

OXFORD COLLEGE  
Spring Semester 2012

## ANTHROPOLOGY 101

### Introduction to Anthropology

(ANTH\_OX 101 10A\_4654)

**MWF 10:40 am – 11:30 pm**  
**Language Hall 201**

**Professor: Dr. Aaron Stutz**

**Office: Language Hall 102 (Anthro Lab)**

**e-mail: [astutz@emory.edu](mailto:astutz@emory.edu)**

**phone: 770-784-8349**

**Office Hours: *by appointment* – don't be shy, make an appointment  
– TIMES AVAILABLE DAILY!!!**

**Teaching Assistant: Phillip Jo ([pcjo@emory.edu](mailto:pcjo@emory.edu))**

### *Key learning concepts in the science of humanity*

ANTHROPOLOGY IS THE HOLISTIC STUDY OF HUMANITY:

- seen from a *biological perspective*
- considered in *social context*
- defined by the *concept of culture*

IN THIS COURSE, YOU WILL INQUIRE SERIOUSLY INTO SOME FAIRLY BIG QUESTIONS:

- what is our place in nature?
- why are we such social animals?
- why does everything we do take on such meaning?

## KEY LEARNING GOALS

In this class you will learn to “think as an anthropologist.” This means that you will gain a substantial, applicable understanding of the biocultural perspective. Humans are *both* biological and cultural beings. You will learn how to articulate insights surrounding humanity’s biocultural identity as we explore key applications. What does cultural difference and cultural diversity really mean? What do we know about human evolution? How and why do humans vary biologically? What does archaeology have to do with anthropology? Perhaps most centrally, what do anthropologists really mean when they use the term “culture,” and why is it important? Finally, how is anthropology relevant for understanding and discussing current events? As we explore these questions, you will gain familiarity with anthropological terminology and learn how to use it correctly.

## REQUIRED READINGS

Textbook: *The Tapestry of Culture: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, Ninth Edition (2009), by Abraham Rosman, Paula G. Rubel, and Maxine Weisgrau. Altamira Press, New York.

- [Available at the Oxford College Bookstore](#)

Textbook: *Race in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Ethnographic Approaches*, (2010), by John Hartigan. Oxford University Press, New York.

- [Available at the Oxford College Bookstore](#)

Additional REQUIRED Readings will be posted on Anthro 101’s [Blackboard](#) page.

## MAKING THE GRADE

Grades are based on participation, TA sessions, occasional short writing assignments, four in-class Midterm Exams, and a comprehensive Final Exam. The exams will cover material introduced in class, in powerpoint presentations, and in the readings. For more details about how your course grade is figured, please go to the course website on Blackboard (log in to <http://classes.emory.edu> and click on the Introduction to Anthropology link in your courses).

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

REMINDER: You are bound by the Oxford College Honor Code in all of your academic work, inside and outside of the classroom. KEY INFORMATION about ACADEMIC HONESTY and the HONOR CODE in Anthro 101 is available in the Course Standards document on Blackboard at <http://classes.emory.edu>.

**IMPORTANT: The exams are MANDATORY.** A failure to complete any one of these will result in a failing grade for the course.

**JUST AS IMPORTANT:** Unless you have a valid excuse that you present to me beforehand, ***all exam and due dates must be strictly adhered to.*** RARE EXCEPTIONS are granted under the following clear conditions: you have a valid, documented medical or family *emergency*. If you require special arrangements through Disability Services, or if you otherwise know ahead of time that you have a major schedule conflict, contact the professor as soon as possible to schedule an alternative exam. Be prepared to provide documentation.

