



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2021

#### **AN2270 (A2): Indigenous and Cultural Minorities in the Modern World – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

Grande Prairie Regional College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory, the traditional homeland and gathering place for many diverse Indigenous peoples. We are honoured to be on the ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene/Beaver and Métis, whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, learn, and live on this land.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Shawn Morton, PhD      **PHONE:** 780-539-2847  
**OFFICE:** C-402      **E-MAIL:** smorton@gprc.ab.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** M/W 13:00-14:00 or by appointment

#### **CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course examines the survival of Indigenous and minority cultures in various societies. Anthropological perspectives on relationships among race, class, culture, and politics, and on genocide, ethnocide, and the future of native peoples in the modern state are studied.

#### **PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:**

None.

#### **REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

All readings will be available through our myClass page. See Course Schedule and Outline below. Other readings will be added during the term.

#### **DELIVERY MODE(S):**

In person.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- To introduce the discipline of anthropology, its general scope, interests, and frameworks.
- To separate and discuss the four (4) principle sub-disciplines of Anthropology.
- To introduce the regions and peoples of Haida Gwaii, Hawaii, Highland South America, New Zealand and broader Polynesia, and Mesoamerica.
- To identify and discuss important discussions/issues in the anthropology of Haida Gwaii, Hawaii, Highland South America, New Zealand and broader Polynesia, and Mesoamerica.
- To reinforce and revisit the significance of anthropology in today's world.

#### **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Students will be able to:

- define 'anthropology' and articulate what distinguishes anthropology from other fields that study human beings.

- define ‘social science’ and articulate why anthropology is both scientific and humanistic.
- define ‘pseudo-science’ and demonstrate how it differs from scientific forms of inquiry.
- define the four (4) principle sub-disciplines of Anthropology.
- describe the location of Haida Gwaii, Hawaii, Highland South America, New Zealand and broader Polynesia, and Mesoamerica, and a truncated history of their peoples.
- describe important issues related to Haida Gwaii, Hawaii, Highland South America, New Zealand and broader Polynesia, and Mesoamerica, and their peoples from an anthropological standpoint.
- explain the relevance of anthropology.

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Assessment	Weight
1 discussion lead for 30 points total	15%
10 discussion participation, 4 points each, for 40 points total	20%
4 article summaries, 10 points each, for 40 points total	20%
Midterm exam for 30 points total	15%
Final exam for 60 points total	30%
Total = 200 points	100%
Note: All points are weighted equally for 200 points total.	
Extra credit for up to 10 points	5%

**Discussion Lead (30 points)**

Nearly half of our class periods will be spent in seminar, discussing readings selected by both the instructor and by students. During our second week of class, you will be assigned to a particular culture/region and associated class. You will be responsible for finding a peer-reviewed journal article pertaining to the culture area in question and addressing a topic that you find personally engaging. This article will be turned in to the instructor to be distributed to the class at least 1 week prior to its discussion day. In addition to assigning an article, you are responsible for leading discussion on that day. Don’t worry! We’ll talk about what that means during our third week.

**Discussion Participation (10 discussions at 4 points each for 40 points total)**

To get the most out of this course, it is not sufficient to simply do the readings and attend class, you must participate! Over the course of the semester, we will have 10 seminar meetings. To receive full participation marks, you must attend and contribute to each of these. Note that by “contribute,” I mean that you are to demonstrate a familiarity and understanding of the materials assigned. I expect thoughtful conversation.

**Article Summaries (4 summaries at 10 points each for 40 points total)**

Of the multitude of articles that we will be reading this semester, you are to critically summarize four of them. This means that, in addition to summarizing the key point(s) of the article, you also must reflect on and evaluate associated methods of data building/creation, and their theoretical

underpinnings. ALSO, you should come up with one question related to the reading that will generate discussion. These are not intended to be long (max. 500 words... about 1 page, single spaced), but should be well thought out and clearly written. **Article summaries are to be completed on our myClass page and are due by the Sunday BEFORE their discussion at 11:59 pm.**

**Midterm Exam (30 points total)**

You will write a single midterm exam in this class. This Exam will only directly cover the material preceding the exam date. The exam will be worth 40 points and consist of an essay question and response that will be provided in advance. **Your midterm is to be completed on our myClass page and will open as scheduled on Monday at 8 am of the week assigned and close Sunday at 11:59 pm (see due date on schedule).**

**Final Exam (60 points total)**

You will have a scheduled final exam in this class; HOWEVER, your exam WILL NOT require you to be physically present at the college and will follow the same format as your midterm exam. This Exam is NOT cumulative and will only directly cover the material covered since your midterm. This being said, as we will be invoking concepts that are foundational to the discipline of anthropology, it will build on the material covered throughout the course. Your final exam will be worth 60 points and consist of an essay question and response that will be provided in advance. **Your final is to be completed on our myClass page and will open on the Monday (at 8 am) of the last week of scheduled classes. The exam is due and will close by 11:59 pm on the date scheduled by the registrar. Your instructor will let you know when this information is available.**

**Note:** I do NOT provide study guides. Significant quantities of research have served to demonstrate that it is not in a student’s best interest to be provisioned with a study guide by the instructor. You may not like it, but the reality is that production of your own study guide is an important studying technique in its own rite. Like eating vegetables, this is for your own good. That being said, you are encouraged to ask questions in class and to approach me in office hours for guidance. Although this isn’t a course where you need to memorize a lot of information, you do need to be familiar with what we’ve covered and where you can find it. Use the tables of objectives included in each module to structure your study guide.

