Courses in Anthropology

A Ant 100
Culture, Society, and Biology (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Introduction to the issue of human diversity, the course poses the question of what it means to be human. Through study of biological anthropology, archaeology, linguistics, and ethnology, students will explore the range of diversity within our shared humanity, and seek explanations that might account for it.
(1469) Mylin, Christa
4 Week 2: June 24-July 19
Online course in Blackboard

A Ant 104
Archaeology (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Introduction to the methods used by archaeologists to study ancient sites and artifacts. Topics include archaeological fieldwork, laboratory analysis, dating, interpretation of artifacts, and the reconstruction of past cultural patterns. Examples include studies of ancient and recent societies.
(1473) Nunez-Cortes,Yajair
4 Week 1: May 28-June 21
Online course in Blackboard

A Ant 108
Cultural Anthropology (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Survey of the theory, methods, and goals of cultural anthropology, emphasizing the nature of culture and the varied forms in which it is expressed among the peoples of the world. A Ant 108Z is the writing intensive version of A Ant 108; only one may be taken for credit.
(1468) Little, Walter
4 Week 2: June 24-July 19
Online course in Blackboard

A Ant 175
Anthropology and Folklore (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Introduction to the study of folklore as an aspect of culture, symbolically expressing people's identity, beliefs and values. The focus is on oral text traditions - myths, folktales, and legends - topics in folk custom and ritual, folk music and folk art are also included. Includes folklore from Western and non-Western cultures. Only one of A ANT 175 & A REL 175 may be taken for credit.
(1979) Sheedy, Crystal
4 Week 1: May 28-June 21
Online course in Blackboard

A Ant 197
Special Topics in Anthropology - First Language Acquisition (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. This course offers an introduction to the topic of first language acquisition. By the time children are about six years old, they speak at least one language in much the same way as the adults around them. Anyone who has tried to learn a foreign language as a teenager or an adult knows that this is a striking achievement, especially when considering how poorly children execute many other basic activities. Children typically begin speaking their language(s) before they can reliably use a toilet; they have mastered the major complexities of their language by the time they begin to tie their own shoes. In this course we will focus on the patterns and generalizations found in the behavior of children acquiring English, but we will consider data from children acquiring other languages as well. Questions that we will consider in this course include how children segment a stream of sounds into words, how they ascertain the meanings of words, how they begin to produce words of their own, and how they eventually learn to combine words into increasingly complex sentences.
A Ant 201  
Critical Thinking and Skepticism in Anthropology (3)  
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. How many people believe most everything they are told, or everything that they read? How can we tell the difference between statements that are based on fact, and those based only on opinion, ideology, error, or falsehood? Why should we care in the first place? This class will help you answer these questions, and hopefully raise many more. We will cover the ways in which your own brain and senses can trick you. We will cover the common mistakes made in reasoning, "logical fallacies" that can lead even the most critical of thinkers to false conclusions. We will cover several of the most common types of false information that people encounter today, such as psychics, astrology, or complementary and alternative medicine, and will explore why these are problematic. Our focus throughout will be on identifying current, real world examples of "uncritical thinking" in popular and news media. Hopefully at the end of the course, we will all be better consumers of knowledge. Only one version of A ANT 201 may be taken for credit.

A Ant 211  
Human Population Biology (3)  
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Biological variation in human populations, with emphasis on genetics, adaptability, demography and related aspects of population dynamics. Prerequisite(s): A ANT 110; or A BIO 110; or A BIO 120 recommended.

A Ant 316  
Human Anatomy and Physiology I (4)  
This course provides an introduction to human anatomy and physiology. These topics refer to the form and function of the human body, and are presented together in an integrated two-semester course sequence. This course focuses on basic concepts in anatomy and physiology, embryology, the peripheral nervous system, respiration, the cardiovascular system, and the musculoskeletal system of the upper limb, thorax and back. The course provides a foundation for students interested in human biology, biological anthropology, medicine, and allied health professions. Prerequisites: A Ant 316. Seats reserved for Senior Human Bio Majors. All other students contact dept (hubioadvise@albany.edu) about enrollment availability. Students registered for A Ant 316 in 4 Week 1: May 28-June 21 must receive a passing grade in order to remain enrolled in A Ant 318 in 4 Week 3: July 22-August 16.

