

ANTHROPOLOGY 1000: INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY

Dr. Holly Mathews, Professor
Flanagan 207; 328-9452
mathewsh@mail.ecu.edu

Fall 2017
MWF 10-10:50 a.m.

Office hours: Mon. 11-12; Wed & Fri; Wed 11-3
Tues. 1-4 of by appointment

Course Description: This course surveys the basic divisions of anthropology: biological (human evolution and human variation); archaeology (the study of the material remains of past cultures); and cultural (the study of present-day living peoples in various parts of the world). The uniqueness of the anthropological method within the social sciences is emphasized, and attention is paid to the importance of historical and cultural contexts on the development of human society and individual behavior

General Education Social Sciences Competency:

Courses in the Social Sciences introduce students to the study of the psychological, social and cultural dimensions of individuals and groups. Students learn to seek knowledge for its own sake as well as for its application. Courses provide students with the knowledge necessary to solve problems in the Social Sciences and in scholarly fields that apply the methods used in the Social Sciences. They introduce students to the theoretical, analytical, and methodological techniques and perspectives of Social Sciences that advance the understanding of individual and group behavior. Scholarly study in the Social Sciences provides students with the foundation for understanding real world problems necessary for meaningful participation in society. Courses in the Social Sciences develop the intellectual abilities, knowledge and skills that students need to become broadly informed, to participate in interdisciplinary scholarship, and to be successful in their professional specialization.

General Education Program Student Learning Outcomes for Social Sciences:

This course receives general education social science credit. As such, it is designed so that students who complete this course will meet the following competencies:

SO 1: Apply discipline specific knowledge in the social sciences to explain the key factors that shape social institutions, structures and processes and that shape human behavior and social interaction.

SO 2: Explain how social, cultural and historical contexts influenced individual behavior, society or culture.

SO 3: Apply discipline specific theories and modes of inquiry in the social sciences to analyze contemporary behavioral, social or cultural issues.

Global and Domestic Diversity Competencies:

Courses that address diversity provide opportunities for students to learn about the beliefs, values and achievements of people other than those of their own age, race/ethnicity, social and economic status, culture, national origin, ability, religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity. These courses also provide opportunities to examine problems that may arise from differences, and opportunities to learn how to deal constructively with these issues.

Global Diversity Program Student Learning Outcomes:

This course has Global Diversity Designation. As such, it is designed so that students who complete this course will meet the following competencies:

GD 1. Describe how cultural beliefs and values shape people's perceptions and impact global decisions and actions.

GD 2. Evaluate global issues and events from multiple perspectives.

ANTH 1000 Student Learning Outcomes:

Students who have successfully passed ANTH 1000 Introduction to Anthropology can:

(CS indicates a Course Specific Student Learning Outcome not related to General Education)

1. Understand the scientific method and its application to social science research (SO 3)
2. Critically analyze the differences between a scientific explanation and a belief system through a comparison of cross-cultural creation accounts and the theory of evolution by natural selection. (SO 1; CS 1)
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the concept of culture as contrasted with society and explain how culture influences the workings of key social institutions and impacts individual behaviors. (SO 1 and SO 2)
4. Evaluate the role of language in shaping cultural knowledge and individual behavior across cultures. (SO 1 and SO 2)
5. Discuss the concept of adaptation and critically analyze the role of human biological adaptations in shaping human social and cultural development. (SO 1)
6. Explore the similarities and differences between the three subfields of anthropology and apply the holistic perspective integrating these to the understanding of the factors driving human biological evolution, the development of sociopolitical complexity and the spread of globalizing forces through culture contact. (SO 1 and SO 2)
7. Critically analyze the key factors that shape the formation of major social institutions cross-culturally, including marriage and kinship, religion, subsistence patterns, and political and economic systems. (SO 2)
8. Discuss how applied anthropology in each of the three subfields is used to address contemporary social and cultural issues including human disease patterns, extinction of species, climate change, global patterns of poverty, and episodes of warfare and genocide. (SO 3)
9. Apply the results of scholarly cross-cultural research in Anthropology to explain how cultural components (e.g., economic systems, political organization, family structure, kinship systems, marriage practices, gender stratification, ethnicity, belief systems, etc.) shape human behavior and social interaction around the world. (GD 1)
10. Examine, discuss, and debate the major concepts and theories developed based on cross-cultural research that interpret the source and function of past and present cultural practices found around the world and how they influence individual behavior, society, and culture. (GD 2)
11. Determine how human biological proclivities, cultural factors (shared values and norms) and social factors (gender roles, stratification) shape the development of individual personalities and identities (CS 2)
12. Critically analyze original anthropological writings on significant social issues. (CS 3)
13. Apply the anthropological methods participant observation and in-depth interviewing to analyze the impact of cultural standards and social norms on individual behaviors. (CS 4)
14. Proofread and edit their own writing, avoiding grammatical and mechanical errors. (CS 5)