**KEY DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Midterm #1 -	In class, Wed Feb 8
Midterm #2 -	In class, Fri Mar 2
Final Exam -	9 am -12 pm, Tue May 8

ALL IN-CLASS EXAMS TAKE PLACE IN LANGUAGE HALL 201

**THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE PROFESSOR'S DISCRETION;  
ANY CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS AND VIA BLACKBOARD AND E-MAIL.**

**Anthropology 101  
Syllabus**

**I. Introduction: What is Culture?**

Wed Jan 18 - *Introduction to Anthropology*

Fri Jan 20 - *Understanding "The Other"*

TEXT: The Tapestry of Culture – Chapter 1

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 1 - Derby – The Evil Eye

Mon Jan 23 - *What is Culture?*

TEXT: The Tapestry of Culture – Chapter 2  
2 - Pyburn – Worthless Women

## II. CULTURE IS *BETTER* UNDERSTOOD THROUGH RELATIVE PERSPECTIVES

Wed Jan 25 – *Case Study: Female Genital Mutilation*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 3-Schweder – What About FGM?

Fri Jan 27 – *FGM/C as Cultural Practice*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 4-Shell-Duncan et al – Women Without Choices  
5-Saitoti – Circumcision among the Maasai

Mon Jan 30 – *FGM/C as a Biocultural problem*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 6-Dopico – Infibulation and the Orgasm Puzzle  
7-Johansen – Experiencing Sex in Exile

Wed Feb 1 – *FGM/C, Cultural Relativism, & Individual Rights*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 8-Kratz – FGM/C and Assylum Controversies

Fri Feb 3 – *Cultural vs. Ethical Relativism*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 9-Law – Liberal with a Capital L  
10-Law – Different Kinds of Authority  
11-Rosaldo – Cultural and Ethical Relativism

Mon Feb 6 – DISCUSSION: *What is culture? How should it inform ethical decisionmaking?*

**Wed Feb 8 - MIDTERM #1 - covers the introduction to Anthropology and to its subdisciplines, the definition of culture, FGM/C as a biocultural problem, cultural relativism, and ethical relativism**

**III. PARENTING LINKS US TO OUR SOCIAL WORLDS -  
PARENTING LINKS OUR BIOLOGICAL SIDE TO OUR  
CULTURAL SIDE**

Fri Feb 10 - *Biology and Culture - Affect Hunger*  
[E-COURSEPACK](#): 12-Goldschmidt - Chapter 4

Mon Feb 13 - *Culture and Parenting*  
[E-COURSEPACK](#): 13-Goldschmidt - Chapter 5  
**DUE IN CLASS: SHORT ESSAY #1**

**IV. BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY SCIENTIFICALLY EXPLORES  
OUR PLACE IN THE NATURAL WORLD**

Wed Feb 15 - *The Biological Legacy*  
[E-COURSEPACK](#): 14-Mayr - Darwin's Legacy  
15-Langdon - Evolution and Adaptation

Fri Feb 17 - *Our Place in Nature*  
[E-COURSEPACK](#): 16-Relethford - Our Place in Nature

Mon Feb 20 - *Meet Our Evolutionary Cousins*  
[E-COURSEPACK](#): 17-Small - What's Love Got To Do With It?  
18-Small - Aping Culture

## V. PALEOANTHROPOLOGY STUDIES HUMAN EVOLUTIONARY ORIGINS

Wed Feb 22 - *What Makes Us Human?*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 19-Wong – An Ancestor to Call Our Own  
20-Harmon – How Humanlike Was Ardi?

Fri Feb 24 - *Walking Upright*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 21-Rosenberg and Trevathan – Birth and Bipedalism

Mon Feb 27 - *Technology: Handy and Meaningful*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 22-Schick & Toth – Chapter 5

Wed Feb 29 - *Neandertals and Us*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 23-Wong – Meet the Neandertals  
24-Bar-Yosef and Vandermeersch – Modern Humans  
and Neandertals in the Levant  
25-Wong – The Caveman's New Clothes

**Fri Mar 2 - MIDTERM #2 - covers Darwin's scientific legacy, DNA analysis and our place in nature, the origins of the human lineage, the evolution of bipedalism, the evolution of stone-tool-making ability, the evolution of Neandertals, the origins of anatomically modern humans, the emergence of Upper Paleolithic art.**

