

OXFORD COLLEGE
Spring Semester 2008

ANTHROPOLOGY 101

Introduction to Anthropology

(Class # 3762 ANTH_OX 101 09A)

MWF 9:35 am – 10:25 am
Language Hall 201

Professor: Dr. Aaron Stutz
Office: Language Hall 102 (Anthro Lab)
e-mail: astutz@emory.edu
phone: 770-784-8349
Office Hours: MW 2:00 – 4:00 pm and by appointment

Introduction to Anthropology: a science of humanity

ANTHROPOLOGY IS THE HOLISTIC STUDY OF HUMANITY:

- seen from a biological perspective
- considered in social context

ANTHROPOLOGY INQUIRES INTO SOME FAIRLY BIG QUESTIONS:

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

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Culture and Communication: The Logic by Which Symbols are Connected (1976), by Edmund Leach. Cambridge University Press.

- Available at the Oxford College Bookstore (current order subject to delay – limited copies available now, more available in early February)

Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman (1983 [1981]), by Marjorie Shostak. Vintage Books.

- Available at the Oxford College Bookstore

The Gebusi: Lives Transformed in a Rainforest World (2005), by Bruce Knauft. McGraw Hill.

- Available at the Oxford College Bookstore

RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY TEXT:

Core Concepts in Cultural Anthropology, Third Edition (2007), by Robert H. Lavenda and Emily A. Schultz. McGraw Hill, New York.

- Available at the Oxford College Bookstore

REQUIRED E-COURSE PACK

Additional REQUIRED Readings will be posted on Oxford Library's E-Reserves and on Anthro 101's Blackboard page.

To access the Blackboard course packs:

- go to <http://classes.emory.edu>
- log in and select *Introduction to Anthropology* in your course links
- click on the *Course Documents* button on the upper left
- open or right-click on the zipped E-Coursepack folder to download
- the articles are included as PDF files, numbered to correspond with the coursepack readings listed in the syllabus

Attendance: In this course, I don't always keep formal attendance, but I pay attention to who's in class and who's not. No pressure, but it's a practical fact that the class is easier when you show up. Please let me help you come along for the ride.

Disabilities Services: Oxford College provides students with disabilities all reasonable accommodation for participating in educational programs, activities, or services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodation for any activities or requirements in Anthro 201 must register and consult with Emory University's Office of Disability Services. Please contact Karen Martucci, Director of Academic Services at Oxford College, for further information and assistance. **REMINDER:** It is your responsibility to provide official documentation of your right to disabilities related accommodation for class participation. We will work out any accommodations that are specific to the course. But we must do so as early in the semester as possible.

Religious Holidays: Your rather agnostic professor has full respect for religious practice and the personal, family, and community obligations that go with it. Please be prepared to share with me if you are going to miss any scheduled class activity due to observance of a religious holiday. And please let me know as soon as possible in the semester if any scheduled exam or other due date conflicts with a religious holiday that you observe. This way, we can make alternative arrangements early!

COURSE GRADES

The exams and assignments will be weighted as follows:

Short Response Papers: 20%

Midterm Exam: 10-20% (sliding scale) *

Final Exam: 20-40% (sliding scale) *

Term Paper: 30%

In Class Participation: 10%

* The sliding scale for the exam weights means that if you do better on the final, then it will weigh a more, and *vice versa* for the mid-term.

The professor reserves the right to assign final course grades according to a scale that reflects the overall performance of the class. However, if everyone in the course performs at an excellent level, then everyone will receive an A.

IMPORTANT: The exams and essay 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 EXAM -	In class, Wed February 27
Essay First Draft Due -	In class, Mon March 31
Essay Final Draft Due -	LANG102, Tue April 29
Final Exam -	LANG201, 2-5 pm, Fri May 2

ALL EXAMS TAKE PLACE IN LANG201

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE PROFESSOR'S DISCRETION; ANY CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS.

**Anthropology 101
Spring 2008
Syllabus**

Week 1 Introduction

Wed January 16 - *Invitation to Anthropology*

Fri January 18 - *Female Genital Mutilation/Circumcision*
PART I - Small Group Discussion

E-COURSEPACK: 1-Schweder - What About FGM?

Week 2 Our Cultures, Ourselves

Mon January 21 - *NO CLASS - Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday Holiday*

Wed January 23 - *FGM/C PART II - Small Group Discussions, Cont.*

E-COURSEPACK: 2-Tierney - A New Debate About Female Circumcision, Parts I & II
3-Saitoti - Maasai Male Circumcision

Fri January 25 - *FGM/C PART III - Class Discussion*

E-COURSEPACK: 4-Liptak - FGM and Asylum Law in the US

DUE: 1st response paper IN CLASS

Week 3 The Biocultural Animal

Mon January 28 - *The Biocultural Niche: Ritual, Language, Material Life*

E-Reserves: 5-Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 1

Wed January 30 - *The Biocultural Species*

E-Reserves: 6-Goldschmidt - Chapter 4

Fri February 1 - *Growing Up Cultural*

E-Reserves: 7-Goldschmidt - Chapter 5

Week 4 The Biological Continuum

Mon February 4 - DISCUSSION: Culture, Biology, Personality

DUE: 2nd response paper IN CLASS

Wed February 6 - *The Biological Legacy*

E-Reserves: 8-Mayr - Darwin's Legacy

9-Langdon - Evolution and Adaptation

Fri February 8 - *Our Place in Nature*

E-Reserves: 10-Relethford - Our Place in Nature

Week 5 Human Evolution

Mon February 11 - *Meet Our Evolutionary Cousins*

E-Reserves: 11-Small - What's Love Got To Do With It?

