ANTHROPOLOGY 1306.001
Introduction to Anthropology

Instructor:                       Class Time:
Office:                          Class Location:

Course Description:
This course introduces students to the four sub-fields of anthropology, the discipline
devoted to the study of human beings past and present, and around the world.
Students will learn the methods and ideas that anthropologists have developed to
understand cultural similarities and differences, and will find that many practices
which once seemed strange and irrational in fact make sense in the logic and
circumstances of the people who practice them. In the process, students also
examine their own culture critically and attempt to understand how we may appear
to others. This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum
requirement in social behavioral sciences.

Required Text:
Haviland, Prins, Walrath, and McBride, Anthropology: The Human Challenge, 13th
Edition.

Core Objectives:
Critical Thinking
Communication
Empirical and Quantitative Skills
Social Responsibility

Course Format:
Class meetings will be primarily lecture, with some discussion and relevant videos.
Attendance is required, and students should have each day's reading assignments
completed before the beginning of class.

Course Requirements:

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<thead>
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<th>Attendance and Participation</th>
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<td>Analysis Paper #1</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Analysis Paper #2</td>
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<td>Exam #1 (Feb. 14)</td>
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<td>Exam #2 (March 28)</td>
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<td>Exam #3 (May 7)</td>
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Attendance and Participation: Attendance is required, and roll sheets may be
passed. While “participation” is sometimes difficult in a class of this size, students
are expected to take part in classroom discussion and any in-class activities. Perfect
attendance without participation is not sufficient to meet this criterion.
Missed Class Attendance: Absences are excused only for a debilitating and/or contagious illness, a death in the family, or religious observance. Written documentation (e.g., by healthcare provider, funeral director) must be presented to the instructor upon your return in order to make up any missed work. If you fail to notify me and/or to provide the necessary documentation, you will not be permitted to make up the work. Missed assignments or exams receive a grade of 0 (zero), not F (50%).

Whether your absence is excused or unexcused, you are responsible for the material you missed in class. I do not share my lecture notes; you will need to get notes from a classmate.

NOTE: I reserve the right to begin having regular quizzes if it becomes apparent that a number of students are coming to class unprepared (i.e., have not done the assigned readings ahead of time). In this case, the percentages listed above will be adjusted, and an announcement of the adjustment sent to the entire class.

Signature Assignment - Analysis Paper
Analysis Paper #1 Choose Biological Anthropology or Archaeology.
Biological Anthropology Option:
Visit either the Dallas Zoo or the Fort Worth Zoo for two hours of primate observations. During your visit, you should observe two different kinds of primates, spending approximately one hour with each. Choose a focal animal (one among the group) for your concentrated attention. This doesn’t mean you will ignore the others, but pay closest attention to the one you chose. Make detailed notes about this animal’s actions during the time you observe. Where is he sitting or standing? Does she move around a lot, or remain fairly stationary? Does he interact with others in the enclosure/exhibit? What activities does she engage in – swinging, eating, playing, sleeping, etc.?

Then write a two-page (typed, double-spaced) summary of your observations for each of the different primates you observed. Be sure to include the following:
- the name (genus and species) of the animals you observed and a description
- the “environment” in which the animal is living
- a summary and description of the focal animal’s actions/interactions

Conclude with a one-page comparison/contrast of the two different species you observed. How are they alike? How did they differ?

Archaeology Option:
Choose and visit one of the following museum exhibitions/collections:
- Ancient American art collection – Dallas Museum of Art
- Ancient Mediterranean art collection – Dallas Museum of Art
- Precolumbian collection – Kimbell Museum (Fort Worth)
- “Ancient” collection – Kimbell Museum
Choose two different artifacts to analyze, representing the same culture group. Do not choose two of the same type of item; pick different kinds of things. These must be old items, recovered by archaeologists, not items representing a modern-day group of people.