## VI. THE TOPIC OF RACE IS CENTRAL FOR UNDERSTANDING HUMANITY'S BIOCULTURAL IDENTITY

Mon Mar 5 - *The Biology of Human Variation, Part I*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 26-Mukhopadyay et al. – Ch 1  
27-Mukhopadyay et al. – Ch 2

Wed Mar 7 - *The Biology of Human Variation, PART II*  
E-COURSEPACK: 28-Mukhopadyay et al. - Ch 3

Fri Mar 9 - *The Cultural Performance of Race*  
TEXT: Race in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century - Chapter 1

**Mon Mar 12 - Fri Mar 16 - SPRING BREAK**

Mon Mar 19 - *The Traffic Between Culture and Nature*  
TEXT: Race in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century - Chapter 3

Wed Mar 21 - *Ethnographic Method and the Cultural Practice of Everyday Life*  
TEXT: Race in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century - Chapter 2

Fri Mar 23 - DISCUSSION: *Race, Biology, and Culture*

**Mon Mar 26 - Peer Writing Exercise - covers the biology of human variation, including the scientific explanation of why biological races of humans do not exist; the concept of race as a cultural construct; the concept of the traffic between culture and nature; and the ethnographic study of race as a part of cultural practice in everyday life.**

**Wed Mar 28 - Peer Evaluation of In-Class Writing Exercise**

**VII. RACE IS A PART OF THE PROCESS OF CULTURE: IT IS  
CENTRAL TO THE SOCIAL PRODUCTION OF  
CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN IDENTITY**

Fri Mar 30 - *The Anthropological Study of Whiteness*  
TEXT: Race in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Chapter 4

Mon Apr 2 - *The Anthropological Study of Blackness*  
TEXT: Race in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Chapter 5

Wed Apr 4 - *The Anthropological Study of Neither Black  
nor White*  
TEXT: Race in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Chapter 6

Fri Apr 6 - DISCUSSION: *Understanding Race*  
**DUE IN CLASS: SHORT ESSAY #2**

**VIII. CULTURAL SYMBOLS ARE REINFORCED IN EVERYDAY LIFE  
BY MYTH AND RITUAL**

Mon Apr 9 - *Culture and Economic Organization*  
TEXT: The Tapestry of Culture – Chapter 8  
[E-COURSEPACK](#): 29-Lee – Eating Christmas in the Kalahari

Wed Apr 11 - *Symbols, Society, and Politics*  
TEXT: The Tapestry of Culture - Chapter 5

Fri Apr 13 - *Myth & Storytelling – Symbols & Society*  
TEXT: The Tapestry of Culture - Chapter 11

Mon Apr 16 - *Myth in Action*  
[E-COURSEPACK](#): 30-Biesele – Women Like Meat  
31-Beidelman – Hyena and Rabbit



Wed Apr 18 - *Symbols in Myth*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 32-Introducing Lévi-Strauss

Fri Apr 20 - *The Structure of Ritual*

TEXT: The Tapestry of Culture – Chapter 10

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 33-Turner – Liminality and Communitas

Mon Apr 23 - *Rites of Passage and Other Identities*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 34-Nanda – Hijras of India – Chapter 2

35-Nanda – Hijras of India – Chapter 3

Wed Apr 25 - DISCUSSION: *Myths, Rituals, and Culture*

**DUE IN CLASS: SHORT ESSAY #3**

## **IX. GLOBALIZATION PROCESSES SHAPE CULTURE IN COMPLEX, SUPRISING WAYS**

Fri Apr 27 - *Globalization and Culture, PART I*

Text: The Tapestry of Culture – Chapter 13

Mon Apr 30 - *Globalization and Culture, PART II*

Text: The Tapestry of Culture – Chapter 14

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 36-Trouillot – Anthropology and the Savage Slot

**LAST DAY OF CLASSES**

**Tue May 8 - FINAL EXAM: 9 am - 12 pm, Lang 201**

THE FINAL - is cumulative - covers cultural relativism, the biocultural perspective, biological anthropology, race and racial identities, the cultural practice of everyday life, gender, how symbols shape culture through myth and ritual, and the anthropology of globalization.