

Anthropology
literally means the
“science of
mankind.”

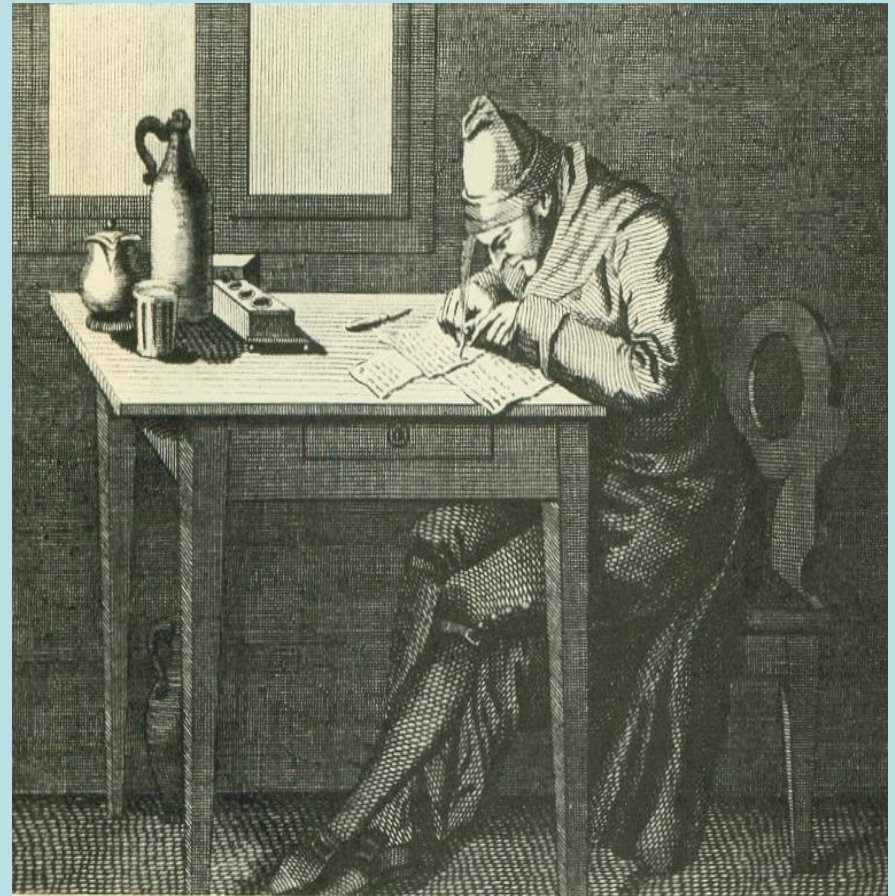




The social or behavioral sciences grew out of inquiries about the nature of humanity which date back to Greek and Roman times.

Socrates

The idea that human society was an appropriate scientific area of study began to develop in seventeenth century Europe.



Physiognomist John Lavater

For the most part, however, the Age of Enlightenment meant that intellectuals were free, within limits, to talk and think about what was good and bad in their societies and in others.



Voltaire and King Fredrick II
of Prussia

Anthropology began to develop a distinct character as a discipline in its own right in the early nineteenth century.



Napoleon in Egypt

Because colonialists often kept detailed diaries and wrote long letters, they became the earliest ethnographers.



Batak Tribesman -c. 1880



In 1838, a society with both intellectual interests and a social agenda similar to the “Society of the Observers of Man” was formed in London.

Their first order of business was an attempt to compare the distinctive characteristics of black and white people.