**Extra Credit (up to 10 points)**

Extra credit is as stated, extra points above and beyond your regular class assignments. These points are somewhat easy to acquire, but to receive any point you must do exactly as asked. Opportunities for extra credit (worth 5 points each) will be announced throughout the semester.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69.9
A	4.0	85-89.9	C	2.0	63-66.9
A-	3.7	80-84.9	C-	1.7	60-62.9
B+	3.3	77-79.9	D+	1.3	55-59.9
B	3.0	73-76.9	D	1.0	50-54.9
B-	2.7	70-72.9	F	0.0	00-49.9

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week	Date	Topic(s)	Reading(s)
1	Sep. 2	Introduction to course.	Syllabus
<b>Module 1: What is Anthropology?</b>			
2	Sep. 7	What is anthropology? What is a social science?	
2	Sep. 9	Approaches in socio-cultural anthropology.	
3	Sep. 14	Parameters of our course.	
3	Sep. 16	History of socio-cultural anthropology.	
<b>Module 2: Haida Gwaii</b>			
4	Sep. 21	Regional and historical context.	
4	Sep. 23	Film.	
5	Sep. 28	Seminar.	TBD
5	Sep. 30	Seminar.	TBD
<b>Module 3: Hawaii</b>			
6	Oct. 5	Regional and historical context.	
6	Oct. 7	Film.	
7	Oct. 12	Fall Break - No Classes	
7	Oct. 14	Fall Break - No Classes	
8	Oct. 19	Seminar.	TBD
8	Oct. 21	Seminar.	TBD
Midterm Exam - Due Oct. 25, 11:59 pm			
<b>Module 4: Highland South America</b>			
9	Oct. 26	Regional and historical context.	
9	Oct. 28	Film.	
10	Nov. 2	Seminar.	TBD
10	Nov. 4	Seminar.	TBD
<b>Module 5: New Zealand</b>			
11	Nov. 9	Regional and historical context.	
11	Nov. 11	Remembrance Day - No Classes	
12	Nov. 16	Seminar.	TBD
12	Nov. 18	Seminar.	TBD
<b>Module 6: Mesoamerica</b>			
13	Nov. 23	Regional and historical context.	
13	Nov. 25	Film.	
14	Nov. 30	Seminar.	TBD
14	Dec. 2	Seminar.	TBD
<b>Module 7: Colonization and Globalization</b>			
15	Dec. 7	Anthropology, culture change, and globalization.	
15	Dec. 9	Why anthropology matters and wrap-up.	
Final Exam - Due Date TBD			

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

**Late Assignment/Make-up Policy:** You are expected to follow the schedule as posted and **late assignments will not be accepted**, except with permission of the instructor. Contrary to a popular idiom, it is always better to ask for permission than forgiveness; if you know that you are going to miss a deadline, please let your instructor know in advance.

**Attendance and Participation:** Part of your grade is tied to attendance and participation. Moreover, you are paying good money for this class and committing a significant amount of time to it. In order to get the most for your money and effort, **attendance is strongly encouraged.**

*Classroom Climate Expectations:* In order to create and maintain a safe and productive learning environment in the classroom, standards of behaviours are expected as follows:

1. **Listen** attentively and **take notes**.
2. **Communicate** clearly and actively when asking questions or during discussions.
3. **Be respectful** when asking questions/discussing topics with everyone.
4. **Refrain** from excessive talking or use of technology for **NONACADEMIC PURPOSES**. You are supposed to be in class, so **BE IN CLASS**.
5. **Keep your mic muted** unless directly interacting with the class. Kids and pets are welcome, but please be mindful of disrupting your classmates.

If you choose to violate the above expectations, either once or repeatedly the following consequences will be enforced:

1. Verbal warning
2. Mandatory meeting after class/in office hours, or
3. Request to leave class immediately for that day, or
4. Dropping from the class roster (i.e. mandatory withdrawal from the class), or
5. More significant official action (only if repeated warnings and interventions and unsuccessful).

*A Note on Netiquette:* Some topics that we'll be covering in this course may be difficult/controversial for some people. When interacting with your classmates online during class time, students are expected to be considerate and respectful. This does not mean that you need to agree with all of the views/opinions expressed, but note that there is a difference between being critical or engaging in a productive conversation, and being confrontational or abusive.

#### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.