
Anthropology 101

INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY

Lecture MWF 9:35-10:25 OR 12:50-1:40, Seney Hall 322

Spring Semester, 2003

Instructor: Dr. Wendy Dirks

Office: Seney Hall 214C

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 2:00-4:00 or by appointment. I will be very flexible in scheduling appointments, so please feel free to come and see me with any concern or question.

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Textbooks: Park MA (2003) *Introducing Anthropology* 2nd Edition. Boston: McGraw Hill.

de Waal FBM (1989) *Peacemaking among Primates*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Fernea EW (1965) *Guests of the Sheik: An Ethnography of an Iraqi Village*. New York: Anchor Books.

Thomas DH (2000) *Skull Wars: Kennewick Man, Archaeology, and the Battle for Native American Identity*. New York: Basic Books.

Additional readings listed on the syllabus will be on e-reserve throughout the semester. There will be several in-class video presentations. There will also be a Blackboard site for the class.

Internet resources:

<http://www.aaanet.org/> - American Anthropological Association

<http://www.physanth.org/> - The American Association of Physical Anthropologists

<http://www.paleoanth.org/> - The Paleoanthropology Society

<http://www.asp.org> – The American Society of Primatologists

<http://www.primate.wisc.edu/pin/> - The Primate Info Net

<http://www.saa.org/> - Society for American Archaeology

Goals of the Course:

Anthropology is the study of human beings as biological and cultural organisms in the past and present. In this course, we will focus on developing a broad understanding of biological anthropology, archaeology, linguistics, and cultural anthropology, anthropology's four subdisciplines. We will do this using a general textbook and readings designed to complement its discussion of the topics studied by anthropologists. However, because anthropology is such a broad discipline, our main goal in this course will be to learn how anthropologists think about problems and the methods they use in their research. We will read and discuss three supplemental texts that cover specific topics in biological anthropology, cultural anthropology, and archaeology in more detail. Students are expected to achieve the following goals:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of human biology, evolution, and cultural variation in the past and present on quizzes and exams;
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how anthropologists study these topics through class discussion and short written assignments on the assigned texts;
3. Develop “anthropological thinking” as we consider how anthropologists do research on particular topic through a paper written as a research proposal on a topic of the student’s choice.

Student Requirements for Completing the Course:

1. There will be a mid-term exam, a final exam, a paper, and weekly quizzes and assignments. The exam format will be short answer, multiple choice, true/false, and short essay. Attendance and active participation in class discussion are expected and will be considered in the final grade. Makeup exams will be given only under conditions of a documented severe illness or serious emergency.
2. The two exams and the paper will each be worth 100 points each. There will be unannounced quizzes throughout the semester, each worth 10 points. No make up quizzes will be given. There will be short written assignments on the readings, also worth 10 points each. The nine quizzes and assignments with the highest score will be added together. Attendance and class participation will be worth 10 points, added to the quiz/assignment grade, making quizzes, assignments, and participation worth a total of 100 points. The final grade will be an average of the two exams, paper, and the quiz/assignment/participation grade.
3. The grading scale is as follows:
 - A = 90 pts or above
 - B = 80-89 pts
 - C = 70-79 pts
 - D = 60-69 pts
 - F = less than 60 pts

Course policies:

The syllabus is subject to change, except for the final exam time. I want to be flexible in allowing for unexpected or interesting developments that we may want to discuss in class. **All students are expected to be familiar with, and abide by, the Oxford College Honor Code. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.**

Class Outline

Date:	Topic	Reading
Jan 15	Introduction to the course	
Jan 17	Introduction to Anthropology	Park, Chapter 1
Jan 22	Anthropology as Science	Park, Chapter 2
Jan 24	Evolutionary Theory	Park, Chapter 3
Jan 27	Evolutionary Theory	Park, Chapter 3
Jan 29	Evolution and Education	Root-Bernstein & McEachron (E-reserve)
Jan 31	Primates	Park, Chapter 4

Feb 3	“The New Chimpanzees”	(Video)
Feb 5	Chimpanzees	de Waal, Prologue, Chapters 1 & 2
Feb 7	Primate and Human Evolution I	Park, Chapter 5 (Video)
Feb 10	NO CLASS	
Feb 12	Human Evolution II	Park, Chapter 5 (Video)
Feb 14	Reproduction	Park, Chapter 6
Feb 17	Macaques	de Waal, Chapters 3 & 4 (Video)
Feb 19	Bonobos and Humans	de Waal, Chapters 5 & 6
Feb 21	Culture and Worldview	Park, Chapter 7
Feb 24	Fieldwork	Fernea (“The Anthropologist in the Field, E-reserve), Sterk (E-reserve)
Feb 26	Iraq I	Fernea, Part I (Chapters 1-8)
Feb 28	MIDTERM EXAM	Park, Chapters 1-7, deWaal
Mar 3	Food	Park, Chapter 8
Mar 5	Iraq II	Fernea, Part II (Chapters 9-14)
Mar 7	Iraq III	Fernea, Parts III-IV (Chapters 15-20)
Mar 10, 12, 15	SPRING BREAK	
Mar 17	Kinship	Park, Chapter 9
Mar 19	Iraq IV	Fernea, Parts V-VI (Chapters 21-26, Postscript)
Mar 21	Iraq V	Fernea (“Baghdad and Al-Nahra” Parts I and II, “The End of Patriarchy,” E-reserve)
Mar 26	Material Culture	Park, Chapter 10
Mar 26	Skull Wars	Thomas, Prologue, Foreward, Chapters 1- 5
Mar 28	Can Chimps Talk?	(Video)
Mar 31	Communication	Park, Chapter 11
Apr 2	Skull Wars	Thomas, Chapters 6 – 12
Apr 4	Ishi, the Last Yahi	(Video)
Apr 7	Religion	Park, Chapter 12
Apr 9	Behavior	Park, Chapter 13
Apr 11	Skull Wars	Thomas, Chapters 13-18
Apr 14	Variation	Park, Chapter 14
Apr 16	Skull Wars	Thomas, Chapters 19-24, Epilogue
Apr 18	Culture Change	Park, Chapter 15
		Stambach (E-reserve)
Apr 22	Review	
Apr 24, 26	Peer Review Groups	
Apr 29	Papers Due	
May 1 (9:35)	FINAL EXAM	Park, Chapters 8-15, Fernea, Sterk,
May 2 (12:50)		Stambach, Thomas
