

OXFORD COLLEGE
Fall Semester 2009

ANTHROPOLOGY 101

Introduction to Anthropology

(Class # 4236 ANTH_OX 101 09A)

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

Professor: Dr. Aaron Stutz

Office: Language Hall 102 (Anthro Lab)

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

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 READINGS

Textbook: *Core Concepts in Cultural Anthropology*, Fourth Edition (2010), by Robert H. Lavenda and Emily A. Schultz. McGraw Hill, New York.

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

Ethnography: *The Gbusi: Lives Transformed in a Rainforest World*, Second Edition (2010). McGraw Hill, 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 short paper assignments, an in-class Midterm Exam, a Take-Home Essay Exam, an in-class Final Exam, and attendance/participation. The exams and term paper will cover material introduced in class, in powerpoint presentations, in films, 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).

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:

1st Short Paper -	In class, Wed September 9
2nd Short Paper -	In class, Wed September 23
MIDTERM EXAM -	In class, Fri October 9
3rd Short Paper -	In class, Mon October 19
4th Short Paper -	In class, Wed November 4
Take-Home Essay Exam Due -	LANG 102, 4 pm, Mon November 23
Final Exam -	9 am - 12 pm, Tue December 15

ALL IN-CLASS EXAMS TAKE PLACE IN LANG 201

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

**Anthropology 101
Syllabus**

Week 1 Introduction

Wed August 26 - *Invitation to Anthropology*

Fri August 28 - *The Biocultural Perspective*
Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 1

Week 2 Culture and Humanity

Mon August 31 - *What is Culture?*

Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 4

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 1-Derby - The Evil Eye
2-Pyburn - Worthless Women

Wed September 2 - *Female Genital Mutilation*

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

Fri September 4 - *FGM/C as Cultural Practice*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 4-Silverman - Male and Female Circumcision in Anthropology
5-Saitoti - Circumcision among the Maasai

Week 3 Cultural Relativism

Mon September 7 - **NO CLASS** - Labor Day Holiday

Wed September 9 - *FGM/C, Culture, & Individual Rights*

DUE: 1st short paper

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 6-Tierney - A New Debate About Female Circumcision, Parts I & II
7-Liptak - FGM and Asylum Law in the US

Fri September 11 - *Cultural vs. Moral Relativism*

Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 2

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 8-Law - Liberal with a Capital L
9-Law - Different Kinds of Authority
10-Rosaldo - Cultural and Ethical Relativism

Week 4 The Biocultural Species

Mon September 14 - *Language, Social Life, and Relevance*

Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 3

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 11-Bohannon - Shakespeare in the Bush

Wed September 16 - *Culture and Language Acquisition*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 12-Ochs & Schieffelin - Language Acquisition

Fri September 18 - Biology and Culture - Affect Hunger

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 13-Goldschmidt - Chapter 4

Week 5 The Cultural Response to Affect Hunger

Mon September 21 - *Culture and Parenting*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 14-Goldschmidt - Chapter 5

Wed September 23 - **Discussion** - *What is Culture?*

DUE: 2nd short paper

Fri September 25 - *The Biological Legacy*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 15-Mayr - Darwin's Legacy

16-Langdon - Evolution and Adaptation

Week 6 Language and Culture

Mon September 28 - *Our Place in Nature*

E-COURSEPACK: 17-Relethford - Our Place in Nature

Wed September 30 - *Meet Our Evolutionary Cousins*

E-COURSEPACK: 18-Small - What's Love Got To Do With It?
19-Small - Aping Culture

Fri October 2 - *Walking Upright*

E-COURSEPACK: 20-Rosenberg and Trevathan - Birth and Bipedalism

Week 7 MIDTERM EXAM

Mon October 5 - *Neandertals and Us*

E-COURSEPACK: 21-Wong - Meet the Neandertals

Wed October 7 - **DISCUSSION: BIOLOGY AND RACE**

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

E-COURSEPACK: 22-Kahn - Race and BiDi1

Fri October 9 - **MIDTERM EXAM - IN CLASS**

Week 8 Archaeology and Human History before Writing

Mon October 12 - **NO CLASS - Mid-Semester Break**

Wed October 14 - *Technology: Handy and Meaningful*

E-COURSEPACK: 23-Schick & Toth - Chapter 5

Fri October 16 - *Stone Age Technology and Art*

E-COURSEPACK: 24-Wong - The Caveman's New Clothes

Week 9 Myth, Ritual, and Society

Mon October 19 - The Origins of Agriculture

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 25-Hodder - Men and Women at Catalhuyuk
26-Molleson - The Bones of Abu Hureyra

DUE: 3rd Short Paper

Wed October 21 - *Myth & Ritual - Symbols & Society*

Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 5

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 27-Introducing Lévi-Strauss

Fri October 23 - *Myth in Action*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 28-Bieseke - Women Like Meat

29-Beidelman - Hyena and Rabbit

Week 10 Myth, Ritual, and the Organization of Society

Mon October 26 - *Symbols in Myth and Ritual*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 30-Leach - Sections 2, 3, & 13

Wed October 28 - *Symbols, Society, and Politics*

Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapters 6-7

Fri October 30 - *Travel to the Gebusi*

Ethnography: Knauft - The Gebusi - Introduction and Chapter 1

Week 11 Life as Gebusi

Mon November 2 - *Life in the Rainforest*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 1

Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 8

Wed November 4 - *Low-Tech Economics*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 31-Lee - Eating Christmas in the Kalahari

DUE: 4th Short Paper

Fri November 6 - *Surrounded by Death*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 3

Week 12 Gebusi Culture and the Dynamics of Social Life

Mon November 9 - *Kinship and Community Justice*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 4

Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapters 9 & 10

Wed November 11 - *Gebusi Gender, Kinship, and Power*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 5

Fri November 13 - *Coming of Age among the Gebusi*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi - Chapter 6

Week 13 Ritualization, Rites of Passage, and Identity

Mon November 16 - *The Structure of Ritual*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 32-Leach - Section 17
33-Crocker - Canela Helping Hands

Wed November 18 - *Marriage as a Rite of Passage*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 34-Howard & Rensel - Marriage on Rotuma

Fri November 20 - *Rites of Passage and Other Identities*

[E-COURSEPACK](#): 35-Nanda - Hijras of India - Chapter 2
36-Nanda - Hijras of India - Chapter 3

Week 14 Ritualization, Rites of Passage, and Identity

Mon November 23 - **DISCUSSION** - *Understanding Culture through Rites of Passage*

DUE: TAKE-HOME ESSAY EXAM (due in Dr. Stutz's office by 4 pm)

NO CLASSES REST OF THE WEEK - THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Week 15 Culture in a Globalizing World

Mon November 30 - *Return to the Gebusi*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chapters 7 & 8

Wed December 2 - *Change and Tension*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chapters 9 & 10

Text: Lavenda & Schultz - Chapter 11

Fri December 4 - *Globalization at the Edge of the World*

Ethnography: Knaft - The Gebusi: Chapters 11, 12, &
Conclusion

E-COURSEPACK: 37-Trouillot - Anthropology and the Savage
Slot

Weeks 16 - 17 HOME STRETCH - Review and Final Exam

Mon December 7 - *REVIEW AND EVALUATION*

LAST DAY OF CLASSES

Tue December 15 - FINAL EXAM: 9 am - 12 pm, LANG201