Course Materials: All sections of this course are using the same textbook which is available in the ECU student store, UBE, or from online distributors. You need to have a copy of the text. Any additional short readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Window on Humanity: A Concise Introduction to Anthropology by Conrad Kottak, SEVENTH edition, customized for ECU. This book can be purchased or rented for an e-book version. You can also use an earlier edition, which will have mostly the same content, especially 6th edition.

There will also be five short articles posted on blackboard that you will need to read to supplement the text. These will be covered on exams.

Course Requirements:

Exams: There will be four exams in this course. Each will count for 100 points toward your final course total. Exams will test your knowledge of the material found in both textbooks and from the lectures. It is your responsibility to take notes in class or, if you are absent, to get notes from another student. Some materials will be posted on blackboard to assist you, but these are in outline format. They do not substitute for class notes. All exams are in opscan format and may include general multiple choice questions, matching, true/false, etc., as well as short answer. Be sure to bring a bubble sheet and pencil to the exam. Exam dates are given on this syllabus, and these will not change. Make-up exams will only be given to students who make arrangements with me in advance or who have a university-excused absence. **All make-ups will be essay exams which are more difficult than the regular exams.** It is to your advantage not to miss an exam.

Written assignment: Everyone will do a written assignment designed to give you experience with anthropology. You will interview someone about his/her tattoo. You will turn in a typed summary of the interview on blackboard for a grade. The goal of this assignment is to give you experience using an anthropological approach to investigate an aspect of human cultural behavior. I will then take the data from each of your individual interviews, compile these and present a summary compared to similar data collected in previous years. That way, we can examine the impacts of culture and social life on this one aspect of individual behavior and how patterns change over time.

This assignment is worth 25 total points. Doing a good job on it can help those of you on the border between two grades at the end of the semester. **No late assignments will be accepted.** (guidelines are posted on BB; I will present the results in class).

Attendance and participation: Students are encouraged but not required to attend class. Course lectures are designed to supplement not to repeat the materials in the text. Consequently, exams will be based to a large extent on classroom lectures and examples. Generally, three absences, equivalent to one week of class, is the maximum that should occur during the semester. From time to time I will give in class short assignments and collect these as a way spot checking attendance. In that way, I can credit attendance if you are on the borderline between grades. **Be sure to bring paper and pen to every class.**

When attending, I expect you to pay attention and to be prepared to participate by completing the reading before class. Because this is a large class, disruptions can be a problem. If you plan to attend, **you must arrive on time and stay until the end of the class period unless you have permission to leave early.** Students who engage in excessive talking during class will be asked to leave and counted absent for that day. **Do not bring or use lap tops or cell phones during class.**

Extra Credit Opportunity: Each study may take advantage of ONE extra credit opportunity to earn up to 10 points applied to one exam. These options will be posted on blackboard under the Assignment tab and are due on definite dates. So you will need to plan ahead to take advantage of them. Once we reach the end of the list, it will be too late to ask for an extra credit option. The goal of these assignments is to expose you to the application of anthropology to particular social issues.

Grading Policy and Scale: Your total points earned on four exams and three short assignments will be totaled and divided by the number of points possible (425) to determine your percentage grade in the class. The following grading scale will be used: A = 94-100 points; A- = 90-93; B+ = 87-89; B = 83-86; B- = 80-82; C+ = 77-79; C = 73-76; C- = 70-72; D+ = 67-69; D = 63-66; D- = 60-62; F is below 60.

Academic Eligibility Standards

Academic Standing (Good Standing = 2.0 GPA)

First Semester <2.0 GPA	Second Semester <2.0 GPA	Third Semester <2.0 GPA
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Warning	Probation	Suspension (for 1 semester)
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- ***Policy on Disabilities.*** East Carolina University seeks to fully comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a covered disability must go to Disability Support Services, located in Slay 138, to verify the disability before any accommodations can occur. The telephone number is 252-737-1016.
- ***Academic Integrity Statement:*** Students have a responsibility to uphold the principle of academic integrity in all of their academic work. The ECU Academic Integrity Policy prohibits cheating, plagiarism, falsification, multiple submissions, and attempting or assisting others with violations of the policy. Penalties for violating the Academic Integrity Policy and an explanation of the process is found at http://www.ecu.edu/osrr/faculty_staff-process.cfm.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