12-Small - Aping Culture

Wed February 13 - *Walking Upright*

E-Reserves: 13-Rosenberg & Trevathan - Human Birth

Fri February 15 - *Neandertals and Us*

E-Reserves: 14-Wong-Who Were the Neandertals?

Week 6 The Material Life of Human Beings

Mon February 18 - DISCUSSION ABOUT RACE

On the Web: <http://www.understandingrace.org>

E-Reserves: 15-Kahn - Race and BiDil

DUE: 3rd response paper IN CLASS

Wed February 20 - *Technology: Handy and Meaningful*

E-Reserves: 16-Schick&Toth - Chapter 5

17-Wong - The Caveman's New Clothes

Fri February 22 - *The Origins of Agriculture*

E-Reserves: 18-Molleson - The Bones of Abu Hureyra

19-Hodder - Men and Women at Catalhuyuk

Week 7 MIDTERM EXAM

Mon February 25 - **REVIEW FOR MIDTERM EXAM**

Wed February 27 - **MIDTERM EXAM - IN CLASS**

Fri February 29 - *Culture and Meaning*

E-Reserves: 20-Bohannon - Shakespeare in the Bush

Week 8 Culture and Language, Symbols and Meaning

Mon March 3 - *The Logic of Culture*

E-Reserves: 21-Introducing Lévi-Strauss

Wed March 5 - *The Structure and Economics of Meaning*

TEXT: Leach, Sections 1 & 2

Fri March 7 - *The Arbitrariness of Language*

TEXT: Leach, Sections 3-5

Week 9 SPRING BREAK

Mon March 10 - Fri March 14 - **NO CLASSES**

Week 10 The Structure of Symbols, The System of Culture

Mon March 17 - *Symbols in Action*

Text: Leach, Sections 6-12

Wed March 19 - *The Relations Among Symbols*

Text: Leach, Sections 13-16

Fri March 21 - *Symbols and Ritualization*

Text: Leach, Sections 17 & 18

DUE: 4th Response Paper IN CLASS

Week 11 Ritual and Culture

(NOTE: Prof. Stutz will be away all week at professional conferences - a schedule of films and online reviews will be announced)

Mon March 24 - *The Rite of Passage and Coming of Age*

E-Reserves: 22-Crocker - Canela Helping Hands

Wed March 26 - *The Rite of Passage and Marriage*

E-Reserves: 23-Howard & Rensel - A Rotuman Wedding

Fri March 28 - *The Rite of Passage and Gender Relations*

E-Reserves: 24-Nanda - The Hijras of India

Week 12 Introduction to Nisa

Mon March 31 - *Rites of Passage and Identity*

DUE: ESSAY FIRST DRAFT

Wed April 2 - *Introduction to Nisa*

Ethnography: Shostak, Nisa, Introduction

Fri April 4 - *Life in the Bush*

Text: Shostak, Nisa, Chapter 3

E-Reserves: 25-Lee - Eating Christmas in the Kalahari

Week 13 Family and Gender in Ju Huansi Society

Mon April 7 - *Ju Huansi Coming of Age and Sexuality*

Ethnography: Shostak, Nisa: Chs. 1,2,4-6

Wed April 9 - *Ju Huansi Family Politics*

Ethnography: Shostak, Nisa: Chs. 7-9,11-12,14-15

Fri April 11 - *Ju Huansi Ritual*

Ethnography: Shostak, Nisa: Chs. 13,10, Epilogue

Week 14 The Gebusi, 1980-82

Mon April 14 - *Journey to the Gebusi*

Ethnography: Knaft, The Gebusi: Entry, Introduction,
Chs. 1 & 2

Wed April 16 - *Death and the Living in Gebusi Society*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chs. 3-4

Fri April 18 - *Gebusi Sexuality and Gender*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Ch. 5

Week 15 The Gebusi, 1998

Mon April 21 - *Gebusi Ritual and Community*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Ch. 6

Wed April 23 - *Modernity and Gebusi Social Change*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chapters 7-9

Fri April 25 - *An Anthropologist in the Midst of Change*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chapters 10-11

Week 16 REVIEW AND FINAL EXAM

Mon April 28 - REVIEW AND EVALUATION

Ethnography: Knauff - The Gebusi: Chapter 12, Conclusion,
& Farewell

Tue April 29 - ESSAY FINAL DRAFT DUE

Fri May 2 - FINAL EXAM: 2-5 pm, LANG201