1) is of any type (written, oral, graphic, or physical) (2) is directed towards or against a person because of their personal status (i.e.

race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, national origin, age, disability, marital status, pregnancy or others) and that (3) unreasonably interferes with the individual's work, education, or participation in activities or programs at UF or creates a working or learning environment that a reasonable person would find threatening. "Discrimination" is defined as a conduct that (1) adversely affects any aspect of an individual's employment, education, or participation in activities or programs at UF, and (2) is based on one or more personal characteristics listed above. Any student who feels their rights have been violated are asked to confront the offending party, should that not resolve the issue, or the student is uncomfortable with confronting the offending party they may file a complaint with UF Department of Human Resources.

Course Evaluations

Students should provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/> (Links to an external site.). Evaluations are typically open during the last two 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/results/>.

COURSE OUTLINE

Module	Topic	Readings
Module 1	Anthropology – The Big Questions	e-Learning readings
Module 2	Biological Anthropology	e-Learning readings
Module 3	Archaeology	e-Learning readings
Module 4	Cultural Anthropology	e-Learning readings
Module 5	Linguistic Anthropology	e-Learning readings
Module 6	Anthropology--Building Futures	e-Learning readings