- Begin by looking only at the items themselves, without reading any of the accompanying descriptions. Can you tell what their purpose was/is? What are they made of? Can you determine anything at all about the culture that created them just from your observation of the item itself?
- Then, read the item description and other interpretive materials that the museum has available. Consider using an “audio tour” if one is available. What more do you learn? How did archaeologists and other scholars arrive at their conclusions about these artifacts? Do you think there are other interpretations possible?

You will want to bring along a notebook of some kind to make notes to yourself, or sketches of the artifacts, during this process.

Your “report” should be 4-5 pages (typed, double-spaced). The first half should be a description of the two artifacts, as accurate as you can make it, and should include your own early hypotheses about them. The second half should be a more complete description of the culture and how these artifacts fit into that culture, as well as any reflections you may have about how they were interpreted and explained by their discoverers and/or by the museum that displays them.

Kinship Option:
For this assignment, you are to interview an individual about his/her family, and then to construct a kin diagram showing the various relationships. You may not interview anyone in your own family, or any other student in this class. The family tree/diagram that you draw must include at least three generations, and at least 25 individuals.

While you can conduct the kinship interview any time your interviewee is available, you’ll probably want to wait until after the in-class presentation on kinship to make a final draft of your diagram.

Your diagram must include (at least):
- the correct symbols for males and females
- indication of whether an individual is deceased
- marriage, divorces, and relationships that are “like marriages”

In addition, beneath the symbol for each person in the diagram, write:
- the first name or the initials of each individual
- where each individual lives, or where they were living at the time of death

Write a 1-2 page summary of your findings. Think anthropologically! Are there patterns of names that recur across generations? Is there any pattern to where
individuals choose to live? Does this change once they marry? Does your interviewee know both sides of his/her family equally well? If not, why? Etc.

Turn in both the diagram (hand-written okay) and your summary (must be typed).

In the second half of the semester, your choice will be between two projects based in cultural anthropology. These will be approximately 3-5 pages in length (double spaced), and must be typed/done on computer. There simply is not time for me to decipher handwriting and return graded assignments to you in a timely manner. (Exception: If you are asked to turn in observational notes along with your typed analysis/conclusions, the notes do not have to be typed.) Unless otherwise indicated, these must be written as formal assignments (complete sentences, corrected/proofread spelling, no abbreviations such as “b/w,” “ppl,” “LOL,” etc.).

**Late Assignments:** Assignments which are turned in late will receive a full letter-grade penalty for each day that they are late (the “clock” begins at the start of class). Student with excused absences must make arrangement with the instructor to turn in late assignments in a timely manner; we will agree on a “grace period” before the penalty kicks in. If the absence is unexcused, the assignment must be turned in on time or the late penalty will be applied.

Excuses related to computer/printer problems are not acceptable for late assignments. Assignments must be turned in as hard copy; they may not be e-mailed to the instructor without express, prior permission, or in the case of absence.

**Exams:** The exams will be objective in format, and may include items such as multiple-choice, matching, true/false, and the like. The exams will cover material from course textbooks, lectures (including films), and activities. They will not be cumulative.

**Make-up exams** are offered only to students with written documentation of a debilitating illness or death in the family. You must notify me before you miss the exam. You must also make up the exam at the earliest possible date – as soon as you are well or return to campus. Failure to make up the exam promptly will result in the imposition of normal penalties for late work, i.e., 10 points per day will be deducted from your exam grade. If you experience an extended illness, please speak with your academic advisor about appropriate action. S/he and I will make arrangements to meet your needs.

NO make-up exams are given to accommodate students’ travel plans. It is your responsibility to plan your trips around official university holidays and around your coursework, not the other way around. Under NO circumstances will the final exam be offered early. If you become ill, or experience an unavoidable conflict, you will receive a grade of “I”
(Incomplete) for the course and will be expected to take the exam within a month after the fall semester begins.

Extra Credit
Extra credit will not be offered to individual students; it may at the instructor’s discretion be offered at specific times to the entire class.