A Ant 318  
Human Anatomy and Physiology II (4)  
This course provides an introduction to human anatomy and physiology. These topics refer to the form and function of the human body, and are presented together in an integrated two-semester course sequence. This course is the second in that sequence, and focuses on the gastro-intestinal tract, digestion, the urogenital, reproductive and endocrine systems, the cranial nerves, the visual, olfactory and auditory systems, and the musculoskeletal system of the lower limb, head and neck. The course provides a foundation for students interested in human biology, biological anthropology, medicine, and allied health professions. Prerequisites: A Ant 316. Seats reserved for Senior Human Bio Majors. All other students contact dept (hubioadvise@albany.edu) about enrollment availability. Students registered for A Ant 316 in 4 Week 1: May 28-June 21 must receive a passing grade in order to remain enrolled in A Ant 318 in 4 Week 3: July 22-August 16.
A Ant 319
Physical Growth And Development (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Prenatal and postnatal periods and their variation around the world. The course focuses on the influence of social factors, nutrition, alcohol and cigarette use, race/ethnicity, pollution, and features of the physical environment which modify growth patterns. Prerequisite(s): A ANT 110; or A BIO 110 and 111; or 120 & 122 and 121 & 123; or 102.

(1650) Holdsworth, Elizabeth
6 Week 1: May 28-July 5
Online course in Blackboard

A Ant 338
Archaeological Field Research (6)
Directed archaeological excavation of selected sites, including experience in site location, mapping, excavation, preservation, analysis, classification, and interpretation. A ANT 338Z is the writing intensive version of A ANT 338. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite(s): A ANT 335 or permission of instructor.

(1885) Watson, Jessica
4 Week 1: May 28-June 21
Meeting dates and times are by arrangement of instructor.

A Ant 340
Anthropology of Social Media (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Over the last few decades, a good deal of social science research has imagined "traditional" forms of community and sociality in decline, a trend that social media appears to have reversed, as these new communicative technologies have contributed to a rather dramatic reimagining of community and communicative practices. As a core tenet of anthropology is to view the individual as part of a wider set of social relationships, the discipline is uniquely positioned to explore the relevance and impact of social media on our everyday lives. Drawing on key concepts and recent scholarship in anthropology, sociolinguistics, and communications, this course will critically evaluate the impact of social media on social relationships, language practices, and identity by asking questions such as: What are the consequences of social networking across cultures? How are lives being changed by online engagement? What impact does social media have on social relationships and networks? Do sites such as Facebook and Twitter (or Orkut and Sina Weibo) approximate some kind of community? While grounded in ethnographic and linguistic theory, this course will also be rooted in practice, actively engaging ethnographic methods through sites such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Tumblr.

(1981) Crowley, Jennifer
4 Week 1: May 28-June 21
Online course in Blackboard

A Ant 364
Introduction to Cultural Medical Anthropology (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Introduction to cultural approaches to medical anthropology. Cross-cultural examination of different views of health, disease, healing and the body, their effect on medical care and maintenance of health of individuals and communities. Also examines the intersection between health, sickness, and social and economic inequalities globally and in the U.S. Prerequisite(s): A ANT 108 or permission of the instructor.

(1738) Somers, Jessica
6 Week 1: May 28-July 5
Online course in Blackboard

A Ant 476 (= A Doc 476)
Anthropology through Documentary Film (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Anthropology, the comparative study of human beings, is typically associated in the public eye with the following themes: (so-called) exotic cultures, travel to remote places and cultural immersion (participant observation), a comparative, culturally-relative understanding of human differences, 4) colliding cultural worlds of today, yesterday and tomorrow (cultural contact, culture change, and their consequences), 5) critiques and improvements of
ethnoscientific biases in studying the Other, and 6) directing a trained eye to the analysis of western industrialized cultures and their peers. We will explore these themes via the medium of film, under the general rubric of Visual Anthropology, focusing on such topics as historically important films, the politics of representation (in fiction or nonfiction), and the evolution of anthropology as a discipline. In tandem with these themes, we will explore regional cultures and their traditions related to warfare, gender identity, religion, family structure. Case studies featuring films about human rights, culture change, fictional anthropologists, and Native-authored films are also part of the course.

(2384) Masson, Marilyn
4 Week 2: June 24-July 19
*Online course in Blackboard*