

*Student Services*

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
INTRODUCTORY ANTHROPOLOGY  
ANTHROPOLOGY 201

Fall 1991	Instructor: Laurie Nock
Time: TR 1100-1220	Phone: 539-2830 (office)
Location: J201	539-7348 (home) Office:
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 1000-1200 or by appointment. Drop-ins welcome.	

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 3
Short Paper #2	25	November 7
Short Paper #3	25	December 10
Mid-term Test	20	October 24
Final Examination	30	Registrar-Scheduled

#### Grading System

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

#### REQUIRED TEXT

Conrad Phillip Kottack, ANTHROPOLOGY: THE EXPLORATION OF HUMAN DIVERSITY, Fifth Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1991.

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SCHEDULE

of Topics, Readings, Assignments and Tests

Except as otherwise noted, readings are in Kottack's ANTHROPOLOGY: THE EXPLORATION OF HUMAN DIVERSITY, Fifth Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1991. They should be completed as assigned, to facilitate classroom discussion. Lectures are intended to clarify and supplement readings, not summarize them.

Week 1	Chapter 1. The scope of anthropology
	Chapter 3. Culture
Week 2	Chapter 4. Biological evolution
	Chapter 5. Biological diversity and race
Week 3	Chapter 6. The primates
	Chapter 7. Primate behavior and society
Week 4	Chapter 8. Early hominids
	Chapter 9. Emergence of modern hominids
October 3	ASSIGNMENT DUE
Week 5	Archeology. Reading in reserve in LWC.
Week 6	Chapter 21. Language
Week 7	
October 24	MID-TERM TEST
Week 8	Chapter 10. Cultural evolution and adaptive strategies
	Chapter 11. The origin of food production
Weeks 9 - 10	Chapter 12. Bands and tribes
	Chapter 13. Chiefdoms and nonindustrial states
	Chapter 14. The world system, industrialism, and stratification
	Chapter 15. Economic systems
November 7	ASSIGNMENT DUE
Week 11	Chapter 17. Kinship and descent
	Chapter 18. Marriage
Week 12	Chapter 16. Gender
	Chapter 19. Religion
Week 13	
December 10	ASSIGNMENT DUE
December	FINAL EXAMINATION - registrar-scheduled

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SHORT PAPERS (3)

Value and Due Dates:

Paper #1: 25%, October 3.

Paper #2: 25%, November 7.

Paper #3: 25%, December 10.

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) etc.

Be sure to cite the sources of information or ideas.

Above all, if in doubt, talk to me!

EXAMPLES OF POSSIBLE TOPICS

Language and discrimination	Gender roles
Primate language and communication	
Overpopulation in the Third World	
Human nature	Aggression
Cultural relativism / Ethnocentrism	Natural selection
Modes of subsistence and environment impact	
Archaeology of the future	Grave robbers
Indigenous peoples of Amazonia	Hindu caste system
Infanticide	