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ANTY 101H.51: Anthropology and the Human Experience

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Anthropology and the Human Experience

ANTY 101H | Spring 2022

Class meeting location: Online

Instructor: Dr. Cheyenne Laue

Cheyenne.laue@mso.umt.edu

Office Hours: Via Zoom appointment

Teaching Assistant: Emily Cahoon

emily.cahoon@umconnect.umt.edu

Office Hours: Via email or by Zoom appointment

Course Description

Anthropology is a discipline that studies what it means to be human across time and space. From our biological origins and evolution, to the material record of our past and the languages and cultures of contemporary people, anthropologists attempt to understand as much as they can about the human experience. This course provides a broad perspective on the study of anthropology and covers key topics in biological and cultural anthropology, linguistics, and archaeology.

Course Objectives

- Students will gain an appreciation of the diversity and richness of the human experience.
- Students will acquire an understanding of the history, subject matter, and methods of study in anthropology.
- Students will increase their knowledge of the history of human biological and cultural evolution.
- Students will learn basic anthropological concepts and terms

Required Text

Robert H. Lavenda and Emily Schultz (2016) *Anthropology: What does it mean to be human?*

Supplementary Readings and Course Materials

In addition to the required text supplementary readings will be assigned most weeks. All of these readings can be found on the Moodle supplement to this course under the appropriate week.

Please make sure that you can access the Moodle supplement as soon as possible and come to me with any problems.

Academic Integrity

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by The University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online

at <http://www.umt.edu/vpesa/documents/Student%20Conduct%20Code%20PDF-%20FINAL%208-27-13.pdf>

Disability Accommodation

Eligible students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course when requested in a timely way. Please contact me after class or in my office. Please be prepared to provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at <http://www.umt.edu/dss/> or call 406.243.2243 (voice/text).

Changes to Syllabi

Instructor reserves the right to modify syllabi and assignments as needed based on faculty, student, and/or environmental circumstances. If changes are made to the syllabus, amended copies will be dated and made available to the class.

Grading and Assessment

Your grade in this course will be based on the following assessments:

Discussion forums	15%
Weekly quizzes	30%
Weekly assignments	30%
Film reviews	15%
Final exam	10%

Discussion Forums ask you to interact with your classmates based on a prompt drawn from the weekly materials. Your original post is due Thursday by midnight and your responses to classmates are due by Sunday at 5 pm.

Film Reviews are short assignments asking you to provide a synopsis and brief analysis of ethnographic films in the context of weekly course concepts.

Weekly assignments are writing assignments or short projects that ask you to synthesize and expand on the weekly course materials. These assignments may include additional readings or videos, will be provided by Wednesday of each week and are due on Sundays by midnight.

Weekly quizzes cover the course materials assigned during the week. Quizzes open on Fridays and are due Sundays at midnight and will be completed on Moodle.

The final exam is cumulative and covers all the assigned course materials. Students are encouraged to use weekly assignments and graded quizzes to study for the final exam. In addition, a study guide will be provided one week prior to the final.

Grade scale:

90 – 100% = A

80 – 89% = B

70 – 79% = C

60 – 69 % = D

< 60 = F

Please note that + and – modifiers may be added to letter grades at the instructors discretion.

Tentative Course Schedule and Topics

Please note that the following topic order may shift slightly due to timing, student interest, and recent developments in the field. Any additional (non-textbook) readings required are posted or linked in the weekly course materials.

Week One January 18 - 23: What is Anthropology?

Course Introduction

What is Anthropology?

Read Chapter 1, Course Syllabus, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 1 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 1 Due Sunday

Assignment 1 Due Sunday

Film review – The Anthropologist Due Sunday

Week Two January 24 - 30: Evolution and Primatology

Evolution and Anthropology

The Study of Primates

Read Chapter 2 and 3, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 2 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 2 Due Sunday

Assignment 2 Due Sunday

Week Three January 31 – February 6: The Fossil Record and Human Evolution

Macroevolution and human origins

Evolution and human variation

Read Chapter 4 and 5, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 3 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 3 Due Sunday

Assignment 3 Due Sunday

Film Review – Race the Power of an Illusion Due Sunday

Week Four February 7 - 13: Archeology, The Human Past, Human Settlement

Evolution and human variation

Archaeology and the human past

Read Chapter 6, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 4 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 4 Due Sunday

Assignment 4 Due Sunday

Film Review – The Cave of Forgotten Dreams Due Sunday

Week Five February 14 - 20: Human settlement and complexity

Human settlement and Agriculture

Archaeology of Cultural Complexity

Read Chapter 7, 8, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 5 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 5 Due Sunday

Assignment 5 Due Sunday

Week Six February 21 - 27: The Concepts of Culture and Language

The Concept of culture

Language and culture

Read Chapter 9, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 6 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 6 Due Sunday

Assignment 6 Due Sunday

Week Seven February 28 – March 6: Making Meaning

Language

Art and Symbols

Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 7 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 7 Due Sunday

Assignment 7 Due Sunday

Week Eight March 7 - 13: Myth, Ritual and Religion

Ritual and Human Belief Systems

Read Chapter 10, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 8 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 8 Due Sunday

Assignment 8 Due Sunday

Film Review The Split Horns – Due Sunday

Week Nine March 14 - 20: Studying Economy

Subsistence strategies

Economic Systems

Read Chapter 11, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 9 posts due Wednesday and Sunday
Quiz 9 Due Sunday
Assignment 9 Due Sunday
Film Review – The True Cost Due Sunday

Week Ten March 21 – 27 – Spring Break

Week Eleven March 28 – April 3: Political Organization and Inequality

Political organization
Race, Class, Caste, Ethnicity
Read Chapters 12 and 15, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 10 posts due Wednesday and Sunday
Quiz 10 Due Sunday
Assignment 10 Due Sunday
Film Review – First Contact Due Sunday

Week Twelve April 4 - 10: Inequality Continued/ Human Sexuality and Gender

Inequality and stratification
Gender and sexuality
Read Chapter 13, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 11 posts due Wednesday and Sunday
Quiz 11 Due Sunday
Assignment 11 Due Sunday

Week Thirteen April 11 - 17: Family, Marriage, and Kinship

Family, marriage, and kinship
Read Chapter 14, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 12 posts due Wednesday and Sunday
Quiz 12 Due Sunday
Assignment 12 Due Sunday
Film Review Maasai Women – Due Sunday

Week Fourteen April 18 - 24: Life Cycle, Health, and Healing

Birth, ritual transition, death and dying
Health and healing
Read Chapter 16, Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 13 posts due Wednesday and Sunday
Quiz 13 Due Sunday
Assignment 13 Due Sunday

Week Fifteen April 25 – May 1: Anthropology and Nature

Plants, animals, ecology

Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 14 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 14 Due Sunday

Assignment 14 Due Sunday

Film Review Maharaja Burger – Due Sunday

Week Sixteen May 2 - 8 Anthropology and Technology

Technology and Digital Spaces

Applying Anthropology

Readings on Moodle, Lecture Notes

Discussion Forum 15 posts due Wednesday and Sunday

Quiz 15 Due Sunday

Assignment 15 Due Sunday

Week Seventeen May 9 - 16: Final Exams

Final Exam due Friday by 5 pm