

ANT 2000: Introduction to General Anthropology
Section 8719: spring 2013

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Course description and goals:

The course is an introduction to general anthropology. The goal of anthropology is the study of humankind in all of its diversity and complexity. Anthropology is a unique academic field in that it promotes holistic study of humankind. The four subfields of Anthropology approach these broad interests according to the following divisions: biology (Physical Anthropology), history and deep past (Archaeology), society and culture (Cultural Anthropology), and language (Linguistic Anthropology). The goal of this course is increase your knowledge and understanding of anthropological research and methods within the four disciplines of anthropology. In doing so, we will explore how anthropologists have analyzed and interpreted the data gathered, and how approaches to interpretation have changed over time. The emphasis of this course will be on basic, vital anthropological principles, but these will not be studied abstractly- instead case studies and real world examples will be provided to emphasize the importance of anthropology as a practice. This class consists of 5 components:

- 1) An Introduction to Anthropology
- 2) Physical anthropology,
- 3) Archaeology,
- 4) Cultural anthropology
- 5) Linguistics

Learning objectives - Students completing this course should be able to:

- Identify underlying questions in anthropology which link the four subfields
- Describe the: methods, questions and various approaches used in anthropological research
- Describe the historical directions anthropology has taken
- Identify key terms and concepts in anthropology
- Describe several ways that anthropology has contributed to broader research and contemporary society

Required Text:

ANT 2000: Introduction to General Anthropology

Haviland, William A., Harald E.L. Prins, Dana Walrath, and Bunny McBride 2010 *The Essence of Anthropology*. Thomson Wadsworth, Belmont, CA.

E-learning site:

This course will make use of the Sakai environment in E-learning for posting the syllabus, assignments, taking exams, and posting supplementary readings (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>)

GRADING:

Grades will be based on lecture and discussion section attendance, performance on two exams, an individual project, and performance on discussion section exercises. Students will have the opportunity to earn up to 400 points. Final grades will be based on how many points are earned with the following point breakdown:

Exam 1- 150 points

Exam 2-150 points

Individual Class Project - 50 points

Discussion exercises/Attendance - 50 points

A note on attendance: Given the amount of information each day's class will involve, regular (and punctual) attendance is required. Attendance will be taken. You are expected to have completed the reading before coming to class. There will be no makeup exams, makeup exercises, or makeup assignments without an excused absence. Per University of Florida policy, excused absences include medical appointments and illness (with doctor's note), deaths in the family (with documentation) and school events (with documentation on school letterhead). If you miss more than two classes without an excused absence you will be docked one letter grade.

<p>Course Letter grades will be calculated as follows:</p> <p>A 372-400 points</p> <p>A- 360-371 points</p> <p>B+ 348-359 points</p> <p>B 332-349 points</p> <p>B- 320-331 points</p> <p>C+ 308-319 points</p> <p>C 292-307 points</p> <p>C- 280-291 points</p> <p>D+ 268-279 points</p> <p>D 252-267 points</p> <p>D- 240-251 points</p> <p>E 250 - 0 points</p>
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In Class Project:

The in-class project will allow students to compose their own anthropological analysis. For this assignment, students will be invited to visit, discuss, and evaluate an anthropological exhibit at the Florida Museum of Natural History. If students can not visit the Florida Museum of Natural History, they can choose their own topic of inquiry (such as a video, book, etc). Students will be expected to use concepts and skills developed throughout the class to answer short-answer questions and to participate a class-led discussion.

Course Schedule:

Week #	Class	Topics
1	Tuesday	Course Introduction/Syllabus Introduction to Anthropology
	Thursday	What is Anthropology?

Week #	Class	Topics
2	Tuesday	History of Anthropology
	Thursday	Part I: An Introduction to Physical Anthropology / Primates Intro to Physical Anthropology Genetics and Evolution
3	Tuesday	Primate Taxonomy and Behavior First Primates Early Hominids
	Thursday	Prehistoric Human Research Modern Osteological Research
4	Tuesday	Modern Humans in Physical Anthropology
	Thursday	Early Homo sapiens Early and Early Modern Homo - Physical and Cultural Evolution
5	Tuesday	Peopling the world
	Thursday	Part II: Archaeology Introduction
6	Tuesday	Methods and Theory
	Thursday	History of Archaeology
7	Tuesday	Ethics, Archaeology and Pseudo-Science
	Thursday	Archaeological Case Studies
8	Tuesday	Modern Subfields - Historic, Prehistoric, Underwater, Classical, Zooarchaeology, Engendered, Biblical
	Thursday	Exam 1
9	Tuesday, March 5th	Spring Break
9	Thursday March 7th	Spring Break
10	Tuesday	Part III: Cultural Anthropology: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology Ethnocentrism and Cultural Identity
	Thursday	Symbolism, Language, and Culture

Week #	Class	Topics
11	Tuesday	Art, Economics, and Subsistence
	Thursday	Sex, Gender, and Society Sex, Gender, Sexuality Marriage, Family, and Kinship Social Groupings
12	Tuesday	Politics and Religion Politics and Race Religion, Myth, and Ritual
	Thursday	Current Sub-disciplines: Linguistics, Folklore, Medical, Ethnography, Cognitive
13	Tuesday	In Class Assignment/Discussion
	Thursday	IV. Linguistic Anthropology: Intro to Linguistic Anthropology
14	Tuesday	Decoding Language
	Thursday	Social Purposes of Language Symbolic Language Status-laden Language
15	Tuesday	Current Linguistics Research and Summary Current Trends in Linguistic Anthropology
	Thursday	Multi-fielded Approaches and Examples
16	Tuesday	Review of Physical Archaeology Cultural Linguistics
17	Finals Week	Final Exam