Women in West Indies

The Four Fields of Anthropology

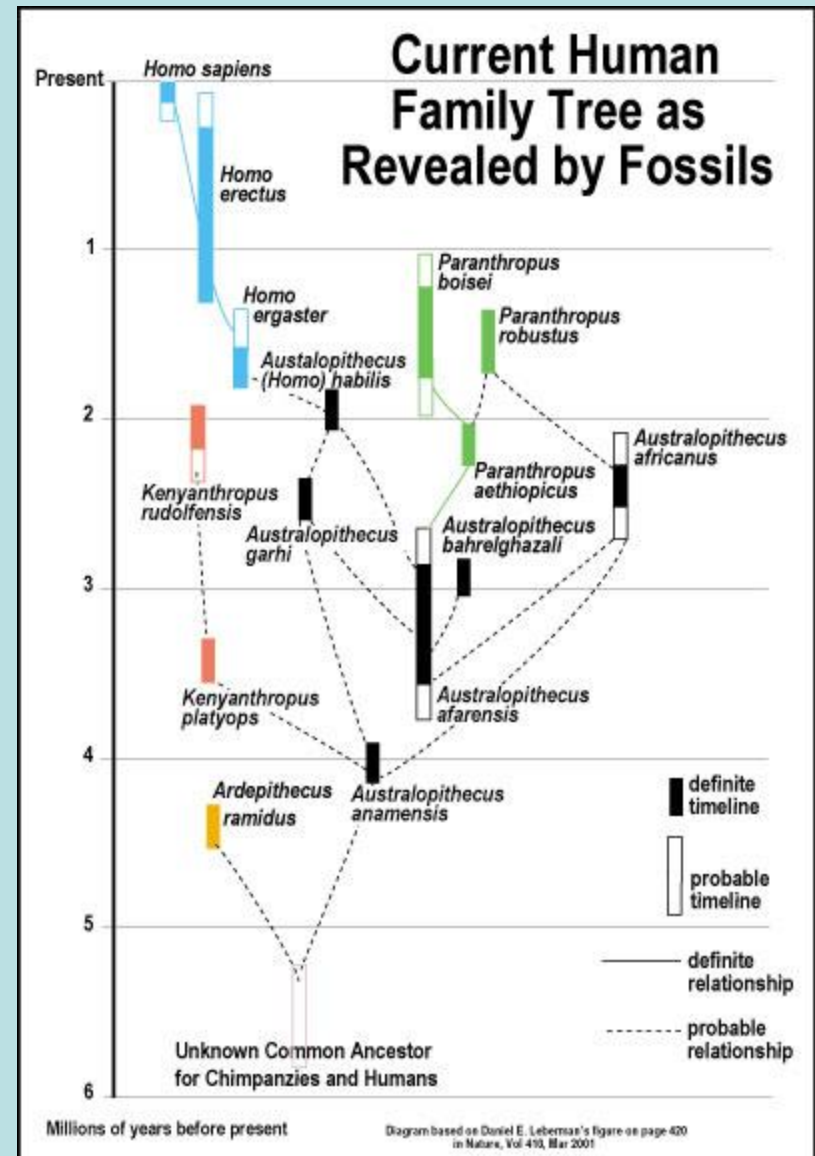
1. Physical Anthropology
2. Archaeology
3. Anthropological Linguistics
4. Cultural Anthropology



"Anthropologists! Anthropologists!"

Physical Anthropology

- Paleoanthropology
- Biological Anthropology



Archaeology



Archaeologists working in Hawaii uncover a stone lined hearth (left to right, Jonathan Carpenter, Calum Wilkenson (back), and Mark McCoy).

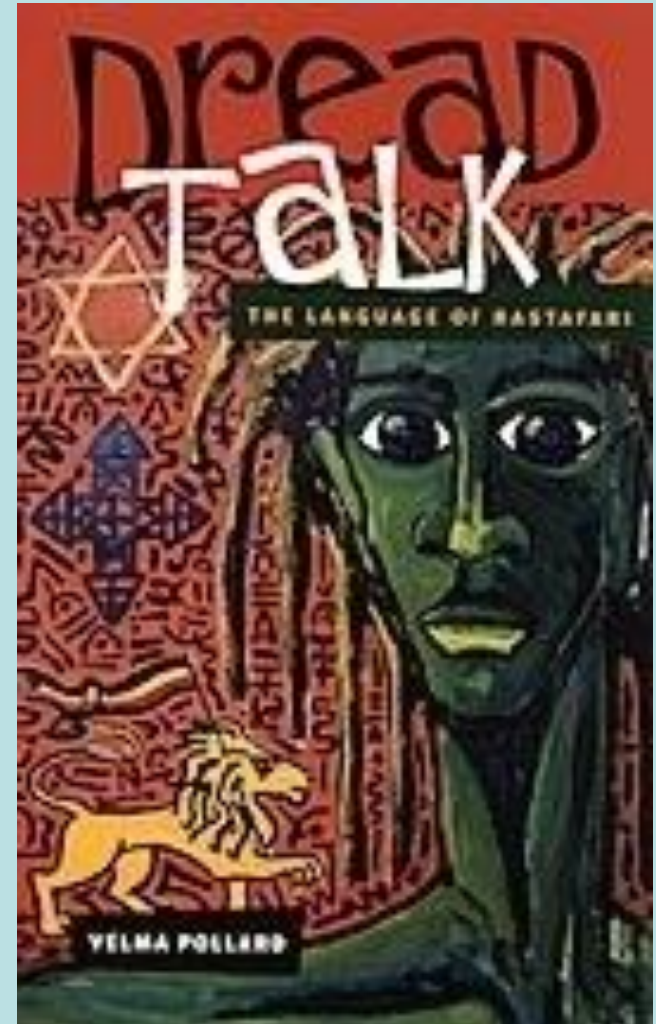
Anthropological Linguistics

Jamaica, Dread Talk, and Reggae

- Dread Talk or Rasta, is a form of Jamaican Patois spoken by Rastafarians.
- Breaks down English words and mixes them to create original rasta words, called up-full sounds.
- Reason: Contradictions between sounds and meanings of the words

Ex: *understand* = *overstand*

dedication = *livication* ("de" is negative)



Cultural Anthropology





Edward Tylor
1832–1917

The concept of “culture” became central to the development of theory among social anthropologists and ethnographers.

Culture . . . is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, law, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society.

As time went on anthropologists became more curious about the way certain cultural materials and traits passed from group to group.

Copy of an Ife (Nigerian) bronze head wearing a western military helmet by an artist from Cameroun

