

A Ant 100 Culture, society, and biology

Instructor: Dr. Dan White
Office Hours: Thursdays 5-6pm & by appt.
Location: AS 234
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Textbooks: Applying Anthropology by Podolefsky and Brown

Other Readings will be posted on EReserves Website of the University Library

Class Objective

Briefly, anthropology is the study of humankind. Anthropologists seek to understand all aspects of the human experience from the origins of our species to the evolution of cultures and languages through time. Anthropology is a truly interdisciplinary field that draws evidence and methods from many sources. The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the four main approaches that American anthropologists take when studying people and to provide you with a better understanding of human origins, human cultures, and human languages. The four main subfields of anthropology are linguistic anthropology, cultural anthropology, archeological anthropology and biological anthropology. We will use these approaches to build a holistic understanding of the human experience on this planet.

Evaluation:

Your grade will be based on a total of 100 points. You will receive grades for:

3 Quizzes	3 X 10 points each
3 Quizzes	3 X 15 points each
5 page paper	15 points
Class participation	5 points
Class attendance	5 points
Total	100 points

Quizzes will be based on your readings (textbook and supplemental reading), lectures, and films. They will include multiple choice, fill in, and short essay questions. We will also be developing a class research project. You will research and write a 5 page paper. Attendance will be taken every class meeting. If you are absent three or more times, you will receive 0 points for class attendance. Class participation will be graded by my subjective impression of your engagement in this course. Showing up and taking notes is not enough to earn class participation points.



Class Schedule

Class #	Date	Subject	Reading
Class 1	July 10	Introduction Evolutionary Theory	Chapter 1 and 2 Jurmain et al.
Class 2	July 12	Primate behavior Behavioral ecology	Chapter 6 and 7 Jurmain et al. Reader: Part 1 chapt 3 and 5
Class 3	July 17	Fossil record	Reader: Part 1 Chapt 6 Chapter 11 pdf
Class 4	July 19	Brains, behavior and language	Brain module Reader: Part 3 Chapt 23-25
Class 5	July 24	Human variation	Part 1 Chapt 10 Eres Jurmain Chapters 15-16
Class 6	July 26	Culture as adaptation	Reader Chapt 26, 32, and 37. ERES Park Chapter 7 (pdf).
Class 7	July 31	Living in groups	Park Chapter 10, Reader Chapter 37
Class 8	Aug 2	Food	Park Chapter 9
Class 9	Aug 7	Religion and cultural change	Reader chapters TBA
Class 10	Aug 9	Material culture	ERES readings
Class 11	Aug 14	Applying anthropology	ERES readings
Class 12	Aug 16	Wrap up and final quiz	ERES readings

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with documented physical, sensory, systemic, cognitive, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring accommodation in this class, please notify the Director of Disabled Student Services (Campus Center 137, 442-5490). That office will provide me with verification of your disability, and will recommend appropriate accommodations.