Additional UTA Policies:

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and the letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Student Support Services
The University of Texas at Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Academic Integrity
All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.
Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the Honor Code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

Please note for purposes of this class that, since attendance constitutes a percentage of your grade, the act of signing a roll sheet with someone else’s name in order to give the impression that they were present when they were not, constitutes academic dishonesty and will be disciplined as such.

Drop Policy
Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw if s/he does not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

Electronic Communication Policy
The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.
Schedule of Topics, Readings and Assignments

Jan. 15  
Introductions & getting acquainted
Review syllabus and course requirements

*Read:* Chapter 1: The Essence of Anthropology

Jan. 17  
What Is Anthropology?

*Read:* Chapter 2: Genetics and Evolution

Jan. 22  
Building Creatures, One Gene at a Time

*Read:* Chapter 3: Living Primates
*Read:* Chapter 4: Primate Behavior

Jan. 24  
The Primates: Our Close and Distant Kin

*Read:* Chapter 5: Field Methods in Archaeology and Paleoanthropology

Jan. 29  
How Do We Know What We Know, Part 1: The Human Past

*Read:* Chapter 6: Macroevolution and Early Primates

Jan. 31  
Early Primates: Way Back and High Up in the Family Tree

*Read:* Chapter 7: The First Bipeds

Feb. 5  
A Major Transition: Coming Down from the Trees

*Read:* Chapter 8: Early Homo and the Origins of Culture

Feb. 7  
The First Recognizable “Humans”

*Read:* Chapter 9: The Global Expansion of *Homo sapiens* and Their Technology

Feb. 12  
Early Human Movement and Migration

*Assignment:* Review sheet for Exam #1

Feb. 14  
**Exam #1**
Read: Chapter 10: The Neolithic Revolution: The Domestication of Plants and Animals
Read: Chapter 11: The Emergence of Cities and States
Feb. 21 The Rise of “Civilization”
Read: Chapter 12: Modern Human Diversity: Race and Racism
Feb. 26 Diversity and Difference: What, If Anything, Do They Mean?
Read: Chapter 13: Human Adaptation to a Changing World
Feb. 28 Genetics and Beyond: Human Capacity for Adapting to Change
Read: Chapter 14: Characteristics of Culture
March 5 Culture: The Uniquely Human “Adaptation”
Read: Chapter 15: Ethnographic Research: Its History, Methods, and Theories
March 7 How Do We Know What We Know, Part 2: Humans, Present and Future
Read: Chapter 16: Language and Communication
March 19 Analysis Paper #1 Due
How and Why Anthropologists Study Language
March 21 Linguists At Work
Read: Chapter 17: Social Identity, Personality, and Gender
March 26 Where Anthropology and Psychology Intersect, or, The “I” Is Not Independent of the “We”
Assignment: Review sheet for Exam #2
March 28 Exam #2
Read: Chapter 18: Patterns of Subsistence
April 2 Food: Collecting, Producing, and Consuming
Read: Chapter 19: Economic Systems

April 4  Let’s Make a Deal: Systems of Exchange and Economy

Read: Chapter 20: Sex, Marriage, and Family

April 9  Variations on the Basic Organization of Family Life

Read: Chapter 21: Kinship and Descent

April 11  How People Group Themselves ... and Why

Read: Chapter 22: Grouping by Gender, Age, Common Interest, and Social Class

April 16  More About People in Groups

Read: Chapter 23: Politics, Power, and Violence

April 18  Who’s In Charge, and How Did They Get There?

Read: Chapter 24: Spirituality, Religion, and the Supernatural

April 23  Religion and Magic

Read: Chapter 25: The Arts

April 25  Expressing Ourselves

Read: Chapter 26: Processes of Change

April 30  Creating and Adapting to Change in the Modern (and Postmodern) World

Read: Chapter 27: Global Challenges, Local Responses, and the Role of Anthropology

May 2  Analysis Paper #2 Due
Anthropologists Making a Difference? Applied Anthropology

Assignment:  Review/prepare for Final Exam

May 7 (Tues.)  Exam #3, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.