

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
INTRODUCTORY ANTHROPOLOGY
ANTHROPOLOGY 1010

Fall 1993
Time: TR 1100-1220
Location: J226
Office Hours: Mondays 12:00-13:00 and Tuesdays 10:00-11:00 or by appointment. Drop-ins welcome.

Instructor: Laurie Nock
Phone: 539-2830 (office)
539-7348 (home)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Anthropology seeks to understand all aspects of what it means to be a human being. In the attempt to define and comprehend the human experience, anthropologists constantly seek differences and similarities: through time, between species, between social groups. This course will look into various branches of anthropology that approach the study of humanity from different perspectives. We will study physical anthropology (including human evolution and primatology), anthropological linguistics, archeology, and socio-cultural anthropology. Our immediate goal is to learn of the theoretical questions posed by anthropologists, the methods by which they seek answers, the insights they can provide and the practical implications of their findings. Our ultimate aim is to learn new ways of examining and analyzing our own experience.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

There will be a mid-term test and a final examination. Each will consist of essay questions, and will be based on all course materials: lectures, class discussions, readings and/or films. One week before each test/exam, students will be given a list of study questions from which test questions will be chosen by the instructor.

Students will also write two or three short papers, up to ten pages in length. (The best two out of three essay marks will each contribute 25% of the final course grade.) On the basis of class lectures, readings and their own thinking, they will discuss topics they consider worthy of further investigation. (For further detail, see description of assignments.)

Assignments must be handed in to the instructor in class on the day they are due. Unauthorized tardiness may result in the loss of 2 out of 9 points. Excessive grammatical or spelling errors may have the same result. Decisions regarding make-up tests will be made by the instructor.

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Short Paper #1	25*	October 7
Short Paper #2	25*	November 4
Short Paper #3	25*	December 2
Mid-term Test	20	October 21
Final Examination	30	Registrar-Scheduled

* The best two of these three marks will be used in the calculation of the course mark.

Grading System

Grade	Interpretation
9	
8	Excellent
7	
6	Good
5	
4	Pass
3	
2	
1	Fail

REQUIRED TEXTS

Daniel R. Gross, DISCOVERING ANTHROPOLOGY. Mayfield Publishing Company, 1992.

Phillip Whitten and David E.K. Hunter, eds. ANTHROPOLOGY: CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES. HarperCollins College Publishers, 1993.

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SHORT PAPERS (3)

Value and Due Dates:

Paper #1: 25%, October 7.
Paper #2: 25%, November 4.
Paper #3: 25%, December 2.

The best two out of the three marks will be used to calculate the final course grade. At least two papers must be submitted.

The purpose of these short essays (not more than ten, not less than five pages, double-spaced; i.e. less than 2500 words) is to relate and apply concepts presented in the course to yourself: your life, your community, your experience, your understanding.

Select an idea or issue mentioned in our readings, class discussions, or films. State it in your own words, and explain its significance to you, as well as its significance to anthropology. Using examples to support your argument, you may then pursue your discussion in one (or more) of a variety of ways, such as:

a) explain why you are disturbed by or why you disagree with a certain point of view: criticize it, if appropriate;

b) explain why you agree with a point of view, and how you can apply it;

c) pose a question, describe the kind of research you might carry out to answer it, and the results you might expect to find;

d) analyze an issue of concern to you, or an experience you or others have undergone;

e) etc.

Above all, if in doubt, talk to me!

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SCHEDULE
of Topics, Readings, Assignments and Tests

Readings are in Daniel R. Gross, DISCOVERING ANTHROPOLOGY (DA) or in Phillip Whitten and David E.K. Hunter, eds., ANTHROPOLOGY: CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES (CP).

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| Week 1 | INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY AND CULTURE
DA 1. Studying people: the work of anthropology
DA 3. Cultural meanings
CP 1. Hunter and Whitten, Finding anthropology
CP 2. Sass, Anthropology's native problems |
| Week 2 | PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY: GENETICS AND RACE
DA 5. Evolution and genetics
DA 8. Human variation
CP 3. Gould, Darwinism defined: the difference between fact and theory
CP 13. Rensberger, Racial odyssey
CP 14. Jacquard, 'Race': myths under the microscope |
| Week 3 | PRIMATOLOGY AND HUMAN NATURE
DA 6. Primates and early hominids
DA 9. The elements of social life
CP 9. Smuts, What are friends for?
CP 10. Rensberger, On becoming human
CP 11. Mulder, Progress in human sociobiology
CP 12. Lancaster and Whitten, Sharing in human evolution |
| Week 4 | HUMAN EVOLUTION
DA 7. The rise of the Genus Homo
CP 4. Whitten and Nickels, Our forebears' forebears
CP 5. Diamond, The great leap forward
CP 7. Foley, The search for early man
CP 8. Cronk, Designed for another time... |
| Week 5 | ARCHAEOLOGY
CP 50. Huyghe, No bone unturned
CP 15. Renfrew, What's new in archaeology?
CP 16. Monastersky, Fingerprints in the sand
CP 17. Patrusky, The first Americans
CP 18. Heiser, The origin of agriculture
CP 19. Katz and Maytag, Brewing an ancient beer
CP 20. Pfeiffer, How were cities invented?
CP 21. Wright, Rise of civilizations
ASSIGNMENT DUE |

Week 6	LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY
	DA 4. Language
	CP 22. Cavalli-Sforza, Genes, peoples and languages
	CP 23. Rudolph, Women's talk
	CP 24. Thayer, Close encounters
	CP 25. Frisbie, Koko: 'Fine animal gorilla'
Week 7	MIDTERM TEST
Week 7-8	ECONOMIC SYSTEMS
	DA 10. The foraging life
	DA 11. Ecology and exchange
	DA 12. Intensification and technology
	CP 33. Hunter, Subsistence strategies and the organization of social life
	CP 36. Johnson, In search of the affluent society
Week 9	ASSIGNMENT DUE
Weeks 9-10	POLITICAL SYSTEMS
	DA 15. Following the leader
	DA 16. Warfare, violence, and law
	DA 17. The rise of the state
	DA 18. Social inequality
	DA 19. Development and underdevelopment
	CP 35. Harris, Life without chiefs
	CP 46. Howells, Requiem for a lost people
	CP 47. Maybury-Lewis, Societies on the brink
	CP 48. Cowley, The great disease migration
	CP 50. Chagnon, The beginning of Western acculturation
Week 11-12	KINSHIP AND GENDER
	DA 13. Sex, gender and sexuality
	DA 14. Marriage, family and kinship
	CP 30. McFee and Hunter, Marriage
	CP 31. Chagnon, Fission in an Amazonian tribe
	CP 32. Kendall, The marriage of Yongsu's mother
	CP 39. Friedl, Society and sex roles
	CP 40. Estioki-Griffin, Daughters of the forest
	CP 41. Lindholm and Lindholm, Life behind the veil
Week 13	IDEOLOGICAL SYSTEMS
	DA 22. Religion
	CP 42. Worsley, Cargo cults
	CP 43. Nash, Devils, witches and sudden death
	CP 44. Gerrard, The serpent-handling religions of West Virginia
	CP 45. Del Guericco, The secrets of Haiti's living dead
	ASSIGNMENT DUE
December	FINAL EXAMINATION - Registrar-scheduled