DATES:	TOPICS:	READINGS:
Aug. 21	Introduction to Anthropology “Understanding the Holistic Perspective” (Learning Outcome 6)	Kottak, Chpt. 1
Aug. 23 & 25	What Is Culture? “Exploring how Culture Impacts Society and the Individual” (Learning Outcome 3)	Kottak, Chpt. 2 Read Miner article on BB (Learning Outcome 10)
Aug. 28	Doing Anthropology “What Makes the Baka Human?” (Learning Outcomes 3 & 5)	Kottak, Chpt. 3, pgs. 47-60
Aug. 30 & Sept. 1	Culture and the Individual “How does biology, culture and society shape the formation of personality and identity?” (Learning outcomes 5 & 7)	Read Small article on BB (Learning Outcome 10)
Sept. 4	Labor Day Holiday	
Sept. 6 & 8	Language and Culture “How does Language Shape Cultural Categories and Individual Perceptions?” (Learning Outcome 4)	Kottak, Chpt. 10
Sept. 11	Science and Belief: What is the role of explanation in social science? (Learning Outcome 1)	Read Creation Accounts on BB (Learning Outcome 2)
Sept. 13 & 15	Methods of Studying the Past	Kottak, Chpt. 3, pgs. 38-47

	(Learning Outcome 4)	Read Gould article on BB (Learning Outcome 10)
Sept. 20	First Exam	
Sept. 22 & 25	Darwin and the Biology of Human Variation (Learning Outcome 5)	Kottak, Chpt. 4, pgs. 67-80
Sept. 27 & 29	The Primate Order “How are Humans Similar to and Different from Other Primates?” (Learning Outcome 5)	Kottak, Chpt. 5
Oct. 2 & 4	Early Hominin Evolution (Learning Outcomes 3, 5, & 6)	Kottak, Chpt. 6
Oct. 6	<i>Homo erectus</i> and <i>Archaic Homo sapiens</i> (Learning Outcomes 3, 5, & 6)	Kottak, Chpt. 7; 143-160
Oct. 9	FALL BREAK	
Oct. 11 & 13	<i>Homo sapiens and Neanderthals</i> “Understanding Upper Paleolithic Culture” (Learning Outcomes 3 & 5)	Kottak, Chpt. 7 (160-171)
Oct. 16	Understanding Racial Variation (Learning Outcomes 3, 5, 7 & 9)	Chpt. 4, pgs. 80-93; Chpt.16, pgs. 370-378
Oct. 18	Second Exam	
Oct. 20	Mesolithic and Neolithic “The Rise of Farming and Village Life” (Learning Outcome 8)	Kottak, Chpt. 8
Oct. 23 & 25	Neolithic and Rise of Cities (Learning Outcome 8)	Kottak, Chpts. 9 Tattoo interview due 10/23 (Learning Outcomes 9, 11 & 12)
Oct. 27	Comparative Human Subsistence Patterns (Learning Outcome 8)	Kottak, Chpt. 11, pgs. 243-252 Read Lee article on BB (Learning Outcome 10)
Oct. 30-Nov. 1	Is there a Universal Sexual Division of Labor: Understanding Gender Systems (Learning Outcomes 3, 7, & 8)	Kottak, Chpt. 14
Nov. 3-6	Comparative Marriage, Family & Kinship Systems (Learning Outcomes 5 & 8)	Kottak, Chpt. 13
Nov. 8	Body Modification Cross-Culturally:	

“Is this Art?” Results of Student Study
(Learning Outcomes 3, 6, 7, and 11)

Nov. 10

Third Exam

Nov. 13-17

Understanding the Role of Magic and
Witchcraft in Defining and Controlling
Deviance and Social Outcomes
(Learning Outcomes 4, 6, & 8)

Kottak, Chpt. 15

Nov. 20

Acculturation and Colonialism
Analyzing Mechanisms of Culture Change
(Learning Outcomes 6 & 9)

Nov. 22 & 24

Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 27

Comparative Economic Systems
(Learning Outcome 8)

Kottak, Chpt. 11, pgs. 253-266

Nov. 29

Comparative Political Systems
(Learning Outcome 8)

Kottak, Chpt. 12

Dec. 1

Culture Change and the World System
“What is Globalization”?
(Learning Outcomes 8, 9)

Kottak, Chpt. 16, pgs. 379-390

Dec. 4

Applying Anthropology to
Contemporary Problems
(Learning Outcomes 6 & 9)

Kottak, Chpt. 17
Read Kane and Patten articles
(Learning Outcome 10)

Dec. 8

Final Exam, Friday, 8 a.m. in the classroom